

THE LIBRARY OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF
NORTH CAROLINA
AT CHAPEL HILL



THE COLLECTION OF
NORTH CAROLINIANA

FC282
C363c
v. 15
2005-2006

FOR USE ONLY IN
THE NORTH CAROLINA COLLECTION

UNIVERSITY OF N.C. AT CHAPEL HILL



00047472616

Roman Catholic
Diocese of Charlotte



Established Jan. 12, 1972
by Pope Paul VI

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD



Year of the
Eucharist

Synod of Bishops

| PAGE 1

Spending an hour with Jesus

| PAGE 7

OCTOBER 7, 2005

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 15 No 1

Celebrating a milestone of faith

St. Stephen Church marks 50 years

BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY
CORRESPONDENT

ELKIN — St. Stephen Church is celebrating "50 Years of Faith."

Parishioners celebrated the golden jubilee of the Catholic church in Elkin Oct. 1. The celebration began with evening prayer led by Bishop Peter J. Jugis at the church, followed by dinner at the Yadkin Valley Senior Center in Jonesville.

Father John Hanic, pastor and vicar forane of the Boone

See ELKIN, page 9

SUPREME DECISIONS

Under new chief, court hears cases on religious rights, end-of-life issues

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — As if having a new chief justice and soon one new associate justice on the Supreme Court weren't enough, the October term also will bring a busy session of cases that have implications for churches and their interests.

The justices were starting their first week with a case on the constitutionality of Oregon's law permitting assisted suicide. Farthest out on

See COURT, page 12



PHOTO BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY

Bishop Peter J. Jugis, assisted by Father Christopher Roux, blesses the new prayer garden at St. Stephen Church in Elkin during the church's 50th anniversary celebration Oct. 1.

See SYNOD, page 7

IRONWOMAN

OLA teacher competes in Ironman triathlon

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Today's to-do list:

Swim 2.4 miles;
Bike 112 miles;
Run 26.2 miles;
Don't get hurt;
Don't quit.

Lori Campbell, a math, science and religion teacher at

Our Lady of the Assumption School in Charlotte, can now check all those items off her to-do list.

On Sept. 11, she participated in the 2005 Ford Ironman Wisconsin in Madison, along with 2,075 other contestants from around the world.

See TEACHER, page 6



COURTESY PHOTO

Lori Campbell is still going strong as she runs the marathon portion of the Ironman triathlon Sept. 11. The Ironman consists of a 2.4-mile swim, a 112-mile bike ride and a 26.2-mile run.

Casting a hero
Greensboro sculptor
bronzes firefighters

| PAGE 5

In Our Schools
IHM students help hurricane
victims, join Blue Bikers

| PAGE 8

Perspectives
Moment of grace; big deal about
freedom; letters

| PAGES 14-15

#BXNPDVOC.....3-DIGIT 275
#420836#
NC COLLECTION
UNC
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001

S236 P2

FC28
C363c
Vol. 15
Oct. 7, 2005
Oct. 6, 2006

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

REGALED IN RED



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

New U.S. Chief Justice John G. Roberts (right) laughs alongside President George W. Bush and Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick outside St. Matthew Cathedral in Washington after the 52nd annual Red Mass Oct. 2. President Bush, Roberts and their wives, Jane Roberts (top left) and first lady Laura Bush (left), joined other dignitaries for the annual Mass, the traditional Sunday morning liturgy on the eve of the new Supreme Court Session.

Cardinal credits court nomination civility, asks for it to continue

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The day before the opening of the Supreme Court term, Washington's Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick lauded "a period of greater civility in the selection of our chief justice."

At the annual Red Mass that traditionally precedes the court's opening, Cardinal McCarrick asked for continued civility from a congregation at St. Matthew Cathedral that included President George W. Bush, new Chief Justice John Roberts and White House counsel Harriet Miers, who was nominated the next morning to replace retiring Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

The 52nd annual Red Mass drew a standing-room-only crowd of 1,450 people. Dignitaries included four Supreme Court associate justices, Attorney General Alberto Gonzales and hundreds of people involved in law and politics.

The cardinal said people from different parties and with different points of view should work together for the common good.

"I pray that civility will continue," he added, "because it is so important not just for good government, but for the good care of our people who look here to all of you and your colleagues for the kind of leadership that is not destructive and not too intensely partisan."

Cardinal McCarrick said civility offers the best way for people of different points of view to work together and face the challenges of the world.

"We know that we must become friends again, not agreeing on everything, of course, but striving to dialogue more gently, more positively, more careful to set the conversation within a forum of mutual respect by being willing to listen for the good points that are always present in every reasonable discourse and will help us learn again to build and not to tear down," he said.

The cardinal said the great challenges of modern times include such things as the effect of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita on the poor, international terrorism, the effects of "AIDS in Africa and here in our own neighborhoods, and poverty and hunger among so many people of our world."

He concluded by comparing the need for civility and working together for the common good to that day's Gospel from Matthew 21, the parable of the vineyard workers.

"You and I and all of us here who have our own responsibility in this vineyard are called to come together, each in his or her own way, to put our hands to that task so that the Lord of the vineyard might be pleased with our service and he might bless it with peace and plenty for ourselves and our neighbor and for all this beloved land of ours," he said.

The concelebrating bishops wore red vestments to represent the color of fire, a symbol of the Holy Spirit. The annual Mass invokes God's blessings and guidance in the administration of justice.

New Orleans Archdiocese projects \$40 million deficit by end of year

WASHINGTON (CNS) — As the Archdiocese of New Orleans took small steps back to normalcy after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, archdiocesan officials estimated a negative cash flow of \$40 million by the end of the year.

The projection was based on assumptions about drastically reduced parish giving and income from federal grants that are used to operate many Catholic Charities programs.

Millions more could be needed to repair or rebuild facilities damaged by the hurricane, depending on whether insurers assess the damage as flood-related or wind-related.

Although the archdiocese's insurance coverage for wind-related damage provides for full replacement value, it has only about \$13 million in flood insurance. A preliminary assessment of about 50 archdiocesan buildings indicated there was at least \$84 million in flood damage, leaving a shortfall of

more than \$70 million.

The archdiocese hopes that regulations of the Federal Emergency Management Agency will allow for the reimbursement for cleanup of nonchurch facilities such as schools and residences. Under the current regulations, cleanup of churches is not reimbursable.

Although the archdiocese kept all of its approximately 9,000 employees on full salary through the end of September, it recently notified them that an unknown number would be laid off Oct. 3 and receive two weeks of severance pay.

On the positive side, New Orleans Archbishop Alfred C. Hughes celebrated Mass for the first time since the Aug. 29 hurricane at St. Louis Cathedral in the city's French Quarter. The archdiocese, which has been operating out of the Diocese of Baton Rouge, La., since the storm hit, also began a census of parishioners scattered throughout the country on its Web site.

Diocesan planner

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — Rev. Dale Mullenix, executive director of the Urban Ministry Center, will present "Homelessness in Mecklenburg County — A Discussion of the Issue and the Faith Community's Response" at the next Just Second Fridays event Oct. 14, 1-2 p.m., in the Atrium Room of the Annex Building of St. Peter Church, 507 S. Tryon St. Doors open at 12:30 p.m. and lunch is provided. Visit www.cssnc.org/justicepeace or call (704) 370-3225 for further information about this presentation.

CHARLOTTE — The *St. Gabriel Disability Ministry* will be hosting a dance for the disabled community Oct. 14, 7-9 p.m. in the Parish Center Cafeteria, 3016 Providence Rd. There will have a live band and refreshments. Admission is free. Please contact Mary Kennedy at (704) 364-6964 for more information.

CHARLOTTE — St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd. will be dedicating *The Blessed Teresa of Calcutta pro-life memorial* on Oct. 16. The dedication will follow the 11:30 a.m. Mass celebrated by Bishop Peter J. Jugis. A reception in the family center follows the dedication. For more information, call the church office at (704) 554-7088.

CHARLOTTE — A *Women's Talk* will be held Oct. 19 at 7 p.m. in the reception room of St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd. Barbara Gardener will speak on "The Holy Spirit in our Lives." For more information, call Peggy at (704) 588-7311.

CHARLOTTE — *Pathfinders*, a peer-led support group for separated and divorced adults, offers education, support and fellowship through the divorce process. The group meets Tuesdays, 7:30-9 p.m. in St. Gabriel Church's Ministry Building, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, call Nancy at (704) 752-0318.

CHARLOTTE — The *Society of Mary and Martha* meets the third Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd. For more information, call Peggy Pohlheber at (704) 588-7311.

MINT HILL — *G.E.M.S. Daily* is a prayer/support group for mothers of children with disabilities. The group meets the second Wednesday of each month, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at St. Luke Church, 13700 Lawyers Rd., to share concerns, praise and prayers. For details, call Michelle Roth at (704) 321-1717.

CHARLOTTE — The *Healing Prayer Group* will pray with you in the name of the Lord Jesus for your healing, be it mental, spiritual or physical. Come and know the gentleness and unconditional love of the Lord. We meet the third Monday of each month in the St. Matthew Chapel, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., at 7:30 p.m. For more information, e-mail Barbara Gardner at chlt5nc@aol.com.

CHARLOTTE — The *Young Widowed Group* meets at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month in the Fellowship Hall of St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, contact facilitator Sister Therese Galligan at (704) 362-5047, ext. 216.

CHARLOTTE — The *50+ Club* of St. John Neumann Church, 8451 Idlewild Rd., meets the second Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. with a program and lunch in the parish hall. For

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-mail: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

OCTOBER 7, 2005
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 1

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Pope tells religious that church still needs their prayers, service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Catholic Church always has relied on the prayers, prophetic voice and dedicated service of religious priests, brothers and sisters and still needs them today, Pope Benedict XVI said.

"There is not a human or ecclesial environment where they are not present, often silently, but always hardworking and creative," the pope said in a Sept. 29 message to members of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life.

"Certainly, consecrated life today is not without trials and difficulties, as is the case in other sectors of the church's life," the pope said to members who were holding their plenary meeting at the Vatican.

"But rather than list the difficulties that consecrated life encounters today, I

want to confirm to all consecrated men and women the closeness, concern and love of the entire church," he said.

Pope Benedict encouraged members of religious orders to continue responding to the Second Vatican Council's call to make following Christ their first priority, placing nothing before love of Christ.

"The fire of love, which the Spirit infuses in their hearts, pushes them to constantly ask about the needs of humanity and how to respond, knowing well that only one who recognizes and lives the primacy of God" can respond to the real needs of men and women who are made in the image of God, the pope said.

"The formidable challenges" facing religious orders today, he said, can only be faced in a spirit of unity with the church, its leaders and the faithful.

reservations and more information, call Lucille at (704) 537-2189.

CHARLOTTE — The *St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order* will meet Oct. 16 at 2 p.m. at Our Lady of Consolation Church, 2301 Statesville Ave. Those interested in learning more about the SFO and the Franciscan way of life are invited to attend. For more information, call Tom O'Loughlin at (704) 947-7235.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — The *Greensboro Theology on Tap* will be held Oct. 20, Oct. 27, Nov. 3 and Nov. 10 at 7 p.m. at Coopers Ale House, 5340 West Market St. There will be great speakers, excellent food and conversation. TOT will have a food drive to benefit Urban Ministry. Non-perishable items will be collected each Thursday. For more info e-mail greensborotot@yahoo.com or call Deb at (336) 286-3687.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

MOORESVILLE — St. Therese Church, 217 Brawley School Rd., will host an *Ignatian Prayer Night* Oct. 11, 7-8:30 p.m., in the Family Room. Please join us on to explore Ignatian spirituality using Scripture, the senses, a short meditation and a brief history of the Society of Jesus. For more information, call the church office at (704) 664-3992.

MOORESVILLE — Father Christopher Kirchgessner of Belmont Abbey will facilitate a program of guidance in making appropriate moral decisions using *Basic Moral Theological Principles* at St. Therese Church, 217 Brawley School Rd. The class will take place Oct. 18, 7-8:30 p.m. in the Family Room of the church building. For more information, call the church office at (704) 664-3992.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

FRANKLIN — The Respect Life ministry of St. Francis of Assisi Church, 299 Maple St., will present "*A Voice for the Unborn*" Oct. 10 at 1

p.m. and Oct. 19 at 7 p.m. The program is a one-hour step-by-step guide to making your pro-life case persuasive both scientifically and philosophically. This seminar is based on Scott Klusendorf's Pro-Life 101 and is free. For more information, contact Julie Tastinger, at (828) 421-2473.

FRANKLIN — Barbara Holt, director of N.C. Right to Life, will present *An Education on Effectively Ending Abortion* Oct. 15, 7-8 p.m. in the Family Life Center of St. Francis of Assisi Church, 299 Maple St. For more information, contact Julie Tastinger, at (828) 421-2473.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

WINSTON-SALEM — The Portiuncula Franciscan Spiritual Center, 211 W. Third St., provides an environment, experiences and resources that enable people to meet God in both stillness and activity. A study and action program, *Pace e Bene (Part One): From Violence to Wholeness*, explores nonviolence as a creative and effective process for resolving the conflicts in our lives and in the world. The group will meet Oct. 10, 17, 24 and 31, 7-8:30 p.m. For more information, call Sister Kathy Ganiel, at (336) 624-1971 or e-mail Portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

KERNERSVILLE — *Triad Pax Christi* meets the third Sunday of each month at 3:30 p.m. in the Child Development building of Holy Cross Church, 616 S. Cherry St. The emphasis is on peace education, prayer and action. For more information, call Gerard Berry at (336) 922-1941.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 15 days prior to the event date in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Oct. 9 — 9 a.m.

Sacrament of Confirmation

St. Elizabeth of the Hill Country Church, Boone

Oct. 17-27

Pilgrimage to Italy

Vatican announces formally that pope won't preside at beatifications

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — While the Vatican continues studying theological and pastoral issues surrounding the rites of beatification and canonization, Pope Benedict XVI will preside only over the canonization ceremonies, the Vatican said.

A formal announcement of the change, which Pope Benedict instituted at the beginning of his pontificate, was published Sept. 29 in *L'Osservatore Romano*, the Vatican newspaper.

The communique from the Congregation for Saints' Causes said that while the study of the rites continues Pope Benedict will preside over canonizations, but beatifications, "which are still a pontifical act, will be celebrated by a representative of the Holy Father, who normally will be the prefect of the Congregation for Saints' Causes," Cardinal Jose Saraiva Martins.

"The rite of beatification will take place in the diocese which promoted the cause of the new blessed or in another suitable location," including the Vatican, with the approval of the Secretariat of State, it said.

Normally, it said, the beatification should take place in the context of the Mass or Eastern Catholics' Divine Liturgy.

Explaining the new policy and the concerns of the Vatican's study, Cardinal Saraiva Martins said there appeared to be a pastoral need to re-emphasize the "clear and essential" difference between beatification and canonization.

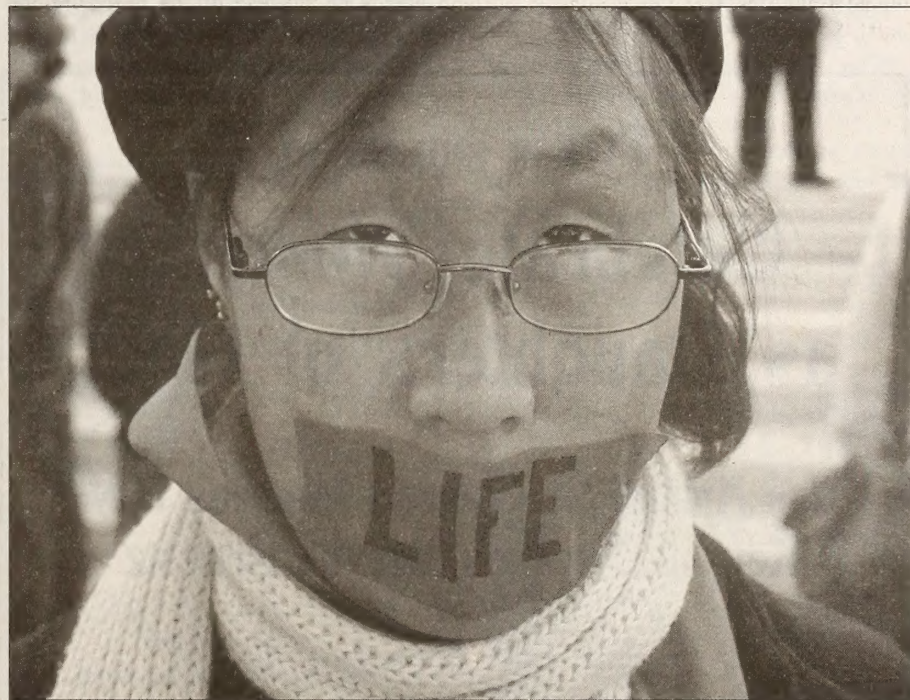
At a canonization, the pope issues a formal decree recognizing the candidate's holiness and permitting public remembrance of the candidate at liturgies throughout the church, the cardinal wrote in *L'Osservatore Romano*.

With a beatification, the pope concedes permission for limited public remembrances, usually among members of the candidate's religious order or in the diocese where the candidate lived and worked.

"The recent decision of the Holy Father, Benedict XVI, not to preside personally over the rites of beatification, responds to a widely perceived need to underline more strongly in the celebration the substantial difference between beatification and canonization and more visibly involve the particular churches in the beatification rites of their 'servants of God,'" the cardinal wrote.

Despite the local celebration, he said, a beatification is still a papal act and, therefore, must be coordinated with the Vatican.

WITHOUT WORDS



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

A pro-life demonstrator has her mouth taped during a prayer rally on the front steps of the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington Oct. 3. It was the first day of the Supreme Court's 2005 term and new Chief Justice John G. Roberts' first day on the job.

U.N. nuncio cites 'duty' to work for disarmament

NEW YORK (CNS) — The nations of the world "have a duty" to work for disarmament, the Vatican nuncio to the United Nations said Oct. 3.

"The great majority of states want to move the disarmament agenda forward surely and speedily," Archbishop Celestino Migliore said at a meeting of the General Assembly's First Committee, which handles disarmament and security issues.

He called arms control and disarmament "fundamental pillars of the archi-

ture for peace" and criticized the recent U.N. 60th anniversary summit of world leaders for failing to act on draft proposals that would have pressed for global progress toward disarmament and the strengthening of international conventions or treaties against nuclear, chemical and biological weapons.

Archbishop Migliore called it "deplorable" that last May's conference to review the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty "ended without a single substantive decision."



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the youth group at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Lenoir walk a prayer labyrinth at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Wilkesboro Sept. 11.

Circle of prayer

LENOIR — Youths from St. Francis of Assisi Church in Lenoir recently walked a prayer labyrinth at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Wilkesboro Sept. 11.

A period of prayer was led by Linda Cowart, youth minister at St. Francis of Assisi Church, before the 16 youths made their meditative walks through the labyrinth.

"As they walked and remembered those who had died on 9/11, they prayed and meditated the rosary," said Cowart. "Upon finishing, they were very quiet and contemplative."

"It was impressed with them. It was

a very positive experience," she said.

Labyrinths, found in many medieval cathedrals, have seen a recent re-emergence as spiritual and prayer tools within many Christian communities. The contemporary versions of the cathedral labyrinths combine ancient Christian tradition with contemporary music, meditations, art, media and activities.

Whereas in a maze a participant can run into dead ends, a labyrinth has only one twisting path that weaves its way to the center and back out again. Often when a traveler seems to be close to the center, an abrupt turn takes him or her on a longer meditative journey.

Dare to dunk?



COURTESY PHOTO

Deacon Jesus Reyes follows the advice of his T-shirt — "Be Not Afraid" — as he dares to dunk Augustinian Father James Cassidy, pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Monroe, during the church's parish picnic Sept. 18.

Following morning Mass, parishioners enjoyed a potluck lunch and participated in various activities.

Approximately 1,600 parishioners enjoyed both American and Hispanic music while treating themselves to snow cones, cotton candy and popcorn. Afternoon activities included face painting, a moonwalk, piñatas, a 50/50 drawing and a dunking booth.

Please join us to Celebrate Women as Daughters of God!

2nd Annual St. Gabriel's Women's Day
Keynote Speaker: Marilyn Kravatz

Saturday, October 15
9 am - 2 pm



Come celebrate your day filled with a continental breakfast, lunch, great music, a dynamic speaker, fellowship and fabulous door prizes - all for only \$15.

*Space is limited! Deadline is
Oct. 11th so register today
with your check made out to:*

St. Gabriel Church
3016 Providence Road
Charlotte, NC 28211

For more information: 704-364-5431



FANTASTIC FALL FESTIVAL

Food, Fun, Music and MORE!

Saturday, Oct. 15th 7 am - 3 pm

Good Shepherd Catholic Church
Kirby Road in King, NC

Breakfast & lunch for sale — Huge bake sale — Yard sale — Flea market
Kids' Adventureland — Dunk tank — Hispanic & blue grass music — Irish dancers
Many vendors with jewelry, religious gifts, etc!



Leave a Legacy Through an Endowment

When you establish an endowment with the diocesan foundation, you...

Enable Perpetual Support. Every year, your "legacy" flows with financial aid to the ministry you choose.

Ensure a Strong Future. Allow a parish, school, agency or the diocese to look ahead and plan with confidence.

Enact a Lasting Legacy. Provide your loved ones with a continuing reminder of your values — your faith and the mission of the church.

The Foundation
of the
Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte

To receive the free booklet "Better Estate Planning" contact Judy Smith, Director of Planned Giving,
704-370-3320; 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203. jsmith@charlottediocese.org.

Casting a hero

Greensboro sculptor creates tribute to firefighters

BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY
CORRESPONDENT

GREENSBORO — Soon after the 9/11 tragedy, Tracy Simmons, the wife of Greensboro firefighter Capt. Mike Simmons, had a vision to bring honor to all cities' firefighters, past, present and future.

As a firefighter's daughter, she felt firefighters did not receive enough recognition for what they were doing. She decided to somehow raise enough money to have a bronze statue made in their honor.

Simmons and her husband contacted up-and-coming wood carver Paul Nixon, a parishioner of Our Lady of Grace Church in Greensboro, to try and fulfill their dreams.

Nixon, a native of Dublin, Ireland, who comes from a family of carpenters and cabinetmakers, has tackled all sorts of wood-based sculpting, including turning a 15-foot cedar tree into a peace totem pole for Triangle Lake (formerly Tomlinson) Montessori Elementary School's dedication as an International Peace Site in 2002.

But he had never before attempted a bronze sculpture.

Nixon gave the project some thought and, after he heard Bishop Peter J. Jugis mention his deceased father's name at

Mass shortly thereafter, gained the mindset that he could not fail — especially since he too had the urge to create something positive after 9/11.

The imagery Paul decided upon was a firefighter holding a little boy with a small girl reaching back to him for security. After presenting his idea to the Simmons and their committee, they received a \$15,000 contribution from Greensboro's city council.

Nixon was given the go-ahead for his project.

"This must be divine intervention — through prayer, the church, the bishop mentioning my father's name and the short period of time to receive the go ahead, among other things," said Nixon.

Providence came into play when Nixon saw the unveiling of the bronze representation of the "Greensboro Four" by Prof. James Barnhill at the Woolworth Museum. Barnhill, a sculptor and teacher at North Carolina A&T University in Greensboro, became Nixon's guide and mentor as he undertook his first bronze sculpture.

"It is almost like an out-of-body experience," said Tracy Simmons. "Everything just fell into place."

Using pipe for the skeletons of the figures, Nixon covered the frame with foam and clay, which he admits is a



PHOTOS BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY

Above: Firefighters salute and admire the bronze statue during its unveiling ceremony at Greensboro Fire Station No. 1 Oct. 2. Below: Sculptor Paul Nixon and his wife Francesca at the unveiling of his bronze statue.

wonderful medium to work with since mistakes can be corrected easily.

When the clay models were finished to Nixon's satisfaction, the sculpture was sent to Carolina Bronze Sculpture in Seagrove, N.C., to be cast and finished by Dennis Carnevale and Ed Walker.

Next, the finished bronzed statue was brought to Greensboro Fire Station No. 1 on Church Street for the unveiling, which took place on Oct. 2.

With much pomp and circumstance, the Greensboro firefighters proudly unveiled the bronze figure of a firefighter in full regalia with the two children looking up at him as a hero.

Prior to the unveiling, Nixon admitted that his "nails are about to crack as the reality of it all is about to sink in. The emotions over the last couple of days have been tremendous."

Viewing his finished work, he said, "It really surpassed all of my expectations."

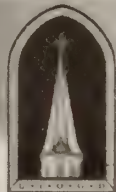
"The ability of Paul is amazing," said Tracy Simmons. "At first impression, the sculpture is so powerful and the detail looks so real. It's just amazing."

"We've got something that everyone will be proud of," said Mike Simmons.

After the unveiling, Rosemary Plyon, television anchor at Greensboro's WFMY "Good Morning Show" and mistress of the unveiling ceremonies, described Nixon's work as "unbelievable, not only for what it represents, but for one who can find the talent to accomplish it."

Nixon's work, she said, "represents hope, which can be seen on the faces of all three individuals."





BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED

U.S. News
America's
Best
Colleges
2006

A Best
Southeastern
College
The Princeton
Review

Come to our "Abbey Experience" open house on Oct. 15! Call or email to learn more.

Ranked one of the best comprehensive colleges in the South by U.S. News and World Report, Belmont Abbey College celebrates excellence and virtue steeped in its 129 year Catholic Benedictine heritage.

Just minutes from Charlotte, we offer our students numerous internship opportunities and career placement.

Our 15:1 student-faculty ratio provides for smaller class sizes and personal one-on-one mentoring.

We believe in development of the whole person — mind, body and spirit. By offering a wide array of clubs and activities, including Division II athletics, theatre, student publications, and study abroad, Belmont Abbey College invests in the personal growth of its students.

New for Fall 2005:

- Athletics: intramurals program, men's and women's lacrosse teams, women's golf team, wrestling team, junior varsity men's basketball and baseball teams
- Academics: Criminal Justice and Security Studies
- Student Life: Holy Grounds WiFi Coffee-house serving Starbucks Coffee

Learn more at BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu
Call 1.888.222.0110 or email admissions@bac.edu



Carolina Funeral & Cremation Center

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

We Love Blessed Sacrament Academy !!



Call now to guarantee your child's enrollment.
Space is LIMITED! 704-841-2292

Visit us on the web : www.blessedsacramentacademy.org

- ♦ A classical curriculum in the Catholic tradition
- ♦ Latin, French, Music & Art
- ♦ Grades K-8
- ♦ Excellent scores on standardized tests



Located behind Windsor Square in Matthews, NC. Independent of Charlotte diocesan schools. Member of NACIS

FROM THE COVER

OLA teacher competes in Ironman triathlon

TEACHER, from page 1

Although Campbell had competed in three half-Ironman triathlons, six sprint triathlons and several marathons, the Wisconsin event was her first Ironman triathlon, a truly demanding event.

The Ironman triathlon is an arduous competition, consisting of a 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike race and a 26.2-mile run.

By contrast, an Olympic triathlon consists of a .9-mile swim, 24.8-mile bike race and a 6.2-mile run.

When she first started running competitively, Campbell started "small" — running half-marathons, then marathons. When she ran her first marathon, she didn't even know what the Ironman was.

"Running became boring, so I bought a bike," she said.

Soon she was riding in 30-mile bike races, then 100-mile races.

"Then that became boring," said Campbell. So she tried a half-Ironman.

Campbell considers herself to be an "average girl," and to look at this 5-foot 3-inch, 110-pound, blond 36-year-old, a stranger on the street might think so, too.

But this "average girl" endured more

than 15 hours of grueling physical exertion. She also has a deep Catholic faith and a strong commitment to her students.

During the triathlon, Campbell said she spent much of the time talking to God and thinking about her faith.

Campbell admitted she had fears before and during the race.

"Doubt creeps in, and then I have to turn to my faith," said Campbell. "One way I stay focused is my faith."

Waiting alone at the starting line, Campbell asked God to put someone beside her.

"He put this woman beside me," said Campbell. "She looked at me and said, 'Smile. In the whole realm of life, this is small. God has so much more (planned) for us.'"

Fifteen hours, 22 minutes and 4 seconds later, Campbell crossed the finish line, dehydrated and exhausted, but thrilled.

Nearly 400 contestants dropped out of the race, unable to bear the 94-degree heat, high humidity and headwinds.

Campbell said people have remarked how amazing it is that she finished the Ironman.

What is amazing to Campbell is when her students understand a new concept or share something important with her.



COURTESY PHOTO

Lori Campbell, a teacher at Our Lady of the Assumption School in Charlotte, tensely waits for the start of the 2005 Ford Ironman Wisconsin in Madison Sept. 11. Campbell finished the grueling triathlon in 15 hours and 22 minutes.

Campbell's time positioned her in 1,335th place out of 1,682 finishers. But

that's not what matters to her.

What does matter is that she did her best, a concept she tries to convey to her fourth- and fifth-grade students.

"I want my children to know, 'Do your best,'" said Campbell. "Whatever it is you try ... I don't care if it's knitting."

Even though most of the competitors finished before her, Campbell still has pride in her time, because it is her best.

"I hope that I can be an example for my students," she said.

She already has served as an inspiration to her students. Two of her students competed in a children's triathlon, and she will be running a 5-kilometer race with another student.

"In the whole realm of my life, am I going to be remembered for the Ironman?" asked Campbell. "No, I want to be remembered for the person I am inside."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

WANT TO WATCH?

The 2005 Ford Ironman Wisconsin will air on the Outdoor Life Network Oct. 30 at 3 p.m. and Nov. 2 at 4 p.m.

The **Catholic Company**
Lake Norman Book Store
maryimmaculata.com



Now 2 COMPLETE Catholic stores for

- Unique gifts & cards
- Books, rosaries, medals
- Previously read book section (at Lake Norman)
- Video rentals
- Artwork

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

CAROLINA CATHOLIC
BOOKSHOPPE

Mon. thru Sat.
10 am - 6 pm



Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

Please pray for the
following priest who
died during the month
of October

Rev. Msgr. William Wellein 1997

Providing Help. Creating Hope. Changing Lives.

Catholic Social Services The Diocese of Charlotte

Executive Director: Elizabeth Thurbee (704) 370-3227

Refugee Office: Cira Ponce (704) 370-6930

Justice & Peace: Joe Purello (704) 370-3225

Family Life: Gerard Carter (704) 370-3228

Charlotte Region: 1123 South Church Street, Charlotte, NC 28203
Area Director: Geri King (704) 370-6155

Western Region: 50 Orange Street, Asheville, NC 28801
Area Director: Debra Braese (828) 255-0146

Piedmont-Triad: 621 W. Second Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27108

Area Director: David Harold (336) 727-0705

Greensboro Satellite Office (336) 274-5577

High Point Satellite Office (336) 884-5858

For information on specific programs,
please call your local office.

1123 South Church Street, Charlotte, NC 28203
www.cssnc.org



JUST SECOND FRIDAYS (JSF) October - December 2005 (1 - 2 PM)

JUST SECOND FRIDAYS (JSF) events will take place on the dates indicated below at 1:00 PM in the Atrium Room, Annex Bldg, St. Peter Catholic Church. Doors open at 12:30 pm.

JSF is a lunchtime speaker series sponsored by the Office of Justice and Peace, Catholic Social Services. Sandwiches and cold drinks are provided. Call 704-370-3225 or go to www.cssnc.org/justicepeace for more details.

October 14, 2005: "Homelessness in Mecklenburg County - A Discussion of the Issue and the Faith Community's Response," presented by Rev. Dale Mullennix, Executive Director, Urban Ministry Center, Charlotte, NC.

November 11, 2005 "The Growth, Impact and Strategies of Socially Responsible Investing," presented by Sr. Doris Gormley, SFCC, Consultant for Socially Responsible Investing for the ten U.S. Jesuit Provinces and the Province of Upper Canada.

December 9, 2005 "Religious Values in the Workplace: Revisiting the 'Workbench of Life' Twenty Years Later," presented by Rev. Thomas Gaunt, S.J., Executive Secretary, Jesuit Conference, U.S.A.

'Could you not keep watch for one hour?'

Understanding the Mystery of the Mass, Adoration Supplement

On the night that Jesus Christ offered the Last Supper, the first holy Mass, on the night that our Lord instituted the sacrament of the holy Eucharist, the sacrament that would fulfill his promise and desire to be with us always until the end of the world, he escorted his apostles into the Garden of Gethsemane for a time of watching and prayer.

As he was communing with the eternal Father in prayer and in agony, his apostles were fast asleep. On three occasions, our Lord returned to find his weary disciples asleep. He therefore posed this question to them, the perennial question that has echoed throughout the centuries and has revisited his disciples in every age: "Could you not keep watch for one hour?" (Mark 14:37)

Why should I make a Holy Hour? Why should I spend time in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament? What benefits await me if I sacrifice an hour of my time each day, each week?

The beloved Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen (1895-1979), who was renowned for his ability not only to spend an hour each day in the presence of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament (for more than 60 years of his life), but also for his evangelization of others to do the same, wrote frequently about the fruits and effects of making a holy hour each day.

His autobiography, "Treasure in Clay," reveals in chapter 12 (entitled "The Hour That Makes My Day") his ardent love and devotion for spending time with our Lord each day. He wrote, "The purpose of the Holy Hour is to encourage deep personal encounter with Christ. The holy and glorious God is constantly inviting us to come to Him, to hold converse with Him, to ask for such things as we need and to experience what a blessing there is in fellowship with Him" (190).

In another book by the archbishop, "The Priest is Not His Own," Archbishop Sheen delivers a comprehensive list of benefits of the Holy Hour that is worth repeating. Since his book is written particularly for priests, let us shorten his list of "15 Reasons to Make a Holy Hour" to the following 10 reasons that we should enjoy a holy hour (daily or at least on a weekly basis).

To the question, "Why make a Holy Hour?", Archbishop Sheen gives the following responses:

— it is time spent in the presence of our Lord himself. If faith is alive, no further reason is needed.

Guest Column

FATHER MATTHEW BUETTNER
GUEST COLUMNIST



— in our busy lives it takes considerable time to shake off the ... worldly cares that cling to our souls like dust.

— our Lord asked for it. (See explanation above — Mark 14:37.)

— the Holy Hour keeps a balance between the spiritual and the practical. The holy hour unites the contemplative life to the active life; it is Martha walking with Mary.

— the Holy Hour makes us obedient instruments of God.

— the Holy Hour helps us make reparation both for the sins of the world and for our own sins.

— it will restore our lost spiritual vitality. Our hearts will be where our joys are.

— the Holy Hour is the hour of truth. Alone with Jesus, we there see ourselves not as others see us, but as the Judge sees us.

— it reduces our liability to temptation and weakness.

— the Holy Hour is personal prayer. The holy Mass and the rosary are formal, official prayers, belonging to the Mystical Body of Christ. They do not belong to us personally. But the Holy Hour provides opportunity for personal discourse.

Ultimately, love is never forced and we are never coerced into spending time with the Lord. That is why "on the night he was betrayed," on the night our Lord instituted the holy Eucharist, he invited his disciples as he invites us today, "Could you not keep watch for one hour?"

WANT PREVIOUS COLUMNS?

Father Buettner's "Mystery of the Mass" series is available online at www.charlottediocese.org/mysteryofmass.html.

WANT TO COMMENT?

Feedback is welcomed regarding Father Buettner's series, "Understanding the Mystery of the Mass." Please send your comments to kemurray@charlottediocese.org.



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI celebrates Mass opening the Synod of Bishops in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican Oct. 2. Bishops from six continents are attending the Oct. 2-23 synod to discuss the Eucharist.

Eucharist is way to just society, peace, says pope

SYNOD, from page 1

simple terms, as the place where "God comes to meet us."

"God is waiting for us. He wants to be loved by us. Shouldn't this appeal touch our hearts?" he said.

But this very encounter, he said, is often hindered by people's indifference. He said today's faithful need to recall the prophet Isaiah's parable of the vineyard and ask themselves: "Is not our Christian life perhaps more vinegar than wine?"

The pope said the refusal to meet God, a phenomenon already described in biblical times, continues today in various forms. In essence, he said, human beings want to possess the world and control their own lives by themselves.

"God is an obstacle for us. Either he is reduced to a simple devotional phrase or is denied altogether, banished from public life, so that he loses all meaning," he said.

Under the popular notion of tolerance, he said, God is accepted as a private opinion but is refused a place of public influence.

"This is not tolerance but hypocrisy," the pope said. Ultimately, it leads not to justice but to a society ruled by power and private interests, he said.

The pope recalled God's "threat of judgment" to people of the Old and New Testaments and said it applies to modern Europe and to the West in general.

"We do well if we allow this warning to resound in all its seriousness in our soul, crying out at the same time to the Lord: 'Help us to be converted!'" he said.

He asked the synod to remind people that the Eucharist offers a true sense of hope, built on Christ's saving sacrifice. It helps people to reject the false ideal of self-sufficiency, he said.

Many issues

The synod marks the close of the Year of the Eucharist proclaimed by Pope John Paul II. The official list of synod members included a record-high 244 bishops and 12 priests from 118 countries.

Pope Benedict invited four bishops

from mainland China to the synod, but they were not present for the opening Mass. Vatican sources said it looked doubtful that China would allow them to travel to Rome, but said church officials had not given up hope.

The synod, which ends Oct. 23, is expected to discuss a wide variety of issues connected to the Eucharist, including Sunday Mass attendance, liturgical practices, the belief in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist, the shortage of priests, and the church's policy against reception of Communion by Catholics who have divorced and civilly remarried without an annulment.

Pope Benedict did not address any of the specific topics at the opening Mass. In introductory prayers, he asked the Holy Spirit to "enlighten, guide and inspire the synod's work and push us toward charity, harmony and service of the truth."

Heart of the church

Speaking afterward at his weekly Sunday blessing, the pope said a synod on the Eucharist was needed because the church's doctrine on the Eucharist needs to be grasped and communicated in new ways that are relevant to modern times.

He said the Eucharist has always been a lens to view the path of the church, which was founded so that "every person can know God's love and find in it the fullness of life."

The pope noted that the synod and the eucharistic year close Oct. 23, World Mission Sunday, highlighting the connection between the Eucharist and missionary activity.

"The Eucharist, in effect, is the central motor of the entire evangelizing action of the church, somewhat like the role of the heart in the human body," he said.

The pope asked for prayers for the success of the synod, including prayers to guardian angels, whose feast day was celebrated Oct. 2.

He also asked people to pray the rosary, which he said was enjoying a revival in the church, thanks in part to the efforts of Pope John Paul. The pope's mention of his predecessor drew a wave of applause from the crowd gathered in St. Peter's Square.



Join our Oratorian Congregation to SERVE GOD AS PRIEST OR BROTHER

As priests and lay men, our community lives without vows and serves God's people numerous ways, including:

Parishes	Youth Camps	Nursing
Retreats	Campus Ministry	Hospital Chaplains

Find out more about serving God with us:

Fr. Ed McDevitt, CO The Oratory
P O Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586

IN OUR SCHOOLS

ROLLING ALONG



COURTESY PHOTO

Cyclist Craig Fansler of Winston-Salem talks about bicycle safety with students at Immaculate Heart of Mary School in High Point Sept. 2 as part of the Blue Bikers program.

Catholic school fourth-graders join Blue Bikers program

HIGH POINT — As October rolls in, so will the Blue Bikers program and participating will be fourth-graders at Immaculate Heart of Mary School in High Point.

Sponsored by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina, North Carolina Amateur Sports and the state Department of Public Instruction, the program creates a fun, interactive way of promoting personal fitness, health and bicycle safety.

Blue Bikers connects North Carolina children with cyclists participating in the across-the-state 2005 Cycle North Carolina Bike Tour (Cycle NC), slated for Oct. 1-8. The cyclist assigned to Immaculate Heart of Mary School is Craig Fansler, a librarian at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem.

As part of the program, Fansler visited the school Sept. 2. He brought his bike and cycle gear to show students and to discuss bicycle safety and his upcoming adventure.

During the eight-day trip from Asheville to Wilmington, Fansler will maintain e-mail contact with the fourth graders. E-mails from the students might contain questions about what Fansler ate that day, how far he traveled, what his-

torical places he visited along the route, bicycle safety and hand signals.

Fourth-grade teacher Pat Bradley's lesson plans that week will tie directly into Cycle NC and cover subjects such as history, geography, nutrition, bicycle helmet safety, civics and social studies.

Also Sept. 2, Sherry West, a representative of the Blue Bikers program, issued pedometers to the fourth graders along with a challenge. To support Fansler during the bike trip, the class should try to walk as far as he will ride that week — 462 miles.

West showed the students how to wear their new pedometers and how to keep track of their progress on log sheets that Bradley will keep in the classroom.

When asked what he was looking forward to and dreading the most during his upcoming trip, Fansler said he was excited to see all the natural beauty North Carolina has to offer, yet he was concerned about the physical challenge of biking as many as 70 miles a day.

IHM students collect goods for hurricane victims

HIGH POINT — Fifty backpacks filled with much-needed school supplies are being sent to students displaced by Hurricane Katrina in the Gulf Coast, thanks to Immaculate Heart of Mary School in High Point.

Students delivered the backpacks Sept. 21 to the High Point/Thomasville chapter of the American Red Cross as part of the school's Community Outreach Program. The 50 packs, donated to the school by Costco Wholesale Corp., were filled

with school supplies donated by school families.

Each pack also included a \$50 Target gift card. The cards were purchased with money raised by Immaculate Heart of Mary School's student council a few weeks earlier during a Hurricane Relief fundraiser and from the Parent Teacher Organization.

The student council also has collected from school families more than 1,000 pounds of pet food for displaced animals in the Gulf Coast region.



COURTESY PHOTO

Jennifer Lindh and Connor Gehling, eighth graders at Immaculate Heart of Mary School in High Point, carry school supplies into the High Point/Thomasville American Red Cross chapter. The supplies, donated by school families, did not fit into the 50 backpacks donated by the school for hurricane-stricken students in the Gulf Coast region.

Two Illinois Priests Host...

Alaska Cruise

And Pacific Northwest Vacation

On May 23, 2006, join your Spiritual Directors Monsignors John Renken and Kenneth Steffen and other Roman Catholics on this 15-day vacation including a seven-day deluxe Alaska Cruise with Holland America Line and a seven-day Pacific Northwest vacation. This will be Monsignors Renken's and Steffen's second time hosting this two week vacation as the Your Man Tours' Catholic Chaplains. **Mass will be celebrated daily on board ship for those in the group who wish to participate.** Your group will fly into Seattle for a night before a scenic motor coach drive to Vancouver where you'll board your five-star Holland America Line cruise ship. **Next, travel through a wondrous maze of forested-island and glacier-carved fjords, past charming coastal villages, migrating whales and calving glaciers to Juneau, Skagway, Ketchikan and spectacular Glacier Bay.** After the cruise you'll start a six-night motor coach tour visiting British Columbia; the Cascade Mountains; Washington; the Grand Coulee Dam; Lake Coeur d'Alene; Montana; Yellowstone (Old Faithful) and Grand Teton National Parks; Jackson Hole, Wyoming; Idaho Falls; Utah; the Great Salt Lake; Mormon Tabernacle; and more. You'll fly home after a night in Salt Lake City. Prices for this 15-day vacation start at only \$1698 (per person, double occupancy) including port charges and taxes, and includes lots of escorted motor coach sightseeing throughout the Pacific Northwest, the 7-day deluxe Alaska cruise, 7 nights in quality hotels, transfers, and baggage handling. Add \$500 for round-trip airfare from Charlotte.

\$100 deposits now due.

Friends & family welcome.

For Information, Reservations, Brochure and Letter from Monsignor Renken Call 7 Days a Week:

'YOUR MAN' TOURS

1-800-968-7626

Carefree Vacations Since 1967

Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Charlotte 704-334-6421

Pineville 704-544-1412

Mint Hill 704-545-4864

Derita 704-596-3291

*New
Covenant
Bookstore*

**Books • Gifts
Religious Articles**

(336) 760-1673

Tues-Fri: 10:30-5

Saturday: 10-1

**Mary Jo Kahl, Owner
Parishioner - Our Lady of Mercy**

**304 Upton St.
Winston-Salem, NC 27103
www.newcovenantbookstore.com**

St. Stephen Church celebrates 50 years in Elkin

ELKIN, from page 1

Vicariate, welcomed 125 people to the celebration of St. Stephen Church, a mission church of St. John Baptiste de la Salle Church in North Wilkesboro.

"Our hands are raised in evening sacrifice ... as a gift for this church, for this community," said Bishop Jugis. "We are the beneficiaries of the missionary priests of that early era."

"This evening prayer of the church is in honor of the offering of Jesus in the garden, when he made that perfect offering to God," said Bishop Jugis, who blessed a statue of the Sacred Heart in the church's new prayer garden.

The jubilee celebration had been in the works for years, according to Sue Gutkowski, church secretary.

"Our parish has grown immensely, from four or five families at its inception to more than 90 families today," she said.

In the 1940s, the few Catholics in the Elkin area attended Mass celebrated by Franciscan priests from Lenoir above a restaurant in North Wilkesboro. Beginning in 1952, Mass was offered at an American Legion hall in Elkin.

As more Catholics moved to the area, construction was started on St. Stephen Church in 1955. Father Maurice Spillane supervised the final construction efforts

as well as the design and placement of the church's seven stained glass windows depicting the seven sacraments.

Another stained glass window depicting the Last Supper is located above the front doors near the base of the small steeple of the church, which seats about 100 people.

Jean Stemmetti, one of four original members of St. Stephen Church when it was dedicated Jan. 30, 1956, has many special memories.

"My son was the first to be baptized at St. Stephen," she said.

The dedication of Elkin's Catholic church was attended by many non-Catholics, including the mayor, town officials and community leaders.

"I remember well that on the day the church building was dedicated, (parishioner) Charlie Sasher and I were asked to greet guests at the front door of the church, and show them through the church explaining the confessional (and other areas)," wrote Mary Lib Collins, one of the founding parishioners, in 1983.

"Like most people, I feel that St. Stephen's is like family because the numbers are not overwhelming," said Gutkowski.

Despite its small size, St. Stephen Church is well-known in Elkin, said Gutkowski, due to the many ministries in which the church members participate, including Life Line Pregnancy Crisis



PHOTO BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY

Bishop Peter J. Jugis and members of St. Stephen Church in Elkin look at memorabilia from ages past during the church's 50th anniversary celebration Oct. 1.

Ministry, the local food bank and Food Meals for the Elderly.

Other parish ministries include youth faith formation, homebound visitation, Bible study and Ladies Guild.

"The biggest change came with the increase in our youth group members," said Skip Whitman, who joined the church 13 years ago. "They do a lot together as a group."

"Our youth group is very active," said ninth-grader Kyle Eiswald. "We clean up the church sometimes. We help with the children's liturgy and participate in the community pumpkin festival,

among other things."

The youth group also cleaned the grounds in preparation for the children's celebration of the 50th anniversary Oct. 2.

"Across the miles and across the years it is our faith that unites us," said Bishop Jugis. "We are one Body of Christ at the altar of the Lord. It is at that moment (of consecration) that Jesus forms us into the Body of Christ."

WANT MORE INFO?

For more on St. Stephen Church, read the Parish Profile on page 16.

Deacon Frank Aversa dies at 67

NORTH WILKESBORO — Deacon Frank Bruno Aversa, permanent deacon at St. John Baptiste de la Salle Church in North Wilkesboro and St. Stephen Church in Elkin, died at his home Sunday, Oct. 2. He was 67.

Deacon Aversa served the Catholic Church as a deacon for 17 years with responsibilities including monthly preaching at Mass, leading Communion classes and conducting Stations of the Cross services. He also was an active member of the parish peace and justice commission, liturgy commission and pastoral council.

Outside of church, he regularly visited patients in three nursing homes, tutored children and volunteered with Meals on Wheels by delivering food and visiting the sick and shut-ins. He also had taught school in Caldwell, Forsyth and Wilkes counties.

"As one of his classmates in the deacon formation program 17 years ago, I can say he was a fine example of a man who believed and lived to the fullest the life of both a husband and a deacon," said Deacon Ben Wenning, coordinator of the permanent diaconate for the Diocese of Charlotte.

After suffering major health problems 10 years ago, Deacon Aversa regained his health through rehabilitation and perseverance, and eventually re-



Deacon Frank Aversa

sumed his duties as a deacon. During his recovery and while on a leave of absence, he visited the sick and elderly of North Wilkesboro.

"He was a very humble individual, but he could handle any situation that might arise for a deacon," said Deacon Wenning.

Deacon Aversa is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Squyer Aversa; four brothers and two sisters.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society, 2200 Lake Blvd., Atlanta, GA 30319.

VISITATION AND MASS

St. John Baptiste de la Salle Church: visitation 7-9 p.m., Oct. 7; 9-11 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 8; funeral Mass celebrated by Bishop Peter J. Jugis, 11 a.m., Oct. 8.



4th Annual Vineyard of Hope Wine Tasting and Auction

Honoring Dr. William Rice

The Vineyard of Hope is not just another event in town. This annual fundraiser for Catholic Social Services provides vital funds for the programs and services of CSS. Get a group together and buy your tickets today!

Friday, November 4 at 7 pm
Hyatt SouthPark
Carnegie Blvd. at Barclay Downs Dr.

The evening includes: Wine tasting, Heavy hors d'oeuvres
Live entertainment including Our Lady of Consolation Choir
Silent and live auctions, Recognition of the contributions of
Dr. William Rice to Catholic Social Services

All proceeds benefit Catholic Social Services

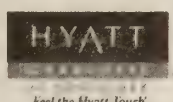
Individual tickets are \$40 or \$75 for two.

Table purchases and scholarships are available.

Call 704-370-3232 or visit www.vineyardofhope.com



Sisters of Mercy of the Americas
Regional Community of North Carolina



Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Screenwriter's task: Sell her script using hints from her how-to book

BY MARK PATTISON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Catholic screenwriter Kate Wright is on the horns of a dilemma.

Last year, a book she wrote about successfully selling screenplays was published.

This year, Wright's task is to successfully sell a movie script she has written about St. Katharine Drexel.

The first step is to show it to the leaders of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, the order St. Katharine Drexel founded, and do whatever required touch-ups are needed so it meets with their approval.

The ultimate step — which is included in "Screenwriting Is Storytelling: Creating an A-List Screenplay That Sells" — is "getting money, which is equal to getting your stars," Wright said.

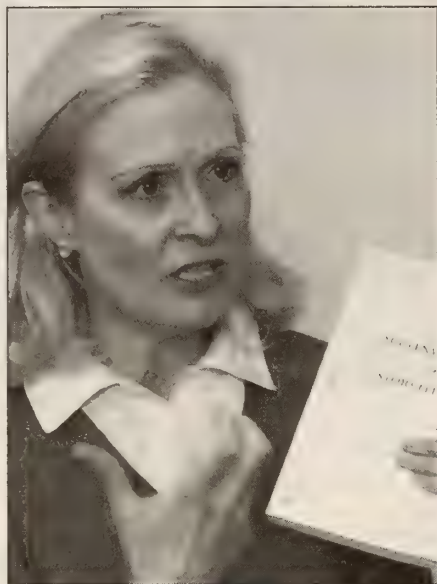
It's akin to the chicken-and-egg question. Finding stars willing to commit to a film gives potential investors "the reason they have to believe there's a return on their investment," she said.

Wright, who teaches classes in screenwriting and "script doctoring" for the writers program at the University of California-Los Angeles, calls St. Katharine Drexel a "shadow hero." In her book, shadow heroes "escape the sunlight. Their heroic deeds are known only to themselves, which is why they became our most beloved heroes."

The idea for "Katharine: The Conspirator Saint," as she has titled her script, came after she got a grant to write the script for a St. Katharine Drexel documentary. She wrote the script, but was so fascinated by the saint's life from her research that she mulled over the idea out loud to some of her UCLA students while at the same time contemplating writing a sitcom script.

Her students' response was: "You're not going to do that comedy. You're going to write the story of that woman."

Wright, who worked with renowned playwrights Tennessee Williams ("A Streetcar Named Desire") and Jason Miller ("That Championship Season"), said that under their tutelage she learned that "the conflict of human behavior and human ideals" is what creates the most



CNS PHOTO BY BOB ROLLER

Screenwriter Kate Wright gestures while talking with a Catholic News Service reporter in Washington Sept. 22.

compelling drama — "which is theologically based in what we call 'values.'"

While St. Katharine Drexel had many opponents to her work with black and Indian children, Wright said she focused on the U.S. government as the saint's primary opponent. It was the government, Wright said, that labeled the saint a conspirator, and the scenario of government interference is one that will resonate with today's moviegoers.

She says she teaches her students to look for the tried and true.

"The Ten Commandments will help you with storytelling," she said, but then to get to the next step "look at the beatitudes, and then look at the life of Christ."

Wright, a member of Good Shepherd Church in Los Angeles, confessed that as a child "I used to go to church because I wanted to hear the Gospels. Oh, I liked the epistles, too, but I didn't go for the Mass. I went for the stories."

When selling a script, the writer's job is to convince the agent, the producer, the studio executive and maybe even the actors that "it's not just a good story, it's such a great story that they (the audience) need it," Wright said.

In that sense, she added, the story of Jesus is "the greatest story ever told."

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: OCT. 16, 2005

Oct. 16, Twenty-ninth
Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle A Readings:

- 1) Isaiah 45:1, 4-6
Psalm 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10
- 2) 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b
- 3) Matthew 22:15-21

God brings lasting comfort

BY JEAN DENTON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Much as a rolling sea breaks through earth and slowly, then rapidly, engulfs a land, so rolled in the news of Hurricane Katrina's aftermath.

The previous evening my mother called to say she and her husband had safely evacuated from New Orleans. Then the morning TV reports showed the city had escaped the terrible damage officials had anticipated.

A few hours later came word that a levy was breached, then another, and water trickled, then poured in, then inundated the city. The neighborhood of my childhood was completely under water, my friends scattered across the South and the fate of many unknown.

The nation reeled from its greatest natural disaster of our lifetime.

What happened next was the grieving process writ large: fear, anger, despair, sorrow — healing.

In the midst of it all were the messy work and politics of an unprecedented emergency response. There was plenty of blame, ineptitude, poor judgment and calls to accountability to go around, including a lamentable lack of preparedness and neglected preventive measures.

Nevertheless, however imperfectly, the crisis is being handled with failures and successes, loss of life and lives saved.

As a democratic nation of taxpayers, Americans are involved with the official response. Our military, public officials, disaster-management agencies, law enforcement, emergency services and public funds play a large part in aiding displaced families, cleaning up and rebuilding a city, a port, an economy. We demand an accounting, we vow to do better, we seek to prevent a repeat occurrence.

But on a higher plane, amid the destruction, we care for the things of God with the gifts of God. In Katrina's wake, God's people, through various acts of loving their neighbor, brought hope and assurance that life would be resurrected. These gifts of God were courage in rescue, giving, sacrifice, healing and solidarity in meeting a wide range of needs and responding to many forms of distress.

Individuals and communities rose above human capacity to bring comfort to the suffering.

In this weekend's Gospel Jesus reminds us that we must not neglect our obligations as citizens, but remember that these are the worldly responsibilities of our time. However, the things of God are what we must offer one another to bring lasting comfort and truly save lives.

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 9 - OCTOBER 15

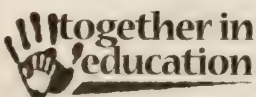
Sunday (Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Isaiah 25:6-10, Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20, Matthew 22:1-14; **Monday**, Romans 1:1-7, Luke 11:29-32; **Tuesday**, Romans 1:16-25, Luke 11:37-41; **Wednesday**, Romans 2:1-11, Luke 11:42-46; **Thursday**, Romans 3:21-30, Luke 11:47-54; **Friday (St. Callistus)**, Romans 4:1-8, Luke 12:1-7; **Saturday (St. Teresa of Avila)**, Romans 4:13, 13-18, Luke 12:8-12.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 16 - OCTOBER 22

Sunday (Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Isaiah 45:1, 4-6, 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5, Matthew 22:15-21; **Monday (St. Ignatius of Antioch)**, Romans 4:20-25, Luke 1:69-75, Luke 12:13-21; **Tuesday (St. Luke)**, 2 Timothy 4:9-17, Luke 10:1-9; **Wednesday (St. Jean de Brébeuf, St. Isaac Jogues and Companions)**, Romans 6:12-18, Luke 12:39-48; **Thursday (St. Paul of the Cross)**, Romans 6:19-23, Luke 12:49-53; **Friday**, Romans 7:18-25, Luke 12:54-59; **Saturday**, Romans 8:1-11, Luke 13:1-9.

HELP SUPPORT ST. PATRICK'S

Link your Harris Teeter VIC Card to 2409 while you're in line checking out or online at www.harristeeter.com



It Costs You Nothing! Harris Teeter gives 2% of the Harris Teeter Brand Items you purchase to St. Patrick's school.

Groce
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE


1401 Patton Ave. 72 Long Shoals Road
Asheville, NC Arden, NC
(828) 252-3535 (828) 687-3530

**Assuring
Absolute
Integrity**

Asheville's Catholic Funeral Directors
Dale Groce • John Prock

Toll-free (888) 874-3535

Pre-arrangements and obituaries on-line at www.grocefuneralhome.com



Sleep like a baby again.

At Pennybyrn, peace of mind will be yours.

1315 Greensboro Road
High Point, NC 27260
www.maryfieldliving.org

Having a plan for the future feels good. So does a retirement lifestyle that lets you stay in control. Coming soon to the Triad, Pennybyrn at Maryfield will give you this peace of mind, freeing you to enjoy everything more. Even if you happen to be doing nothing at the time.

Call (336) 886-4103 or
toll-free (866) 627-9343.

Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor Servants of The Mother of God

PENNYBYRN
at MARYFIELD
A Continuing Care Retirement Community



Quiet as a tomb no more: Vatican hopes crowds visit sarcophagi museum

BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — By far, the Vatican Museums' most popular destinations are the Raphael Rooms and Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel.

But the museums' corner gallery housing mammoth, carved marble sarcophagi depicting equally unique scenes from the Bible has, up to now, been quieter than a tomb.

However, this early Christian funerary art gallery, called the Pio Christian Museum, is hoping to come back to life with a new initiative sponsored by the Vatican Museums, the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, and the United Bible Societies.

The permanent exhibit of sculpted stone caskets is now supplemented with "didactic panels that give a biblical reading" of the carved friezes, said Francesco Buranelli, director of the Vatican Museums.

The explanatory placards together with a beautifully illustrated free guide will allow visitors to "understand the biblical sources of inspiration" for the carvings, he said at a press conference to inaugurate the new project.

The guide, called "The Engraved Word: The Bible at the Beginning of Christian Art," merges fourth-century Roman funerary art and sacred Scripture. The 80-page booklet uses enlarged photos of the sarcophagi's biblical scenes to illustrate Mark's Gospel and the Book of Jonah.

Visitors can also refer to placards set up next to selected caskets.

A diagram shows which biblical scenes are depicted on the sarcophagus and gives related biblical passages from the Old and the New testaments.

The sarcophagi harmoniously juxtapose scenes from the Old and New testaments, emphasizing the message of salvation.

"Through baptism ... all Christians, and therefore the occupant of the sarcophagus, know they are linked to the death of Christ and to his resurrection," said Umberto Utro, head of the museums' department of early Christian art.

For this reason, the caskets are replete with biblical scenes representing the hope and eternal life that are at the end of suffering and death.

Many Christian sarcophagi contain pagan elements and references to Greek and Roman gods and goddesses.

Even the image of Christ as the Good Shepherd came from the pagan image of the shepherd, Utro said.

"The image of the shepherd, which represented philanthropy, was very widespread" in Rome's early Christian era, he said.

"Because, in the Gospel, Jesus said 'I am the Good Shepherd who will lay down my life for the sheep,' the early Christians easily recognized Christ in (the pagan shepherd) image and invested it with new meaning," he said.

Artists also saw Christ in Orpheus, the son of the god of music, Apollo, Utro said.

"Just as Orpheus tamed wild beasts with his music, his image became the image of Christ who, with his words, transformed the lives of sinners," he said.

Utro said the frequent juxtaposition of scenes from the Old and New testaments shows that the early Christians easily saw the Gospel message embedded in the Hebrew Scriptures.

In one frieze, God creates Eve from Adam and, below there is a scene in which Jesus, "the new Adam," is born from Mary, "the new Eve."

"Some early Christians had been converted Jews and so they were well-grounded in the Old Testament," Utro said.

The Pio Christian Museum's new project coincides with the 40th anniversary of "Dei Verbum," the Second Vatican Council's document on Scripture and divine revelation.

Utro said that just as the document urged Christians to "read, understand and take hold of the sacred Scriptures," the museum's initiative tries to show "that still today we need to return to the origins, the essential core of our faith as revealed in the sacred Scriptures."

The art engraved in the early Christian caskets "is biblical art, founded on sacred Scripture," he said.

"I also like to think of this museum as an ecumenical museum because all Christians from all denominations can find their common roots here," he said.

Utro said Christians today can continue to follow the road toward unity by "looking at these common roots," at these "first brothers and sisters in the faith, when the church was still undivided."



Let stairs be our problem... not yours!

Ask about our Stairway lifts.

- Easily attached to steps (not walls)
- Folds out of the way
- Fits most stairways (straight & curved)
- Very affordable (rent or buy)
- We install

Chair & Equipment Rentals & Sales, Inc.

800 Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC • (800) 333-8431

Member of St. Thomas Aquinas



Court cases include religious rights, end-of-life issues

COURT, from page 1

the court's calendar to date is a case just accepted for early 2006 that raises questions about a campaign finance law that restricted the type of ads Wisconsin Right to Life was allowed to run during last year's congressional election campaign.

In between, the docket includes cases dealing with how the death penalty is applied in different states and laws affecting minors who want abortions and protesters outside abortion clinics.

After opening Oct. 3 with new Chief Justice John Roberts presiding, the court's makeup will change again, perhaps as soon as this fall. When she announced her retirement in June, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor said she would stay until her replacement is on the bench.

When Chief Justice William Rehnquist died in early September, Roberts, who had been nominated to replace O'Connor, was

renominated for the chief's post

A few hours before Roberts' formal investiture at the court, President George W. Bush named White House counsel Harriet Miers as his nominee to replace O'Connor. With a likely wait of a month or more before the Senate Judiciary Committee can begin confirmation hearings, Miers probably could not be seated until at least November or early December, assuming a smooth Senate confirmation process.

Replacing a justice

At a Supreme Court briefing hosted by Georgetown University Law School Sept. 19, panelists from the faculty discussed the ramifications of O'Connor's pending departure on the court's logistics.

For instance, if early cases come down to a 5-4 vote among the justices with O'Connor in the majority, "there is a reasonable claim that they ought to hold off" on further action until after her replace-

ment is seated, said Professor Viet Dinh.

The last time a retiring justice's replacement was not in place, at the beginning of the 1991 term, Justice Thurgood Marshall announced at the beginning of October that rather than remain on the court, as he had offered, his resignation would be effective immediately, Dinh said.

Should O'Connor do that, the court would be in the position of potentially having 4-4 splits on some cases and having to wait until the new justice is seated to reconsider how to rule, he explained.

Upcoming cases

New justices aside, this term's docket itself makes the court worth watching for those with an interest in religious rights and life issues.

Among First Amendment cases is one questioning whether members of a church have the right to use in their rituals a type of tea the federal government lists as a controlled substance.

Interestingly, the case over Oregon's assisted suicide law also revolves around the federal Controlled Substances Act, with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops supporting the federal government in one case and opposing the use of the drug law in the other.

On Oct. 5, in *Gonzales vs. Oregon*, the court will review a ruling by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals that said then-Attorney General John Ashcroft overstepped his authority and undermined Congress's intentions in passing the Controlled Substances Act when he attempted to prohibit doctors from prescribing lethal doses of medicine as laid out in Oregon's assisted suicide law.

The USCCB filed an amicus or friend-of-the-court brief on the side of the federal government arguing that assisted suicide is not a legitimate medical purpose.

In another case, the USCCB opposes the government's application of the Controlled Substances Act in *Gonzales vs. O Centro Espirita Beneficiente Uniao Do Vegetal*. That case being argued Nov. 1 reviews

a ruling by the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals that upheld the right of members of the small Brazilian-based church to use hoasca in religious ceremonies.

The Drug Enforcement Administration classifies the tea as a Schedule I drug because it contains the controlled substance dimethyltryptamine, known as DMT.

Arguing in favor of the church, the USCCB said that in recent practice the Constitution's free exercise clause "now seems largely subject to the political process." It asked the court "decisively to renew protections for religious institutions."

Nov. 30 will bring an abortion law case and two dealing with abortion protesters. The court will hear for the third time arguments about the application of federal racketeering law against abortion clinic protesters in *Scheidler vs. National Organization for Women and Operation Rescue vs. NOW*.

The cases, being heard together, ask the court to rule on whether the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals correctly applied the Supreme Court's 2003 ruling that protesters cannot be criminally prosecuted under the racketeering law.

The same day, in *Ayotte vs. Planned Parenthood of Northern New England*, the court will consider the constitutionality of New Hampshire's law requiring parental notification before a minor can obtain an abortion. At issue is whether the law is constitutional without a provision allowing for minors to bypass the requirement if the pregnancy poses a health risk to the mother.

In an amicus brief, the USCCB and the Diocese of Manchester, N.H., argued that under the logic of the 1st U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, abortion providers with no knowledge of a patient's medical history would be in the position of deciding what is best for minors.

"This court is not, and surely does not wish to be, the nation's medical board on abortion," said the bishops' brief. "Yet that is precisely what respondents invite."

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

The Archdiocese of Atlanta seeks an experienced principal to lead Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School, a SACS accredited college preparatory high school; co-educational, with 258 students and 35 faculty members. The School offers a challenging academic and co-curricular program to a diverse student body: 43% African American, 46% Caucasian and 11% other ethnic groups. Located in Fairburn, Georgia, 20 miles south of downtown Atlanta. Position requirements:

- Practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church;
- Educational Leadership Certification;
- Minimum of 3 years of successful Catholic secondary administrative experience;
- Excellent communication skills;
- Collaborative leadership style;
- Experience in fiscal management and institutional advancement;
- Commitment to teaching;
- Fair and consistent disciplinarian.



Negotiable and competitive salary; excellent benefits. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled. Send letter of interest, resume, university credentials, and names, addresses and telephone numbers of at least five references to:

Ruprecht and Associates
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811

Phone: 218-727-5150

E-mail: mruprecht@cpinternet.com

Classifieds

FOR RENT

VACATION CABIN: Lake Lure. Mountain views! Fantastic fall foliage! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, fully furnished. Reasonable rates. Call for details. 828-299-3714.

Classified ads bring results! Over 125,000 readers! Over 49,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

Director of Finance/Controller

The Sisters of Charity of Our Lady of Mercy in Charleston, South Carolina are seeking a full time Director of Finance/Controller. Responsibilities include financial planning, budgeting, accounting, investments, payroll, insurance programs and taxes.

MBA or equivalent degree in Accounting/Finance is required. At least five years experience in financial management in a similar organization is recommended. Computer skills required. Ability to understand and support the mission and philosophy of the Sisters of Charity of Our Lady of Mercy is essential.

Please send cover letter, resume, references and salary requirements by October 24, 2005 to:

Sister Carol Wentworth, General Treasurer
PO Box 12410
Charleston, SC 29422

125,000 people will read these words this week!



Shouldn't they see YOUR COMPANY'S name here?

LOW ad rates - easy for small businesses and individuals, too!

Call (704) 370-3332 now!

THE CATHOLIC NEWS-HERALD

Abbey monks celebrate jubilees

Hundreds commemorate achievements of three priests

BELMONT — More than 300 guests gathered in the Abbey Basilica in Belmont recently to celebrate the milestones of three special members of the monastic community.

Benedictine Father Kieran Neilson, chaplain of Belmont Abbey College, commemorated his 50th anniversary as a vowed Benedictine this year. Benedictine Abbot Placid Solari and Benedictine Father Christopher Kirchgessner also marked the occasion, each celebrating 25 years in the priesthood.

The combined jubilees attracted a guest list consisting of friends and family from all over the country, along with members of the monastic and college communities. A private reception was held on the campus after the ceremony in the basilica Sept. 18.

In addition to serving as head of the monastic community, Abbot Solari also teaches and serves as the college chancellor. Over the years, he has held a number of other positions, including dean of academic affairs and president of Belmont Abbey College.

Born and raised in Richmond, Va., Abbot Solari entered the Benedictine community as a novitiate in 1974. After being ordained with Father Kirchgessner in June 1980, he served at St. Michael Church in Gastonia.

In addition to earning his degree at Bellarmine College in Kentucky, Abbot

Solari completed his doctorate in theology and patristic sciences at the Pontifical Patristic Institute "Augustinianum" in Rome.

In 1999, he was elected by members of the monastic community to the role of abbot.

Father Neilson, a native of Charlotte, graduated from Belmont Abbey College with a business degree in 1954. He joined the monastic community and took his first vows on July 2, 1955, his 23rd birthday.

He was later ordained a priest May 26, 1960 at Our Lady of the Assumption Church in Charlotte by Bishop Vincent S. Waters of Raleigh.

In addition to serving in Richmond, Va., for more than 23 years of his monastic life, Father Neilson also has held a variety of roles for the monastery. Currently, he is the abbey's chaplain and works with students in campus ministry.

Father Kirchgessner, a native of Indiana, has served the college and the monastery in a number of roles, including prior of the monastery, college vice president and dean of students, and he has worked in the registrar's office.

He currently teaches courses in theology, great books and the first-year symposium at Belmont Abbey College. He also counsels students and is frequently asked to perform baptisms and weddings for alumni of the college.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Above (clockwise from left): Benedictine Father Kieran Neilson sits with graduates of Belmont Abbey College; Benedictine Abbot Placid Solari; and Benedictine Father Christopher Kirchgessner. All three monks recently celebrated their anniversaries as priests.

About Belmont Abbey

Belmont Abbey is a monastery of the Benedictine Order. For more than 1,500 years, men have become monks according to St. Benedict's insight.

Each Benedictine abbey stands independently with its own unique character. Although the monks of Belmont observe a centuries-old rule that is still followed in monasteries throughout the world, the abbey has its own distinct life.

Founded in 1876, Belmont Abbey is a monastery of about 20 men.

About Belmont Abbey College

Ranked one of the best comprehensive colleges in the Southeast by *U.S. News and World Report* and *The Princeton Review*, Belmont Abbey College is a liberal arts college, home to students from more than 34 states and 26 countries.

The campus consists of the college, the monastery and Abbey Basilica.

Founded in 1876, the college is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

*Enjoy God's peace
and beauty in the
foothills!*

*Share the blessings
of this opportunity!*

Four riverfront homesites offered for sale,
all with gated access and private drive —

In the foothills, 1 hour west of Charlotte
and 40 minutes from Asheville

Cottage-style home plans by noted Allison
Ramsey Architects

Very large lots - 6 to 13 acres each

Frontage on Second Broad River, nature
trails, picnic areas

Deeded access to 40 acres of pasture,
horse trails, barn and riverwalk

Our Lady of the River grotto and
Stations of the Cross



Yanua Coeli

"The Gate of Heaven"

A unique opportunity, this property of 110 acres will be used as a retreat ranch for children suffering from cancer, and their families. Held by the Padre Pio Land Trust, it is being developed by Michael and Robin Hunter, parishioners of Immaculate Conception in Rutherfordton and trustees of Yanua Coeli Cancer Foundation. If you are interested in an ideal spot for your vacation home, with a rental program available, please call Mike or Robin at 828-429-8544.

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Again, it's about abortion

Judges are not to be politicians with platforms

In the confirmation hearings for Chief Justice John G. Roberts, many senators have conducted themselves in exactly the way pro-life leaders said they would. Abortion, the issue that won't go away, was again at the center of their concerns.

"Respect for precedent" was a code word for "respect for *Roe vs. Wade*," and concerns about "privacy" were really concerns about abortion. When Sen. Patrick Leahy of Vermont declared that he would vote for Roberts, despite many reasons that would make him vote otherwise, he explained it was because he thinks Roberts will not take away a woman's "right to choose."

What Roberts will do as Chief Justice Roberts, of course, is yet to be determined.

But we should pause for a moment to reflect on the irony of senators and other leaders arguing in public about whether *Roe v. Wade* is "settled law." The frequency of the question answers the question in the negative, because if it were "settled," it would hardly be the center of such constant controversy.

Roe vs. Wade itself, in fact, was on trial in the U.S. Senate a few months ago when Sen. Sam Brownback of Kansas led hearings on the decision and its impact on America. The plaintiff in the case, Norma McCorvey ("Jane Roe"), is now pro-life and testified against *Roe v. Wade* at the hearings. (I was privileged to receive her into the Catholic Church in 1998.)

Now, of course, in anticipation of the process to fill the second vacancy on the Court, some voices are calling for a more "moderate" nominee and demanding that the president keep "balance" on the Court and not move it to the "right."

Again, it's about abortion, and it reminds me of the words of Justice Antonin Scalia: "Now the Senate is looking for moderate judges, mainstream judges. What in the world is a

Guest Column

FATHER FRANK PAVONE
GUEST COLUMNIST



moderate interpretation of a constitutional text? Halfway between what it says and what we'd like it to say?"

There is no obligation, nor is it even appropriate, to seek to maintain the current configuration of opinions on the Court. That very effort contradicts what the Court is all about. It's not a legislature, and judges are not supposed to be politicians with platforms.

But in any case, how can anyone consider support for abortion "moderate," "mainstream" or even reasonable? *Roe v. Wade* allowed abortion throughout all nine months of pregnancy. Abortionist Martin Haskell used these words to describe a legal abortion procedure, under oath:

"When you're doing a dismemberment D&E, usually the last part to be removed is the skull itself and it's floating free inside the uterine cavity ... like a ping-pong ball floating around.

"Finally ... a nip is made out of some area of the skull that allows it to start to decompress. And then once that happens typically the skull is brought out in fragments rather than as a unified piece, the result being that sharp bony edges of the skull are exposed" (US District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin, Case No. 98-C-0305-S).

Mainstream, indeed.

Father Pavone is national director of Priests for Life.

At audience, pope says people meet God in celebration of liturgy

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — In the celebration of the liturgy, "God and man meet in an embrace of salvation," Pope Benedict XVI said.

During his weekly general audience Oct. 5, as bishops from around the world met in small groups during the Synod of Bishops on the Eucharist, the pope focused on the meaning of true religious faith and worship of God.

Pope Benedict did not specifically mention the synod, which began Oct. 2, but he offered special greetings to young people from several countries who had traveled to Rome for a meeting on eucharistic adoration.

"I ask you, dear young people, to place the Eucharist at the center of your personal and community life, learning to live from the spiritual strength that flows from it," the pope said.

In his main audience talk, Pope Benedict focused on Psalm 135 and its use in the church's evening prayer.

The psalm, he said, contrasts faith and idolatry.

The "living and personal God" is not inanimate, but "a living person who guides his faithful, is moved by pity for them and supports them with his power and love."

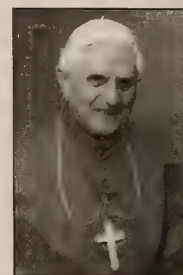
An idol, on the other hand, is the work of human hands and a projection of human desires for wealth and power.

"The fate of one who adores these dead realities is to become like them: powerless, fragile and inert," he said.

Pope Benedict said the psalm ends with hymns of praise from different sec-

The Pope Speaks

POPE BENEDICT XVI



tors of the community of true believers, all united in their humble recognition of God's greatness.

The psalm's final verses illustrate that "the liturgy is the privileged place for listening to the divine word which makes the saving acts of the Lord present, but it is also the place from which the communal prayer celebrating divine love rises," the pope said.

"God and man meet in an embrace of salvation, which finds its completion precisely in the liturgical celebration," he said.

Greeting Polish pilgrims at the end of the audience, the pope said six months had passed since the April 2 death of "my dear predecessor, Pope John Paul II. His entire teaching and the witness of his life remain important and current for us."

The pope told the Poles, "I entrust his cause for beatification to your recitation of the rosary."

Pope Benedict waived the five-year waiting period normally required before the official process leading to beatification and canonization could begin. The Diocese of Rome is conducting the diocesan phase of the investigation into the late pope's life, but no timetable for its completion has been announced.

Letters to the Editor

Protesting not always a good thing

The front-page article, "Faith and Protest" (Sept. 30) was disheartening to say the least. Whether you are for or against the war (Catholics can be either), "demonstrations" now actually result in more deaths.

Each demonstration emboldens terrorists to take even more lives. It gives the thought that many Americans are not supporting troops and are in support of terrorist actions. How unfortunate so many are brainwashed into thinking that such an action would be fruitful, when in fact it is a major cause of death.

It's very difficult to understand how a march can signify a more "unified religious voice" when it's documented that only 0.5 percent were religious, and even fewer were Catholic. It is even likely that a smaller percentage were for life and against abortion. How ironic. Lest we

forget, abortion kills 1.3 million innocent lives each year.

It can be even more difficult with your son in Walter Reed Hospital (as I was), along with most of the other injured soldiers that allowed us to sleep a little safer in our beds. May God have mercy on Cindy Sheehan's soul, and the rest of her followers, for a highly displaced priority on human "life."

— Kevin Roeten
Asheville

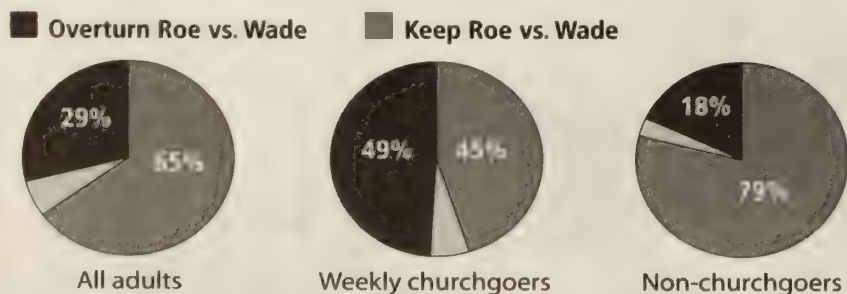
Thumbs up for 'Mystery of the Mass'

The "Understanding the Mystery of the Mass" series is the most comprehensive explanation of the Mass that I have ever seen in my 63 years. I suggest Father Matthew Buettner publish it in a book.

— Al Konchar
Greensboro

Choosing a Justice

Most U.S. adults want a new Supreme Court justice who would uphold the ruling that legalized abortion across the nation. Percent of those who want a justice who would...



Poll conducted June 24-26, before the announcement of Justice Sandra Day O'Connor's retirement.

Source: Gallup Poll

©2005 CNS

A moment of grace

A heartwarming story of forgiveness

Imagine being in your car, peacefully driving, when suddenly something rock-hard shatters your windshield, hits you and breaks nearly every bone in your face.

It turns out that the "weapon" was a frozen turkey, hurled from the rear window of a speeding car by a teenage college student out for a joyride with friends.

That's what happened last November to Victoria Ruvolo, a 44-year-old office manager, on a road in the town of Riverhead on Long Island.

She could have been killed, and she could have had brain damage. Surgeons had to rebuild her face using metal plates and screws. But remarkably, she recovered and within a few months was back on her own and working again.

But that's not the real story. It's what happened the following August in court that makes this a tale to remember. The boy who threw the turkey, 19-year-old Ryan Cushing, who suffers from impaired vision, was indicted on a first-degree assault charge and could have faced up to 25 years in prison.

And then Ruvolo stepped in.

She saw Cushing for the first time coming out of the courtroom. He

The Bottom Line

ANTOINETTE BOSCO
CNS COLUMNIST



stopped, choking and crying as he tried to apologize to her.

"For an intensely emotional few minutes, Ruvolo alternately embraced him tightly, stroked his face and patted his back as he sobbed uncontrollably," wrote a *New York Times* reporter.

As the young man kept saying, "I'm sorry, I didn't mean it," the woman he could have killed repeated, "It's OK. It's OK. I just want you to make your life the best it can be."

Then, at Ruvolo's insistence, prosecutors agreed to a plea bargain for Cushing, giving him six months in jail and five years' probation instead of 25 years in prison.

One man later said that in his 30 years as a prosecutor "he had not seen such a forgiving victim."

Much has been written about forgiveness. I, too, have devoted time and words to sharing the process I had to go

through to be able to forgive the murderer of my son and his wife.

I would be asked: Is forgiveness possible when crime shatters a family? It took time, but the day came when I could honestly say "yes."

In that time I learned much about what makes forgiveness so difficult. In a word: anger.

I soon saw the light and the truth of what anger could do to me, and that underscored the need to forgive. I was giving up freedom and the ability to get on with good work for that phony, but popular, belief that we are justified in wanting to "get even."

And so I learned that forgiveness begins with letting go of the anger. When this is done, freedom returns. We can go to the next stage of forgiveness, which is to pray for the one who has hurt us and remember that this person is also a child of God.

I think this is what Ruvolo also believed.

The *New York Times* actually wrote an editorial about Ruvolo, titling it "A Moment of Grace." Their words were touching:

"Given the opportunity for retribution, Ms. Ruvolo gave and got something better: the dissipation of anger and the restoration of hope, in a gesture as cleansing as the tears washing down her damaged face, and the face of the foolish, miserable boy whose life she single-handedly restored."

What a gift she gave! God bless her!

St. Malachy's prophecy

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



Q. Since the death of Pope John Paul II, I have heard several times on television and in the newspapers about the prophecy of St. Malachy, an Irish bishop. The reports say he foretold much about the popes after his time. According to him, there will be only one more pope after Benedict XVI, and then the end of the world.

What does the Catholic Church have to say about this? (Illinois)

A. As one might expect, the Catholic Church has nothing to say about it.

St. Malachy was one of the most prominent churchmen of Ireland of the Middle Ages. Archbishop of Armagh from 1129 to 1148, he is the alleged author of the "Prophecies of Malachy," which had widespread notoriety especially in the 17th and 18th centuries.

The prophecies claim to give a brief, often bizarre characterization of the name or the papacy of possibly 111 successors of Pope Celestine II (died 1144), ending with Peter II, who will "feed his flock in many tribulations in the final persecution of the Holy Roman Church." They're the kind of novelty that some people find fascinating, and they resurface every time a pope is elected or dies.

The prophecies are an obvious forgery. First of all, they do not appear anywhere until 400 years after Malachy's death, in a 1595 Venice publication called *Lignum Vitae*. For the period from 1143 to 1590, the "prophecies" obviously rely on readily available information about the names, homes and lives of intervening popes.

Beginning in 1590, however, when Gregory XIV was elected, the predictions become impossibly obscure and ambiguous. The prophecy was not written by St. Malachy or anyone else in his time. Some may find it entertaining and an exercise in unhistorical enigma solving, but it is a 16th-century hoax.

Before readers begin asking where to get copies, they can be found on the Internet at Catholic-Pages.com at the link to Prophecy of St. Malachy. Unfortunately, the site seems to give far more credit and credibility to the prophecies than they deserve.

A free brochure in English or Spanish, answering questions Catholics ask about baptism practices and sponsors, is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 3315, Peoria, IL 61612.

Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address, or e-mail: jjdietzen@aol.com.

The big deal about freedom

Many can't appreciate the cost involved

"What's the big deal about freedom? Most countries are free these days, right? It's not as if it's anything special."

These sentiments, spoken by a high school freshman, got me thinking. The kid has read history books and memorized facts, but perhaps it takes personal stories for us to really understand. At least it did for me.

It all started with an elderly man at the post office.

I was writing a series of newspaper articles profiling extraordinary people in my community. I was always on the lookout for interesting subjects, so when I stopped at the post office one day and noticed a POW license plate out front it piqued my curiosity.

I entered the tiny post office where one lone customer, a man perhaps in his late 70s, was buying stamps from the cheery woman behind the counter.

"Excuse me, sir," I began, "is that your POW license plate?"

The gentleman stood up very straight, thrust his achy shoulders back with pride and replied, "Why, yes, it is."

"May I ask where you served?" I asked.

That's all it took.

Before my eyes this elderly gentleman was transformed into a 19-year-old GI in the Battle of the Bulge in 1944. Stories poured out about being

captured and brought to Dresden, Germany, during the bombing, being forced to pile dead bodies onto railroad ties and living in Slaughterhouse Five with fellow POW Kurt Vonnegut.

He told about a buddy who was shot for stealing a can of beans and about another POW who starved to death because he refused to steal.

"Hunger and stealing were a way of life," the gentleman explained to me. "That guy wouldn't do it."

After the war, this now-elderly man visited the parents of the GI who had starved.

"I think it was the hardest thing I ever had to do in my life, to tell parents that their son was dead because he wouldn't steal," he said.

The POWs continued the grisly task of moving dead bodies out of the rubble until they were abandoned near the Russian Front as Germany prepared to surrender.

Several prisoners managed to steal a German command car and drive it to safety behind American lines. They were flown to France and hospitalized for malnutrition, dysentery and chronic hepatitis.

Eventually the gentleman returned home where he tried to return to normal life, but effects of the war lingered.

"One time driving home in a thunderstorm, I tried to push my wife un-

Coming of Age

M. REGINA CRAM
CNS COLUMNIST



der the seat," he explained.

Another time when a sudden thunderstorm erupted in the middle of the night, his wife recalls being shoved under the bed.

Little was known about post-traumatic stress syndrome, so returning POWs tried to pretend the war never had happened and move on. It was decades before this man finally joined a group of former POWs to talk about his experiences.

They encouraged him to tell others about his wartime years and the price he paid for our freedom.

And so he did, back at the post office. Time quietly halted as the gentleman told his stories. I listened, trying to sear the images into my memory.

I don't know how long I stood there. I do know that when I left the post office that day I was proud to be an American, thankful for our freedom and keenly aware that it comes at a high cost.

That's the big deal about freedom.

St. Stephen Church celebrates 50 years

ST. STEPHEN CHURCH

101 Hawthorne Road
Elkin, N.C. 28621
(336) 835-3007

Vicariate: Boone

Pastor: Father John Hanic

Number of Households: 90

A mission of St. John Baptiste de la Salle
Church in North Wilkesboro



Father John Hanic

ELKIN — In the late 1940s, the five Catholic families in Elkin attended Masses above a restaurant in North Wilkesboro. Franciscan priests from Lenoir ministered to Catholics from both towns until St. John Baptiste de la Salle Church was established in North Wilkesboro in 1952.

The same year St. John Baptiste de la Salle Church opened its doors, arrangements were made to hold Sunday Mass in the old American Legion Hut in Elkin.

"The hut was not insulated and summer brought the worst of heat to endure," Mary Lib Collins, one of the earliest parishioners of St. Stephen Church, wrote in 1983. "Sunday finery wilted and children were pathetically restless and uncomfortable."

"Winter brought the opposite problem," said Collins. "In the center (of the room) sat a big oil heater. Those who

hovered around it too closely were too hot; those who did not shivered from the cold. In spite of the early difficulties, we were proud and grateful to have a place for Mass in our town."

Throughout the 1950s, a slow but steady stream of Catholics added to the Catholic population of Elkin.

The early Catholics in Elkin were instrumental in the gradual acceptance of Catholics in the community. Elkin is a small community and at that time, Catholics were still "strange" there but managed to earn the respect and trust of their neighbors and community leaders.

The children were instructed by two Sisters of St. Joseph, who came Saturdays from St. Leo the Great Church in Winston-Salem. Parishioners later served as catechists, having been instructed by two women religious from Statesville.

In the spring of 1955 construction of St. Stephen Church was started. The land on which the church was built was purchased from Chatham Manufacturing Company for \$1.

The first Mass at St. Stephen Church was held in late 1955, and the church was officially dedicated Jan. 30, 1956. Whether from curiosity or true interest, townspeople overwhelmed the church on the day of the dedication. The event attracted the mayor, town officials and community leaders as well as average citizens.

As St. Stephen Church entered its third decade, the number of parishioners continued to flourish spiritually and became more active in the Elkin community.

As the parish population grew, so did its clubs and organizations, including Knights of Columbus, youth groups, Bible study and Ladies Guild.

The parish's community outreach programs include Communion and visitation to the homebound, meal delivery to the elderly, babysitting for the Pregnancy

Crisis Center, financial support of Habitat for Humanity, supporting a food pantry, a Christmas Angel Tree and sponsoring a literacy group.

On Oct. 1, 2005, St. Stephen Church commemorated its 50th anniversary with a Mass celebrated by Bishop

Peter J. Jugis, followed by a dinner at the Yadkin Valley Senior Center in Jonesville.

As for the future, the mission church sees a need for more space as the Catholic community grows. A small church with a big heart, they will continue to spread the good news of Christ in all that they do.

Staff Writer Karen A. Evans contributed to this story.



PHOTO BY GEORGE K. COBB

St. Stephen Church in Elkin recently celebrated the 50th anniversary of its founding. The church is a mission of St. John Baptiste de la Salle in North Wilkesboro.

Are you Catholic, but not active? Do you feel unwelcome,
"on the edge," "in exile" in your own Church?

COME HOME! WE MISS YOU!

Queen of the Apostles Church in Belmont will begin a
ministry for our inactive Catholic brothers and sisters
who wish to find a safe place to return.



CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME
will take place Mondays,
October 3 - 24, at 7-8:30 pm
in the Kovacic Center (next to the church).

To find YOUR place in the Church again, or just to talk about your situation,
contact Dennis Teall-Fleming at teallfleming@yahoo.com or 704-868-9392.

No strings attached - no fees, no sign-ups, no obligations!
Just come and be among friends in a safe place, in your own Church!

We miss you - and we need you there!

Give the unforgettable gift! Enrich your own spiritual life!

Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise —

"The Footsteps of Paul"

Greece and Turkey

May 11-21, 2006



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,849 for inside cabin (before 1/31/06) - includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

Istanbul — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace

Mykonos — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels

Patmos — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation

Kusadasi & Ephesus — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites

Rhodes — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith

Crete — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion

Santorini — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.

Roman Catholic
Diocese of Charlotte



Established Jan. 12, 1972
by Pope Paul VI

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

OCTOBER 14, 2005

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 15 No 2

Parish Profile

St. Jude Church thrives
in mountain community
of Sapphire Valley

| PAGE 16

Building a bridge to understanding

Pen Pals for Peace connects local students to Catholic Palestinians

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Students at St. Matthew School in Charlotte are taking the first small steps toward building a bridge between the cultures of America and the Middle East.

The 114 fifth-graders will be connected with Catholic Palestinian children in Jerusalem and Bethlehem through "Pen Pals for Peace," a correspondence exchange program begun by Mel Lehman and Frank Lalley, two peace and social-justice advocates from New York City.

"The goal of the program is to get these dear children, as part of their Christian faith, to learn about another dear Christian child in another part of the world," said Lehman. "(Children in Israel) seem so foreign, but they're people just like us."

Lehman conducted a slide presentation Oct. 6 for the fifth graders, explaining what life is like for Catholics living in the



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Elizabeth Fiato, Maggie Dattolo, Sharon Hady and another student examine items from Israel and Iraq following the Pen Pals for Peace presentation at St. Matthew School Oct. 6. The school's four fifth-grade classes will be participating in the program, in which they are matched up with Christian children living in Jerusalem and Bethlehem.

See PALS, page 7

'HALL OF FAMER'

Father Sheridan receives Irish American award

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — Father Edward Sheridan recently joined the Irish hall of fame.

Father Sheridan, pastor of St. Gabriel Church in Charlotte, received the Irish Hall of Fame Award during the 2nd Annual Irish American Awards Dinner, held at the Park Hotel in Charlotte Oct. 6.

The awards dinner recognizes local Irish Americans and raises funds for Charlotte's annual St. Patrick's Day parade and festival, which will be held March 18, 2006.

"I'm honored. It's a great compliment," said Father Sheridan. "I'm not sure if I'm worthy of it, but I appreciate their selection."

Moirá Quinn, chief operat-

See IRISH, page 12

PRYING EYES

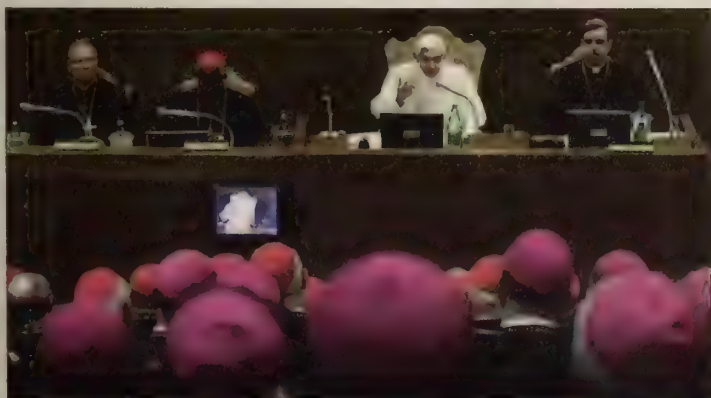
German newspaper says Pope Benedict was spied on when he was cardinal

BY JONATHAN LUXMOORE
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

OXFORD, England — A German newspaper has published details of how East Germany's communist secret police, or Stasi, spied on Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger three decades before he became Pope Benedict XVI.

"Long before his nomination as prefect of the Vatican's

See SPY, page 13



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI delivers his speech at the Synod of Bishops in the Paul VI audience hall at the Vatican Oct. 3. Pictured (from left): Cardinal Juan Sandoval Iniguez of Guadalajara, Mexico; Nigerian Cardinal Francis Arinze; the pope; and Archbishop Nikola Eterovic.

Synod of Bishops

SYNOD FOCUSES ON BETTER UNDERSTANDING, CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST

BY JOHN THAVIS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — The Synod of Bishops' first week of discussion focused on how to make the Eucharist available to all Catholics and how to improve the way it is celebrated and understood.

See SYNOD, page 9

More Coverage

page 8 | Sin causes broken bonds with God, others, says U.S. cardinal

page 8 | Catholics must emphasize penance and Communion

Around the Diocese

Rosary Rally; parish carnivals;
Operation LAMB

| PAGES 4-5

Culture Watch

Noted theologian, author dies;
EWTN celebrates 25 years

| PAGES 10-11

Perspectives

Offensive Sony ad; married
priests; meaning of creation

| PAGES 14-15

#BXNPDVQ.....3-DIGIT 275
#420836#
NC COLLECTION
UNC
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001
S237 P2

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

HOLY CARD COLLECTOR



CNS PHOTO BY PAULA DOYLE, THE TIDINGS

Santa Barbara City College professor Julie Ann Brown displays a few of the antique holy cards from her collection. She has amassed some 100,000 religious cards — some of which can be seen and downloaded from her Web site, www.holycards.com.

California woman on mission to preserve 'God's calling cards'

LOS ANGELES (CNS) — Santa Barbara City College marketing and e-commerce professor Julie Ann Brown is the Internet go-to person for holy cards.

Brown, 45, is on a mission to preserve and share what she calls "God's calling cards," lovingly made more than 75 years ago by European nuns and clergy.

"My quest remains the same: to spare and share the beautiful holy images from those who have loved and lived before us," said the Catholic mother of two college students.

Visitors to Brown's Web site, www.holycards.com, can e-mail a free virtual holy card to friends.

During a 1996 shopping trip to an antique mall, Brown happened upon a collection of holy cards, similar to the ones she had enjoyed buying as a child.

"It was my collection of penny holy cards purchased after Mass that brought the Scriptures alive to me," she said.

After learning from a graphic arts teacher how to scan and digitally preserve the antique holy cards, which are royalty-free because copyright law classifies them as being in the public domain, Brown decided to post her growing collection on the Internet.

She called her business Chant Art, combining her love of Gregorian chant with the "visual prayer" of holy cards.

According to Brown, holy cards were considered Catholic "people's art"

that was affordable and easily transportable in pockets or prayer books. Brown's collection contains hand-cut and hand-punched paper lace cards dating from the 1600s to the 1800s. They were often made by cloistered nuns as a way to inspire the faithful who could not afford expensive illustrated prayer books.

Brown estimates she spent close to \$150,000 amassing her collection, which also includes images from prayer books.

"Time is running out for most antique paper," noted Brown. "Modern technology is a part of God's plan to help not only with remembering the past but creating future possibilities that at this time we cannot imagine."

People have used the 4,000 images on Brown's site to create personalized holy cards, baptismal and wedding announcements, needlepoint patterns, coloring books and religious education materials.

The Vatican used one of Brown's images on a banner to celebrate the feast of St. Cornelius. The Hallmark Channel recently used an image of St. Hildegard of Bingen.

Besides continuing to add images to her Web site, Brown plans to create religious clip art from 19th-century Catholic and Christian European books and booklets.

"This project of collecting, preserving and providing Christian art will take the rest of my life to complete — it's my minivocation," said Brown.

Church official urges hurricane school aid be distributed efficiently

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Getting federal aid to schools affected by the hurricanes in the Gulf Coast region should not be hindered by the way the funds could be dispersed, said the education secretary for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

In an Oct. 5 letter to the House Education and the Work Force Committee and the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pension Committee, Dominican Sister Glenn Anne McPhee expressed "significant reservations" about recent discussions by members of Congress stipulating that any aid given to private schools be distributed through public school districts following the model of how federal funds are distributed in the No Child Left Behind legislation.

"The hurricanes did not distinguish between public, private or religious schools at any level," said Sister McPhee.

The USCCB official noted that if funds to private schools are issued by

public school districts, private schools in need might not get the help they need before the end of the school year.

"Aid needs to reach schools in the most expeditious manner," she added, noting that requiring school administrators to go through a long consultation process to get funds would be "unfair and unrealistic."

Sister McPhee said Catholic school officials in the two areas most affected by the storms, Louisiana and Texas, have told her that a lengthy procedure for dispersing funds would be totally unresponsive to their immediate and pressing needs.

As of Oct. 7, no bills had yet been crafted specifying how to distribute aid to schools in the hurricane regions other than the initial legislation introduced by Sen. Michael Enzi, R-Wyo., and Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., which did not include aid to Catholic and other religious schools.

Diocesan planner

ASHEVILLE VICARIATE

ASHEVILLE — The *St. Martin de Porres Dominican Laity Chapter* meets the fourth Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the rectory building at the Basilica of St. Lawrence, 97 Haywood St. Inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Beverly Reid at (423) 6338-4744 or bebereid@adelphia.net.

HENDERSONVILLE — The *St. Francis of the Hills Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order* meets the fourth Sunday of each month 2:30-4:30 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church, 208 7th Ave. West. Visitors and inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Joanita Nellenbach, SFO, (828) 627-9209 or jnell@dnet.net.

BOONE VICARIATE

SPARTA — St. Frances of Rome Church, Hendrix and Highlands Rds., sponsors the *Oration of Divine Love Prayer Group* in the parish house the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 1 p.m. Call (336) 372-8846 for more information.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — A *Women's Talk* will be held Oct. 19 at 7 p.m. in the reception room of St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd. Barbara Gardener will speak on "The Holy Spirit in our Lives." For more information, call Peggy at (704) 588-7311.

CHARLOTTE — Certified financial planner Marty Moore will present "The Most Important Financial Issues Facing the Widowed Today," Oct. 20, 7-8:30 p.m. in Room A of St. Gabriel Church the Ministry Center, 8016 Providence Rd. RSVP to Sister Therese Galligan at (704)

263-5047, ext. 216.

CHARLOTTE — Bishop Emeritus William Curlin will conduct a *Parish Mission* at St. Ann Church, 3635 Park Rd., Oct. 23-25. Bishop Curlin will speak at all weekend Masses and at 7:30 p.m., Sunday through Tuesday. Spirituality and prayer will be the topic of the mission. Everyone is invited and encouraged to join us as we spend some time in reflection and prayer. For more information, call the church office at (704) 523-4641.

CHARLOTTE — The *Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians*, St. Brigid Division 1, an Irish-Catholic group of women dedicated to their faith, country and Irish heritage, meet the third Wednesday of each month. Anyone interested in membership, call Jeanmarie Schuler at (704) 554 0720.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — Learn how to *Banish Brown-Bag Boredom* with healthy, quick child's lunches. The program will be taught at Our Lady of Grace Church, 2205 West Market St., Oct. 18, 6-7 p.m. Register by calling (336) 832-8000.

GREENSBORO — The *Reemployment Support Group* of St. Paul the Apostle Church will meet Oct. 20, 7:30-9 p.m. in Room 8 of the Parish Life Center, 2715 Horse Pen Creek Rd. If you are currently out of work or looking to make a career change, join us for encouragement, support and informative topics to help you in your job search. For more information, call Colleen Assal at (336) 294-4696, ext. 226.

GREENSBORO — Father James Ebright will celebrate a *Charismatic Healing Mass* Oct. 21, 7-9 p.m., at Our Lady of Grace Church, 2205 West Market St. The Mass is sponsored Our Lady of Grace Healing Ministry and the Flames of Fire Prayer Group. Healing teams will be available for personal ministry after the Mass. For more information, call Ben D'Apollonio at (336) 812-3730.

GREENSBORO — The third annual *Hispanic*

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-mail: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

OCTOBER 14, 2005
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 2

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Pope urges swift, generous response to South Asian earthquake

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI called on the world community to be "swift and generous" in its help to South Asian countries overwhelmed by an earthquake that left tens of thousands of people dead and tens of thousands more injured.

The magnitude 7.6 earthquake hit Pakistan, India and Afghanistan Oct. 8, and officials said the death toll could top 40,000.

Pope Benedict said "it was with deep sadness" that he learned of the earthquake that caused "great damage and loss of life."

After praying his Oct. 9 noonday Angelus with the faithful gathered in St. Peter's Square, he commended "to God's loving mercy all those who have died" and expressed his "deepest sympathy to the many thousands who are injured or bereaved."

Health and Cultural Fiesta will take place at Our Lady of Grace Church, 2205 West Market St., Oct. 23, 3-6 p.m. The fiesta will offer free medical screenings including cholesterol, blood sugar, blood pressure, eye exams, hearing exams and child safety, along with food, music and dancing. For more information, call Maureen Cavanaugh, parish nurse, at (336) 274-6520 ext. 30.

HICKORY VICARIATE

HICKORY — Father Robert Ferris leads a *Lectionary Bible Study* at St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St., Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. This study prepares participants for the following Sunday's Mass by reading and studying the liturgical readings for the next week. For more information on this study, contact Kathy Succop at (828) 327-2341 or stalscoordinator@charter.net.

HICKORY — St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St. NE, is offering a weekly *Catholic Scripture Study*. Catholic Scripture Study is a program whose members not only learn the Scriptures, but come to a deeper understanding of their faith in a setting that builds Christian fellowship. Evening and daytime classes will be held each at the church, Wednesdays, 6:45-8:30 p.m., and Thursdays 9:30-11:15 a.m. For more information, call Ann Miller at (828) 441-2205, or e-mail stalscss@charter.net.

NEWTON — The *Little Flowers Catholic Girls' Group* is for all Catholic girls ages five and up. The group meets the fourth Monday of each month at St. Joseph Church, 720 West 13th St., at 4 p.m. in the Holy Family Hall. For more details, call Debbie Vickers at (828) 495-2039.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

SALISBURY — Are you tired of constantly struggling with your weight? Consider giving God a chance to touch your heart, your life and your eating. *Light Weigh* Bible study and video series will begin a new 12-week session on Oct. 18 at Sacred Heart Church, 128 Fulton St. Classes will meet Tuesdays in the Conference Room, 5:30-7 p.m. For more information, contact the church office at (704) 633-0591.

MOORESVILLE — St. Therese Church, 217 Brawley School Rd., will host the *Personal Foun-*

The pope called on the international community to be "swift and generous" in its response to the disaster." He also asked God "to grant courage and strength to those involved in the task of rescue work and reconstruction."

The early morning earthquake was thought to have been the strongest earthquake to hit the region in a century. Pakistani Bishop Anthony Lobo of Islamabad-Rawalpindi said homes and villages were leveled and some churches in his diocese were damaged.

Many families who live in the cities "will find hospitality with relatives," but those who live in small villages will have no one to turn to, he said. The bishop said he expected their local church efforts to concentrate on aiding the many villages that were "completely razed to the ground."

dation Program with Rosemary Santillo, a professional life and business coach. The free session will take place Oct. 19. To register, call the faith formation office at (704) 664-7762 or e-mail dconklin@sainttherese.net. For more information about Rosemary Santillo and her programs, visit the Coaching at Reflection Rock Web site, www.reflectionrock.com.

SALISBURY — *Elizabeth Ministry* is a peer ministry comprised of Sacred Heart Church parishioners who have lost babies before or shortly after birth. Confidential peer ministry, information and spiritual materials are offered at no cost or obligation to anyone who has experienced miscarriage, stillbirth or the death of a newborn. For details, call Renee Washington at (704) 637-0472 or Sharon Burges at (704) 633-0591.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

WINSTON-SALEM — The Portiuncula Franciscan Spiritual Center, 211 W. Third St., provides an environment, experiences and resources that enable people to meet God in both stillness and activity. A study and action program, *Pace e Bene (Part One): From Violence to Wholeness*, explores nonviolence as a creative and effective process for resolving the conflicts in our lives and in the world. The group will meet Oct. 17, 24 and 31, 7-8:30 p.m. For more information, call Sister Kathy Ganiel, at (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

WINSTON-SALEM — The *Healing Companions* is a grief support group for the bereaved that meets the first and third Thursdays of the month in conference room B at St. Leo the Great Church, 335 Springdale Ave. For further details, call Joanne Parcel at (336) 924-9478.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 15 days prior to the event date in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Beatified German cardinal 'feared God more than man,' pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — German Cardinal Clemens von Galen of Munster, an outspoken critic of Adolf Hitler's regime, "feared God more than man," Pope Benedict XVI said moments after the cardinal was beatified.

"All of us, but especially we Germans, are grateful that God gave us this great witness of faith who shined the light of the truth in dark times and demonstrated the courage to resist tyranny," the pope told German pilgrims Oct. 9.

Cardinal von Galen, who served as bishop of Munster from 1933 until his death in 1946, was beatified in St. Peter's Basilica during a Mass celebrated by Cardinal Jose Saraiva Martins, prefect of the Congregation for Saints' Causes.

At the end of the Mass, Pope Benedict entered the basilica, praying before the cardinal's relics and greeting the thousands of pilgrims who participated in the beatification of the cardinal, known as the "Lion of Munster" for his defense of the church under Nazism and his denunciations of Hitler's racial policies and of the regime's program of medical experimentation on the sick and handicapped.

Pope Benedict said Cardinal von Galen's courage was particularly remarkable at a time when "even strong people demonstrated weakness and cowardice."

The cardinal, he said, drew strength "from faith, which showed him the truth and opened his eyes and heart because he feared God more than man."

The pope also spoke about the cardinal during his midday Angelus address to thousands of people gathered in St. Peter's Square.

"In the name of God, he denounced the neopagan ideology of national socialism, defending the freedom of the church and human rights which were being seriously violated, protecting the Jews and the weakest individuals, whom the regime considered garbage to be eliminated," the pope said.

Pope Benedict said the message of Cardinal von Galen's life, a message still valid today, is: "Faith cannot be reduced to a private sentiment, perhaps to be hidden when it becomes uncomfortable, but requires consistency and bearing witness — including publicly — on behalf of man, justice and truth."

In his homily during the Mass, Cardinal Saraiva Martins said Cardinal von Galen's courage came from celebrating Mass and adoring Christ present in the Eucharist.

"In contrast to the deafening sound of military music and the empty phrases coming from the loudspeakers" of the Nazi rallies, he said, Cardinal von Galen let the silence of the Eucharist speak.

"In the Lord present sacramentally in the eucharistic bread, apparently defenseless and difficult to recognize, he found the strength and nourishment which alone can satisfy the human desire for life in a lasting way," Cardinal Saraiva Martins said.

Blessing of the pooches



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

A priest blesses pets outside St. Francis Catholic Church in Lima, Peru, Oct. 9. Hundreds of pets were blessed during the St. Francis of Assisi festivities outside the church.

Episcopal

calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following event:

Oct. 17-27

Pilgrimage to Italy

CORRECTION — SEPT. 30 ISSUE

Oblate of St. Francis de Sales Father Al Gondek was misidentified as a Franciscan in a photo caption.

Pray without ceasing



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

A family prays during the semi-annual Rosary Rally at St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte Oct. 9. The rally included a procession of the Our Lady of Fatima statue, Benediction and a eucharistic procession. The Rosary Rally has taken place in the Diocese of Charlotte for more than 30 years as a way to pray and to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary.



COURTESY PHOTO

A knightly cause

Chuck Muller, a member of the Knights of Columbus Holy Cross Council 8509 at Holy Cross Church in Kernersville, accepts a donation for a Tootsie Roll outside a Wal-Mart in Kernersville Sept. 23. The fundraising is part of the Knights of Columbus Operation LAMB (Least Among My Brethren) campaign, which raises funds for the mentally handicapped.

ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO THE HARVEST?

Then he said to His disciples, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers for His harvest." (Mt 9:37)

I am praying that you will join me in responding to our Lord's request for more "laborers" in harvesting the abundant fruit to be found at Belmont Abbey College. Over 125 years ago the Benedictine Monks came south in response to God's call to begin His work in the vineyard of North Carolina.

He is calling you to place your hands upon the same bricks that were formed and put in place by these holy monks so long ago. I am looking for strong, dedicated, Catholic students to help realize our vision of excellence and virtue. Belmont Abbey is your Catholic College and God is calling you to the "harvest."

Dr. William K. Thierfelder
President



**BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE**

THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED



☐ I WANT TO HELP BUILD OUR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY. PLEASE SEND ME A STUDENT REFERRAL PACKAGE.

If you would like to help Belmont Abbey College by referring or becoming a new student, please fill out this form and send it to us or go online to BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu and click on Referral Package in the Quick Links. We will send you our complete referral/information package with detailed information about the Abbey and all it has to offer!

Your Name _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____
Email _____
Phone _____ No. of Packages Requested _____

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
100 BELMONT-MT. HOLLY ROAD
BELMONT, NC 28012-1802

BELMONTABBEYCOLLEGE.EDU

Carnival o' fun



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Girl Scouts Emily Asinger and Mary Lauren Shea work in the "Wheel of Fortune" booth at St. Ann Church's ninth parish carnival Sept. 23. Several hundred parishioners and neighbors attended the carnival, held this year Sept. 23-24, which featured a silent auction, game booths, music, international food and inflatable rides for the children.

COMMUNITY-WIDE PRIDE



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Father James Solari, pastor of St. Michael Church in Gastonia, watches a youth try his luck at the dunking booth during the St. Michael School Fun Fair Oct. 8.

Hundreds attend annual Fun Fair at St. Michael School

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

GASTONIA — Ominous clouds did not keep the crowds from having fun at the fair.

Hundreds of people attended the annual Fun Fair at St. Michael School in Gastonia Oct. 8.

"The turnout has been fantastic, especially considering what the weather looks like," said Joseph Puceta, principal of the kindergarten-through-eighth-grade school.

"It's been crowded since early morning, and it will continue like this throughout the day," said Father James Solari, pastor of St. Michael Church.

The Fun Fair featured a number of activities for kids, including a dunking booth, climbing wall, face painting,

dance music, food and rides. For adults, there was bingo, pottery and jewelry for sale, and hundreds of items in the live and silent auctions.

"This is a community-wide event that was taking place when I was pastor here 25 years ago," said Father Solari. "The kids love it, and the parents get to volunteer and enjoy the camaraderie of working together. It's a good spirit builder."

"There has been a tremendous amount of parishioner support," said Puceta. "The parishioners and parents (of students) came out in droves to help out. And there are lots of alumni here."

The fair builds community awareness for the school and raises needed educational funds.

"We're very grateful for the help the people give us," said Father Solari.



4th Annual Vineyard of Hope Wine Tasting and Auction

Honoring Dr. William Rice

The Vineyard of Hope is not just another event in town. This annual fundraiser for Catholic Social Services provides vital funds for the programs and services of CSS. Get a group together and buy your tickets today!

Friday, November 4 at 7 pm
Hyatt SouthPark
Carnegie Blvd. at Barclay Downs Dr.

The evening includes: *Wine tasting, Heavy hors d'oeuvres*
Live entertainment including Our Lady of Consolation Choir
Silent and live auctions, Recognition of the contributions of
Dr. William Rice to Catholic Social Services

All proceeds benefit Catholic Social Services

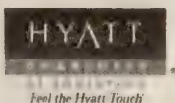
Individual tickets are \$40 or \$75 for two.

Table purchases and scholarships are available.

Call 704-370-3232 or visit www.vineyardofhope.com



Sisters of Mercy of the Americas
Regional Community of North Carolina



TAKE YOUR EVENT somewhere unusual...

The Catholic Conference Center offers the exuberance of nature in a celestial environment unlike any you've ever been to before. Eight meeting rooms. Fifty hotel-style lodging rooms. Bountiful dining and a staff ready to serve you in style! All this and more on 172 beautifully landscaped acres offering that special "retreat" environment in a modern conference setting.

1551 Trinity Lane, Hickory, NC 28602
(828) 327-7441 or Toll-free (888) 536-7441



**The Catholic
Conference
Center**

Check out our website
www.catholicconference.org
info@catholicconference.org

MARCHING FOR A CURE



PHOTO BY CAROLE MCGROTTY

Pre-kindergarten students at Asheville Catholic School carry maracas and tambourines during their march to raise funds for cystic fibrosis research Sept. 29.

Asheville Catholic students raise funds for cystic fibrosis

BY CAROLE MCGROTTY
CORRESPONDENT

ASHEVILLE — As pre-kindergarten students at Asheville Catholic School gathered outside early Sept. 29, the sun broke through the clouds, adding to their exuberance.

The class, joined by their second-grade reading buddies, was outside for a march to raise funds for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, a donor-supported, nonprofit organization devoted to finding therapies — and eventually a cure — for cystic fibrosis.

Cystic fibrosis is an inherited disease that most commonly affects breathing and digestion in children and adults.

After the students chose musical in-

struments, mostly maracas and tambourines, assistant teacher Robin Brooks gave them the start signal to begin their 15-minute march to music. The class raised \$501.

The fundraiser was in conjunction with the students' study of health and nutrition, which included learning about cystic fibrosis and how the disease affects children. The March of Dimes, an organization devoted to improving the health of babies by preventing birth defects, provided audiotapes about the disease.

"They learned how children can suffer from cystic fibrosis, and they were very willing to march and raise money for research," said Jennifer Palmer, pre-kindergarten teacher. "I'm very proud of them."

Discovering science



COURTESY PHOTO BY LISA HORTON

Patty Topper, a coach and science teacher at St. Ann School in Charlotte, teaches first-grade students about the five senses during Laboratory Science class Sept. 29.

The new Laboratory Science class began this school year with donations from the Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools board, the MACS Educational Foundation and St. Matthew School Parent-Teacher Organization.

Students in transitional kindergarten through fifth grade visit the lab every other week for lessons and hands-on assignments, including examining organisms, comparing vertebrates to invertebrates, making models of backbones and animal skeletons, observing ecosystems within the school, simulating mountain formations, exploring the five senses and completing weather experiments.

Father George Almeida Hosts...

Northeast Cruise & Tour

Enjoy Spring-time in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island
Sail the Scenic St. Lawrence River to Quebec and Montreal

On May 19, 2006 join your Spiritual Director Father George Almeida and other Roman Catholics on this 15-Day vacation including a seven-day deluxe Northeast Cruise with Holland America Line and a seven-day Northeast vacation. Spend one night in Boston with a comprehensive city tour before boarding your 5-star ship the ms Maasdam. Mass will be celebrated daily while on board ship. Ports include Bar Harbor, Maine; Halifax and Sydney, Nova Scotia; and Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. Cruise into the mouth of the St. Lawrence River to Saguenay Fjord with 1,500 foot-high cliffs. Your final ports include Quebec City and Montreal. In Montreal meet "your man" for a city tour of the "Paris of the Americas." Your motor coach tour will continue through the Adirondack and Catskill Mountains, Hyde Park, Philadelphia, and New York City, with included city tours. Prices start at only \$1798 (per person, double occupancy) including all taxes, the motor coach tour with daily escorted sightseeing and seven nights in hotels, and the seven day deluxe cruise. Add \$400 for airfare from Charlotte. Space is limited. \$100 deposits are now due!

Call for brochure & information 7 days a week:

'YOUR MAN' TOURS 1-800-968-7626

Providing carefree vacations since 1967!

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

We Build Friendships With Families



We know it isn't easy to invite someone into your home to provide homecare. You'll interview and select any caregiver who we refer to you.

At Visiting Angels, character matters in caregivers!

Up to 24 hour care. Hygiene assistance, meals, light housework, companionship.

Our caregivers are thoroughly screened.

704-549-4010

Visiting Angels

E-mail us at Jill.Stewart@VisitingAngels.com

Pen Pals connects Catholic students here and abroad

PALS, from page 1

war-torn Middle East. He also explained to the students how the pen pal program works.

Students participating in the program first will write a generic letter to a child living in Israel. Lehman will hand-deliver the letters to Catholic schools, and pen pals will be matched according to gender. After they are matched, the students will write to their pen pals several times a year.

The program is considered part of the classes' religious education, and through it they will learn about the history and culture of the Holy Land.

Only about 600,000 Christians live in Israel, a nation whose population is 6.7 million. Within the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem there are 77,000 Catholics and

166 Catholic schools. The patriarchate includes the Palestinian Territories, Israel, Jordan, Cyprus and southern Lebanon.

"The Christians over there feel forgotten," said Lehman. "They're grateful for these students, who want to get to know them."

Lehman and Lalley, who have been friends for many years, developed Pen Pals for Peace based on another project Lehman had created involving Iraqi children who were isolated due to United Nations-imposed economic sanctions.

Pen Pals for Peace was kicked off during Christmastime 2004 at four New York City Catholic schools.

In the Diocese of Charlotte, Pen Pals for Peace has received support from the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem. The order is a philanthropic organization that works to promote and protect the Catholic faith in the Holy Land.



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Mel Lehman answers students' questions about Israel during a presentation at St. Matthew School Oct. 6

Alice Cella, regional representative of the order for the Diocese of Charlotte, initiated the process of beginning the project in the diocese and orchestrated the sponsorship of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre.

Msgr. John McSweeney, pastor of St. Matthew Church and a Knight of the Holy Sepulchre, also assisted with the establishment of the Pen Pals for Peace program at the school.

Other support has come from Catholic Charities, Catholic Relief Services and the Catholic Near East Welfare Agency.

During his slide presentation to the St. Matthew students, Lehman explained that Christian children in Israel live in a war zone; communicating with American students encourages them by letting them know other people care about them.

"I'm excited (about Pen Pals for Peace), because I want to know about other people around the world," said student Marina Malak, whose parents are Egyptian. She was eager also to practice her Arabic.

Lehman explained that the children in the Holy Land speak and write both Arabic and English. An added bonus of the program is that they will be able to practice their English with American students.

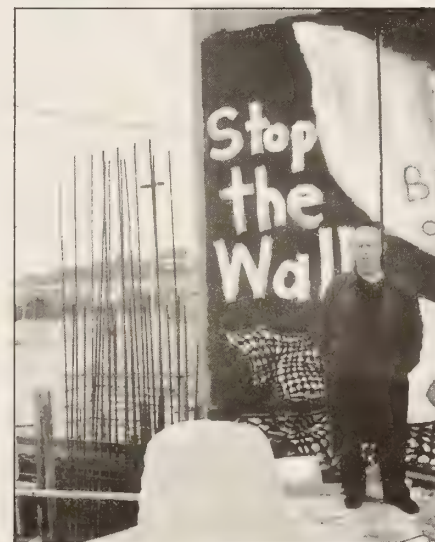
"I'm going to ask them what it's like there, and tell them what it's like here," said student Sean Balburnie. Sean's mother, Jean Balburnie, is a Lady of the Holy Sepulchre and is helping to coordi-

nate the Pen Pals for Peace program at St. Matthew School.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

WANT MORE INFO?

To bring Pen Pals for Peace to your school, contact Mel Lehman at (212) 865-6115 or e-mail ml9612921@aol.com; or Frank Lalley at (212) 663-2236 or e-mail dvallama@aol.com



COURTESY PHOTO

Mel Lehman stands before a portion of the Separation Wall being constructed between Israel and the West Bank.

Delicious Menus for You and Your Guests

Tastefully Yours Catering
1401 S. Church Street • Suite A • Charlotte, NC 28203
704.632.8040 • tastefullyyours.com
Located in Charlotte's Southend

Full Service Caterer

Holiday Parties
Receptions
Rehearsal Dinners
Engagement Parties
Bridal Showers
Spa Parties

Visit our cafe for a sampling of the possibilities!

(Wedding catering by appointment only)

Many Annuity Owners Lose Money. Will YOU?

Some annuity owners lose money because they didn't know what questions to ask when they bought, and their salesperson did not volunteer any information.

If you own an annuity or are considering taking advantage of their many benefits, my **FREE** report, "Using Guaranteed Annuities to Help You Survive Your Retirement," will tell you what questions to ask.

The report is **FREE** and shows you how to get more benefits from your existing assets and help preserve your annuity value.

Call 800-800-4960, ext. 7405 (24 hours)

for your **FREE** report!

Dr. Richard Pucciarelli

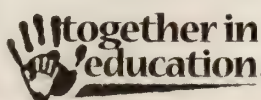
Certified Senior Advisor

Member of Asset Protectors and Advisors Group



HELP SUPPORT ST. PATRICK'S

Link your Harris Teeter VIC Card to 2409 while you're in line checking out or online at www.harristeeter.com



It Costs You Nothing! Harris Teeter gives 2% of the Harris Teeter Brand Items you purchase to St. Patrick's school.

YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST

ALLIANCE WITH GOD

U.S. cardinal says sin causes people to break bonds with God, others

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — When people sin, they break the bonds of friendship with God and with their brothers and sisters, which is why penance and reconciliation are needed for an honest participation in the Eucharist, said U.S. Cardinal J. Francis Stafford.

The cardinal, head of the Apostolic Penitentiary, a Vatican court dealing with the sacrament of penance and matters of conscience, was one of several U.S. and Canadian prelates addressing the world Synod of Bishops Oct. 3-4.

The Oct. 2-23 synod was convoked to discuss the Eucharist. The Vatican released summaries of all the bishops' talks and provided briefings with fuller quotations from the speeches.

While the church recognizes itself as the community of those redeemed, saved and reconciled with God through Jesus, Cardinal Stafford said, the church also recognizes that each of its members is tempted by sin and in need of reconciliation.

"To renew the alliance of friendship with God is not just an intimate decision made by the Christian penitent, but it requires a sign recognized in and by the church community in the person of the minister, because the sin has broken the bonds of friendship with the Lord and with the church," he said.

Bishop Gerald Wiesner of Prince George, British Columbia, urged the synod members to examine ways to ensure that Catholics fully and actively participate in the Mass with an understanding of what they are celebrating. The bishop said ongoing education for children and adults is needed, but so is attention to the rites and prayers used at Mass.

Participation is a right and duty, he said, and that is unlikely to occur if the language of the translations of prayer texts is an antiquated or artificial form of the local language.

A key for improving devotion to the Eucharist, said Father Mark Francis, superior general of the Viatorians, is to improve the way it is celebrated.

"Rather than simply blame our

Catholic people's lack of faith and the secularization of society for the small percentage who attend Mass in many countries, we also need to acknowledge with sadness that bad preaching and poorly prepared and poorly executed eucharistic celebrations sometimes drive good people away from the church," he said.

Cardinal Justin Rigali of Philadelphia spoke about the theological significance of the Eucharist in relation to the Trinity. It is within the Trinity, particularly in the relationship between the Father and Son, he said, that "we find the deepest explanation of the Eucharist, especially as a sacrifice — a sacrifice renewed in the Eucharist."

"Christ's love for us and the love of the Father who sent his Son into the world to redeem us explain to a great extent the Eucharist," the cardinal said.

But while people recognize the Eucharist as Christ's sacrifice of love for them, they tend to overlook Christ's sacrifice as his supreme act of love for the Father and the resurrection as the Father's response of love, Cardinal Rigali said.

Bishop Donald W. Wuerl of Pittsburgh, an expert on religious education, urged the synod members to take a holistic approach to catechesis on the Eucharist and social and moral issues.

The highly secularized cultures of many countries make it difficult to help people grasp the ideas of transcendence and the meaning of the sacraments, revelation, grace and spiritual transformation, Bishop Wuerl said.

Catechesis, particularly on moral and social justice issues, he said, must not be disconnected from the heart of the Catholic faith: the death and resurrection of Christ and participation in it through the Eucharist.

Bishop Wuerl said not all the news about modern believers is bad news.

Many young people, he said, have a sense that "the secular, material world does not provide them sufficient answers for their lives. There is a hunger for God and the things of the Spirit, but it needs to be encouraged, informed and directed."



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI delivers a speech during the first general session of the Synod of Bishops in the Paul VI audience hall at the Vatican Oct. 3. The synod was to take up a number of issues pertaining to the Eucharist.

Catholics must emphasize penance, Communion

BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Catholics need to give the same importance to the sacrament of penance as they do to the sacrament of the Eucharist if they are to deepen their relationship with Christ and the church, said a member of the Synod of Bishops.

Lithuanian Bishop Rimantas Norvila of Vilkaviskis said Oct. 4 that the Synod of Bishops on the Eucharist "must give relevance to the need for the sacrament of reconciliation" or penance.

The same day, other synod members discussed the issue of keeping the Eucharist sacred, according to information on the speeches released by the Vatican.

In his speech, Bishop Norvila urged the synod's participants to rediscover the gift of the sacrament of reconciliation in "a new light."

The church needs to renew its practice of offering spiritual direction and penance, Bishop Norvila said in his written text. Priests also should be encouraged to develop "new attitudes toward personal confession," he added.

"Penance brings us close to Christ" while "the lack of penance distances us from God," he said.

In another speech, Auxiliary Bishop Lorenzo Voltolini Esti of Portoviejo, Ecuador, said there were different reasons why many Catholics today do not go to confession.

The faithful "do not believe in the efficacy of confession" or they "have lost the meaning of sin," he said. But it is also the case that a priest may not have the time to offer confession because he is "overburdened by other things," he said.

Often there is only one priest per parish and, therefore, he "cannot celebrate both the Eucharist and penance at the same time," he added.

Archbishop Jan Lenga of Karaganda, Kazakhstan, said removal of the tabernacle from the center of the church and receiving the consecrated host in the hand "cloud in a certain way the visible aspect of the Eucharist concerning its centrality" and sacredness.

He asked that the Vatican establish a universal norm "making the official way of receiving Communion" be on the tongue and kneeling. He said receiving the host in the hand should be "reserved only to the clergy."

Melkite Patriarch Gregoire III Laham of Damascus, Syria, noted during the open discussion that there were a lot of different traditions and ways of receiving Communion.

The patriarch quoted St. Cyril, who said the body of Christ is received in the hand, with the left hand making a throne for the right hand, so as to receive a king. The Melkite church usually gives Communion by intinction, in which the consecrated host is dipped in the chalice and placed on the tongue.

The **Catholic** CompanyLake Norman Book Store
maryimmaculata.comCAROLINA CATHOLIC
BOOKSHOPPEMon. thru Sat.
10 am - 6 pm

Now 2 COMPLETE Catholic stores for

- Unique gifts & cards
- Books, rosaries, medals
- Previously read book section (at Lake Norman)
- Video rentals
- Artwork

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205RATES
ARE
STILL AT
ALL-TIME
LOWS!30-Year
Fixed: **5.625%**3/1
ARM: **5%**As mortgage brokers we work with a variety of lenders
to find the best loan and rates for your needs & goals!**NEW WORLD
MORTGAGE**
www.mortgageworld.com1930 Camden Rd., Suite 2010
Charlotte, NC 28203
Rates subject to change. Certain restrictions may apply. APR varies with loan characteristics.**Jayne McGonnell**
Parishioner of
St. Thomas Aquinas
704.549.4600 x1028
877.402.4600 (tollfree)
704.516.9682 (cell)

Synod focuses on better understanding of Eucharist

SYNOD, from page 1

In individual speeches and free-discussion periods Oct. 3-8, the bishops addressed a multitude of topics ranging from falling Mass attendance to the degree of Christ's real presence in the Eucharist.

Pope Benedict XVI presided over most sessions of the synod but only once joined the debate. About 240 bishops were present; for almost half of them, it was their first synod.

Among those missing were four bishops from mainland China, who were invited by the pope but were not allowed by the Chinese government to travel to Rome. Four empty seats in the synod hall marked their absence.

From the outset of the synod debate, it was clear that a primary concern was the shortage of priests that makes it impossible for Catholics in many areas to attend Mass regularly and receive Communion.

One Honduran bishop told the synod that his diocese had 16,000 Catholics for every priest, a situation that required the faithful to walk hours to attend Mass. The faithful "deserve the Eucharist but cannot receive it," he said.

Celibacy for priests

Several bishops called for better global distribution of priests. Others cau-

tiously suggested a new look at the church's rules on priestly celibacy and wondered whether married men might be ordained, at least in areas where priests are lacking.

The calls to re-examine priestly celibacy came primarily from developing countries, where church communities often go weeks or months without seeing a priest. Coadjutor Bishop Arnold Orowae of Wabag, Papua New Guinea, asked the synod how Catholics in remote villages could make the Eucharist the "source and summit" of their lives if they don't have access to Mass.

But other bishops, including some from Eastern Catholic churches where a married clergy is allowed, warned that it can be difficult for a priest to balance his pastoral workload with family demands.

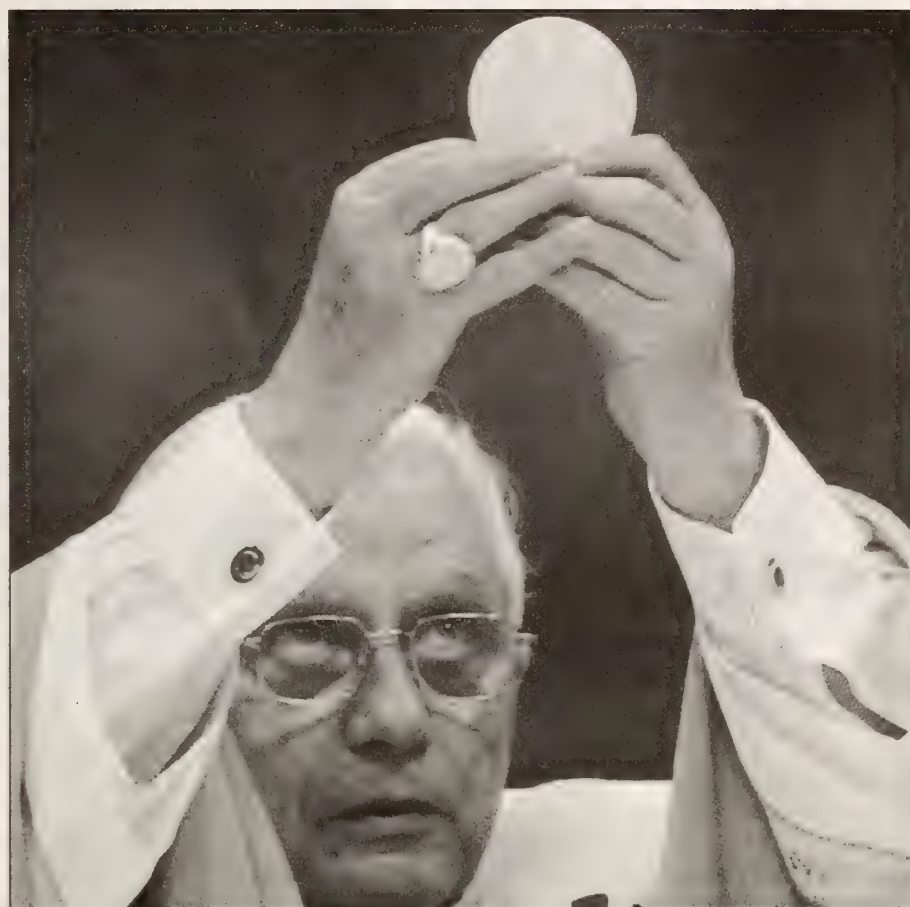
Exploring the Eucharist

An emerging and complex topic at the synod was how the Eucharist is viewed and experienced — as a gift or a right, for example. Italian Cardinal Angelo Scola, the synod's recording secretary, found himself challenged by several bishops after he said the faithful have no real "right to the Eucharist."

A similar question was whether the Eucharist should be understood more as a sacrifice or as a communal meal. Traditional Catholic theology highlights both aspects, although some people felt the Second Vatican Council tipped the balance toward the shared banquet. Several bishops said the aspect of sacrifice needs more emphasis today.

Debate on this point prompted the pope to take the microphone during a free-discussion period. The Vatican did not publish his remarks, citing a need for confidentiality inside the synod hall.

The revival of eucharistic adoration also elicited differing perspectives. Italian Cardinal Camillo Ruini said the rediscovery of eucharistic adoration has helped young Catholics establish a visible relationship with the divine.



CNS PHOTO BY GIANCARLO GIULIANI, CATHOLIC PRESS PHOTO

Pope Benedict XVI raises the host during the celebration of Mass in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican Oct. 2. The service marked the opening of the Synod of Bishops on the Eucharist. At the Mass the pope said the Eucharist is the true way to build justice and create peace.

But others cautioned that adoration could become too individual a practice. Father Mark R. Francis, superior general of the Viatorians, criticized the synod's working document for appearing to give the same importance to eucharistic adoration and the celebration of the liturgy — in opposition to the teachings of the Council of Trent and the Second Vatican Council.

Father Francis and others said a key for improving devotion to the Eucharist is to improve the way it is celebrated, with improved preaching and better executed liturgies.

Other topics

The question of how to improve liturgies drew numerous comments. One bishop wanted an end to general Communion distribution at huge Masses. A few wanted a re-evaluation of Communion in the hand, saying it was seen by some as disrespectful. An Indian bishop suggested PowerPoint presentations during homilies.

South Korean Bishop Peter Kang U-il told the synod bluntly that many young people simply find Mass too tedious and boring. To increase liturgical participation, he said, pastors need to increase the sense of unity in parish life.

Mass attendance was a cause for concern. Archbishop Agostino Vallini, head of the Vatican's top court, said low statistics on Mass participation were "hardly comforting." He said the causes were competition between the old and modern religious beliefs, growing secularization and pervasive relativism.

Throughout most of Europe, fewer than 20 percent of Catholics go to Mass regularly. But the problems of Mass attendance and church membership extend to other continents, too. Brazilian Cardinal Claudio Hummes told the synod that in Brazil — the most populous Catholic country in the world — the number of

Catholics was declining by about 1 percent each year, with many lost to Protestant sects.

"We have to wonder: How long will Brazil be a Catholic country?" he said.

Cardinal Hummes, noting Protestant missionary activity, said the Catholic Church should underline the importance of missionary action nourished by the Eucharist. Several bishops agreed, with one recommending specific new Mass prayers with a missionary theme.

Other synod participants said the Eucharist must be understood as a spiritual catalyst in the contemporary world, with a deep connection to issues of social justice and stewardship of creation, for example. As Peruvian Archbishop Pedro Barreto Jimeno said, if the Eucharist is the summit toward which all creation tends, then environmental issues like climate change demand an "ecological conversion."

Politics and Communion

Another issue taking shape at the synod was politics and Communion.

U.S. Archbishop William J. Levada, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, asked the synod to discuss how bishops deal with Catholic politicians who want to receive Communion, but do not vote in full accordance with Catholic teaching.

One response came from Cardinal Alfonso Lopez Trujillo, president of the Pontifical Council for the Family, who said the question of Communion and politics needs to be clarified and cannot be settled circumstantially.

"Politicians and legislators must understand that by promoting or defending unjust legal proposals they have a serious responsibility, and they must remedy the evil committed and spread in order to approach Communion with the Lord who is the way, the truth and the life," he said.



THE ORATORY

434 Charlotte Avenue, P.O. Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586
(803) 327-2097

A Day with the Gospel of Mark

Thursday, Nov. 17th
OR
Saturday, Nov. 19th
(same program both days)
9 am - 4 pm
Fr. David Valtierra, C.O.

Our fall Scripture day is annually dedicated to the Gospel of the new liturgical cycle: Mark (Cycle B). We will begin with an overview and outline of the Gospel and continue with a shared reading of representative passages and key Mark themes. Resources for the Gospel of Mark, for Bible study and for liturgy will be available. Prayer, noon Eucharist and lunch are part of the schedule.

The same program is offered both days.

Cost: \$35 - (lunch included)



Carolina Funeral & Cremation Center

Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212

704-568-0023

www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma

Owner/Director

Privately, Locally Owned

Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more



CNS PHOTO BY BOB ROLLER

Theologian Monika Hellwig, 75, makes a point during a conference about Catholic politicians and church teachings at the National Press Club in Washington in 2004. Hellwig, former president and executive director of the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, died Sept. 30 in Washington after suffering a severe stroke.

Monika Hellwig, noted theologian and author, dies of stroke

BY JERRY FILTEAU
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Noted theologian and author Monika K. Hellwig died at Washington Hospital Center Sept. 30 from a severe stroke. She was 75 years old.

She was to be buried Oct. 6 at St. Rose of Lima Parish Cemetery in Gaithersburg, Md., following a funeral at St. Rose of Lima Church.

Hellwig had just retired in August as president and executive director of the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, where she played a role in the efforts of U.S. bishops and Catholic colleges and universities to work out implementation of church norms for Catholic higher education in the context of U.S. law and academic culture.

Before taking up the ACCU post, she taught theology for more than 30 years at Georgetown University, retiring there in 1996 as Landegger distinguished professor of theology. Just days before her death she had taken up a new position as a research fellow at the university's Woodstock Theological Center.

Three days before her death she moderated a theological forum on the papacy marking the center's 30th anniversary.

"We have lost a woman of uncommon competence and compassion, but we trust that she now is with the God she so passionately loved," the ACCU said in its death notice.

A former president of the Catholic Theological Society of America, Hellwig received numerous honors and awards for her work, including more than 30 honorary degrees.

She was the author of more than 200 scholarly and popular articles or book chapters, including a three-year series of columns on homiletics in America magazine. Among her 20-plus books are titles

such as "Understanding Catholicism," "The Christian Creeds," "What Are the Theologians Saying?" "Jesus, the Compassion of God," "Death and Christian Hope" and "Christian Women in a Troubled World."

She was co-author with Michael Glazer of the Modern Catholic Encyclopedia in 1994 and of its second, expanded edition, which appeared late last year.

A plain-spoken theologian who addressed a wide range of issues hotly contested in today's church, Hellwig at times challenged church positions, especially on the role of women, but often took the role of intermediary between positions of the left and right.

She was a strong advocate of Catholic colleges and universities maintaining and strengthening their Catholic identity. She spoke often about the importance — and the difficulty — of building a shared sense of Catholic culture and identity in administrations and faculties and making that culture permeate a university's life and serve as a witness to each new generation of students.

Hellwig was born in Germany Dec. 10, 1929, but before World War II her family fled Hitler's regime, first to the Netherlands and then to England, where Hellwig grew up.

Living in Italy from 1963 to 1966, she did research and writing for a Vatican official and handled the English language desk at the Pius XII International Center in Rocca di Papa, a town southeast of Rome.

Among awards Hellwig received in addition to her honorary degrees were the Catholic Theological Society of America's highest honor, the John Courtney Murray Award, and The Catholic University of America Alumni Association Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Religion.

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: OCT. 23, 2005

Oct. 23, Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle A Readings:

- 1) Exodus 22:20-26
Psalm 18:2-4, 47, 51
- 2) 1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10
- 3) Matthew 22:34-40

Jesus asks much of us; we must respond

BY DAN LUBY
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Who am I, you ask? Well, I'm an admirer of Jesus, kind of an unofficial public relations adviser; a volunteer image consultant if you will.

When I hear this story again about some Pharisees testing him, I regret I wasn't able to persuade him to accept more coaching. I could have saved him a lot of trouble, if he'd listened to me and not gone too far.

Sure, these Pharisees tested him; that was business as usual for them. Me,

I would have advised him not to take it personally. They were really pretty good guys in lots of ways. They had a lot in common with Jesus — they loved the Scriptures; they took religion seriously; they believed in life after death.

So, they were a little defensive about his claims to authority, but that's understandable. Jesus did say some pretty audacious things about himself.

See, I think they were just trying to figure him out and make sure he wasn't a flash in the pan. People like these, well-schooled in the subtle nuances of law and doctrine and religious practice — they'd never have followed anybody whose credentials were suspect.

So yes, they tested him. But it was a softball question: "Which commandment in the law is the greatest?" Didn't they have a right to know where he stood?

The first part was brilliant. Who could argue with "love God with everything you've got"? If he'd only stopped there he'd have had them.

But he kept going. "Love your neighbor too," he said, like that was almost as important. And some neighbors, sure — the wise rabbi, the friendly shopkeeper, the sympathetic sister-in-law.

But think about those other neighbors — the screamers who fight all weekend, the ones who borrow your stuff and never return it, the Samaritans and the adulterous women and the law-breakers. What kind of a person would love them?

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 16 - OCTOBER 22

Sunday (Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Isaiah 45:1, 4-6, 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5, Matthew 22:15-21; **Monday (St. Ignatius of Antioch)**, Romans 4:20-25, Luke 1:69-75, Luke 12:13-21; **Tuesday (St. Luke)**, 2 Timothy 4:9-17, Luke 10:1-9; **Wednesday (St. Jean de Brébeuf, St. Isaac Jogues and Companions)**, Romans 6:12-18, Luke 12:39-48; **Thursday (St. Paul of the Cross)**, Romans 6:19-23, Luke 12:49-53; **Friday**, Romans 7:18-25, Luke 12:54-59; **Saturday**, Romans 8:1-11, Luke 13:1-9.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 23 - OCTOBER 29

Sunday (Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Exodus 22:20-26, 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10 Matthew 22:34-40; **Monday (St. Anthony Mary Claret)**, Romans 8:12-17, Luke 13:10-17; **Tuesday**, Romans 8:18-25, Luke 13:18-21; **Wednesday**, Romans 8:26-30, Luke 13:22-30; **Thursday**, Romans 8:31-39, Luke 13:31-35; **Friday (Sts. Simon and Jude)**, Ephesians 2:19-22, Luke 6:12-16; **Saturday**, Romans 11:1-2, 11-12, 25-29, Luke 14:1, 7-11.

6TH ANNUAL KENNEDY LECTURE

OCTOBER 29, 2005

FAITH AND POSSESSIONS

by

LUKE TIMOTHY JOHNSON, PH.D.

Woodruff Professor of New Testament and Christian Origins, Emory University

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
St. Peter's Catholic Church
507 S. Tryon St., Charlotte, N.C.

Admission is free, but please
phone to reserve your place.
704-332-2901, ext. 12.

AN 'ETERNAL' LEGACY

Denver gathering opens yearlong celebration of EWTN's 25th year

BY JOHN GLEASON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

DENVER — When Mother Angelica started her work to establish the Eternal Word Television Network, "she knew the Holy Father was calling us to evangelize," said Deacon Bill Steltemeier, chairman of the Alabama-based network.

"Every challenge has been met head-on. We are who we are, we tell the truth and we're in union with the Holy Father. We love the Blessed Mother and the Eucharist and that's it," he said.

The deacon made the comments during a two-day family celebration at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver marking the beginning of a yearlong celebration of EWTN's 25th year.

The Oct. 1-2 conference, one of several being held in cities around the country, featured prayers, opportunities for eucharistic adoration and seminars with some of the network's hosts, including Marcus Grodi, host of "Journey Home," and Jesuit Father Mitch Pacwa, host of "Threshold of Hope" and "EWTN Live."

Also on hand was Raymond Arroyo, host of EWTN's "The World Over" and author of "Mother Angelica: The Remarkable Story of a Nun, Her Nerve, and a Network of Miracles."

To close the celebration Denver Archbishop Charles J. Chaput celebrated a Mass, which was attended by 2,000 people.

In his talk, Arroyo recalled how Mother Angelica repeatedly asked him not to sugarcoat her life so that "people can see that everything happened from God's work" in her life.

"Mother Angelica hounded me like Pope Julius hounded Michelangelo," he said, joking about the writing process. "She's the most revered and feared woman in Catholicism."

Talking about Mother Angelica's freewheeling shows, Arroyo said, "There was no script, no producer's questions. ... This worked for her, not necessarily for people like me who need to prepare."

He praised Mother Angelica for creating the first nonprofit cable network, which has become one of the largest religious networks on the planet. He called her an "apostle of risk."

"God used all the imperfections, the pains and suffering. ... He perfected that and turned her into the woman who became Mother Angelica," Arroyo said.

"This woman is a living emblem of the power of faith, tenacity and a dedication to God that knows no limits. If you can marshal those forces and throw yourself on his mercy, he will take care of you," he added.

Early days

Arroyo relayed stories of EWTN's

early days, when Mother Angelica created the station in a garage after leaving a local CBS affiliate station in protest over its airing of a movie called "The Word" that purportedly denied Christ's existence.

Arroyo recalled her spiritual battle in building a full-fledged studio with no financial backing.

"She once said, 'Some people think I'm a woman of great faith, but I'm a coward who keeps moving forward,'" he said.

Arroyo first met Mother Angelica 10 years ago when he was a Washington news correspondent who was assigned to do a story on her. He said people are drawn to her because "she makes sanctity accessible."

Not long after Ted Turner put his superstation on the air in Atlanta, Mother Angelica, a Poor Clare of Perpetual Adoration, powered up EWTN's first transmitter and the network was on the air in 1981.

By 1987, EWTN was reaching 10 million homes. Four years later, it reached more than 22 million. Its programming is available on cable television and by direct broadcast satellite and is also carried by radio stations in the United States and abroad, including Canada, India, Japan and Australia.

Last year, the network hit the 100-million-homes mark. The network's monthly operating budget is \$3.5 million dollars; the budget is funded totally by donations.

In its early days, EWTN programming was mostly taped; the broadcast was only four hours long. Today, the network produces most of its own programming, which can be seen 24 hours a day.

Power of faith

In late 2001, Mother Angelica, 82, suffered two strokes. The second stroke left her partially paralyzed and she has some speech difficulties. She lives at her order's cloister in Hanceville, Ala.

According to the EWTN Web site, she and some of her sisters recently toured the network's facilities and greeted and prayed with the employees.

Deacon Steltemeier, who has been involved with the network since the beginning, remarked on the variety of ages of those attending the conference. He said that was easy to explain.

"That's the power of truth," he said, "the power of God's love. If you and I become holy and follow God's will in our life, you're attractive to everyone. Look at Mother Teresa or Mother Angelica — they attracted all ages, all people of faith."

Contributing to this story was Bill Howard.



JAMES BACA, DENVER CATHOLIC REGISTER

Attendees examine a poster of Mother Angelica, founder of the Eternal Word Television Network, during a two-day conference in Denver observing the network's 25 years.

Be cautious of 'Christmas'



CNS PHOTO FROM LAUFERFILM

Jack Hourigan (left) and Andrew May star in "Christmas at Maxwell's," in which a wine merchant copes with the cancer-related illness of his wife. While they raise their two children and struggle with profound guilt about the past, an elderly nursing home resident changes their lives at Christmastime in this Ohio-set tale.

Inspired by personal experience, director-writer William Laufer (who also plays a priest) has made a heartfelt film with admirable messages about God's forgiveness, the strength of family and being a good Samaritan. The film features a touching conclusion, but it is handicapped by languid pacing, an episodic script and mostly colorless performances, except for a reasonably convincing Hourigan.

Mild profanity, crass expressions, mild sexual innuendo and mature thematic material. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested.

Father Sheridan receives Irish Hall of Fame Award

IRISH, from page 1

ing officer for Charlotte Center City Partners, served as the dinner's master of ceremonies. Quinn, who will be the parade's first female grand marshal, received last year's Irishwoman of the Year. Charlotte Mayor Pat McCrory received last year's Irish Hall of Fame Award.

Nomination requests for the various awards were submitted to the various Irish American and Irish-Catholic organizations around Charlotte.

"We received so many letters recommending Father Sheridan for the Irish Hall of Fame Award. It was unanimous support," said Linda Dyer Hart, who organizes the dinner and the parade.

"His Irish heritage has always been important to him," said Msgr. Bill Pharr, a retired priest of the Diocese of Charlotte who introduced Father Sheridan.

"He has a great love of the land, evident in his farm in Hickory, which is surrounded by an Irish wall with a Celtic cross," said Msgr. Pharr.

Father Sheridan, whose parents emigrated from Ireland, also has organized and led a number of tours to Ireland over the last several years.

"The tours are a combination of Irish culture and religious aspects," he said.

Father Sheridan said the St. Patrick's

Day parade and Irish American Awards Dinner are great events for the entire community.

"The number of participants increases because of the awareness of Irish heritage," he said. "We have a lot of people in this area with Irish and Scottish backgrounds."

Two hundred people attended the awards dinner and at least 200 people have already applied to march in the upcoming parade, said Hart.

Other winners were Breda Dunne, owner of A Touch of Ireland, Irishwoman of the Year; John Young of the McLaughlin Young Group, Irishman of the Year; Marilyn Bowler, vice president of community affairs, Charlotte Checkers, Irish in Sports; Kaye McGarry of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School Board, Irish Civic Leader; Danny McNally, owner of Grand Central Deli, Dixie's Tavern and Hawthorne's Pizza & Bar, Irish Philanthropist; Fintan Muldoon, founder of Irish Traditional Music Youth group SONAS, Irish Ambassador; and Noreen Cleary of Galway Hooker Irish Pub, Irish Bartender of the Year.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on the 2006 Charlotte St. Patrick's Day parade, visit www.charlottestpatsday.com.



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Father Edward Sheridan receives the Irish Hall of Fame Award from Msgr. Bill Pharr during the 2nd Annual Irish American Awards Dinner at the Park Hotel Oct. 6.

Director of Development

Cardinal Gibbons High School, the one-thousand-student High School of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, seeks a dynamic professional to lead its advancement effort. The successful candidate must possess an enthusiasm for the mission of Catholic education; high energy; excellent communication and management skills; ability to conduct solicitations and work effectively with donors, volunteers and staff. Minimum of three years successful fundraising and demonstrated achievement in annual fund and capital campaigns required. Expertise in database management essential. Start date 01/01/06. Send resume/cover letter by 11/15/05 to searchcommittee@chgsnc.org or

Search Committee
CGHS
1401 Edwards Mill Road
Raleigh, NC 27607

Classifieds

SERVICES

PIANO TUNING & RESTORATION: Hi-Quality Used Pianos. PIANO CRAFT (336) 454-2000. Al Guecia, formerly of Steinway & Sons. IHM Parishioner.

FOR RENT

VACATION CABIN: Lake Lure. Mountain

FOR SALE

views! Fantastic fall foliage! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, fully furnished. Reasonable rates. Call for details. 828-299-3714

CD & POSTER OF THE EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS events offered for sale. Relive this uplifting spiritual event through the beautiful photographs of Vicki Dorsey. CD \$20; 9.5"x18" Poster \$15. Call (828)586-0133 or email: inspirationsbyvicki@yahoo.com; or send check to Vicki Dorsey, 6115 Skyland Drive, Sylva, NC 28779.

Classified ads bring results! Over 125,000 readers! Over 49,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

Director of Finance/Controller

The Sisters of Charity of Our Lady of Mercy in Charleston, South Carolina are seeking a full time Director of Finance/Controller. Responsibilities include financial planning, budgeting, accounting, investments, payroll, insurance programs and taxes.

MBA or equivalent degree in Accounting/Finance is required. At least five years experience in financial management in a similar organization is recommended. Computer skills required. Ability to understand and support the mission and philosophy of the Sisters of Charity of Our Lady of Mercy is essential.

Please send cover letter, resume, references and salary requirements by October 24, 2005 to:

Sister Carol Wentworth, General Treasurer
PO Box 12410
Charleston, SC 29422

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

The Archdiocese of Atlanta seeks an experienced principal to lead Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School, a SACS accredited college preparatory high school; co-educational, with 258 students and 35 faculty members. The School offers a challenging academic and co-curricular program to a diverse student body: 43% African American, 46% Caucasian and 11% other ethnic groups. Located in Fairburn, Georgia, 20 miles south of downtown Atlanta. Position requirements:

- Practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church;
- Educational Leadership Certification;
- Minimum of 3 years of successful Catholic secondary administrative experience;
- Excellent communication skills;
- Collaborative leadership style;
- Experience in fiscal management and institutional advancement;
- Commitment to teaching;
- Fair and consistent disciplinarian.

Negotiable and competitive salary; excellent benefits. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled. Send letter of interest, resume, university credentials, and names, addresses and telephone numbers of at least five references to:

Ruprecht and Associates
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811

Phone: 218-727-5150

E-mail: mruprcht@cpinternet.com



IN THE NEWS

Pope spied on as cardinal, says German newspaper

SPY, from page 1

Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, state security ministry agents kept watch on him," the *Bild am Sonntag* weekly reported Oct. 2.

The newspaper also noted that one agent "wrote with concern that, as congregation prefect, he would have an influence on the growth of anti-communist attitudes in the Catholic Church, especially in Latin America."

The tabloid, which was given exclusive access to archives covering two decades, said a Stasi agent codenamed "Birke" had begun regular surveillance of the future pontiff when, as a priest and professor at the University of Regensburg, he visited East Germany in April 1974 to lecture on "problems of modern theology" at the University of Erfurt.

The newspaper also noted that the secret police had kept an extensive card file on the prelate and had described him after his June 1977 appointment as a cardinal as "the most decided opponent of communism in the Vatican."

East Germany's Stasi employed 97,000 full-time agents and 173,000 informers from its Berlin headquarters and 14 regional offices, equivalent to one agent for every 63 East German citizen.

Parts of the Stasi archive were

destroyed after the 1989 fall of the Berlin Wall.

However, surviving sections of the agency's 110 miles of files, published in the 1990s, showed one Stasi section had at least 220 agents at various levels in East Germany's Catholic and evangelical churches and also had an agent in the Vatican who provided "exact details" of the 1978 conclave that elected Pope John Paul II.

Spies with ties

In May, Poland's Institute of National Remembrance alleged that a Rome-based Polish priest, Dominican Father Konrad Hejmo, had also supplied the Stasi with Vatican information during the 1980s, although this has been vigorously denied by Polish church experts.

In its article, *Bild am Sonntag* said East German agents showed "particular interest" in Cardinal Ratzinger's contacts with then-Cardinal Karol Wojtyla of Krakow, Poland. In one report, the Stasi noted that Cardinal Ratzinger, "a close friend," had "strongly supported" Cardinal Wojtyla's election as Pope John Paul II.

The paper said agents recorded how Pope John Paul asked Cardinal Ratzinger to organize help for "counterrevolutionary activities in Poland" after the rise of the Solidarity movement in 1980.

One Interior Ministry memo demanded action in 1982 "to expose with



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

Then-German Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger arrives at the Vatican's synod hall Oct. 15, 2003. A German newspaper published details of how East Germany's communist secret police spied on Cardinal Ratzinger three decades before he became pope.

all means the hostile activity of the Vatican, to compromise especially the standing of the pope, and to criticize his behavior permanently."

A spokeswoman for the Federal Stasi Commission, Christian Booss, told Germany's Deutsche Welle news agency Oct. 3 that only two of at least eight spies assigned to Cardinal Ratzinger had been identified; one of them was Benedictine Father Eugen Brammertz, codenamed

"Lichtblick," who died in 1987.

However, she added that the Stasi had collected information "superbly well," adding that one informer, codenamed "IMV Georg," had correctly predicted in 1979 that the cardinal would be appointed prefect of the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, which happened two years later.

Key figure

One 1987 Stasi report noted that Cardinal Ratzinger appeared "initially shy in conversation," but also possessed "a winning charm." The report was filed during Cardinal Ratzinger's visit to a Catholic festival in Dresden.

"Ratzinger is currently, after the pope and Secretary of State (Cardinal Agostino) Casaroli, the most influential politician and leading ideologue at the Vatican," another Stasi spy wrote in the 1980s.

"As secretary of the doctrinal congregation, he can be more effective than the pope himself in increasingly influencing the anti-communist alignment of the Catholic Church, especially in Latin America," said the spy.

Bild am Sonntag said it applied to see the pope's Stasi files in February, under a German law allowing material on public figures to be examined with their consent.

The paper added that, after his election in April, Pope Benedict had consented to publication of the material, which was formally declassified Sept. 30.

"We informed the pope, in line with the participation procedure, that journalists had applied to see documents on his person," Stasi Commission Director Marianne Birthler told the newspaper.

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Faith. Tradition. Academic Excellence.

Charlotte Catholic Schools have had a tradition of academic excellence since our first school opened in 1929. MACS test scores exceed both national and local averages at all grade levels. We are proud that 99% of our graduates go on to higher education.

Visit us online to read more about our eight schools across the Charlotte/Mecklenburg area serving PK through 12th grade.

MACS
Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools

1123 South Church Street • Charlotte, NC 28203
Admissions Office: (704) 370-3273

Middle School Open House

October 23rd 1:00-3:00pm
October 25th 9:00-11:00am

Holy Trinity Catholic Middle School (6-8)
3100 Park Road • Charlotte

High School Open House

October 23rd starting at 3:00pm

Charlotte Catholic High School
7702 Pineville-Matthews Rd. • Charlotte

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Hey Sony, live in our world, not yours

OFFENSIVE AD SHORT-LIVED, BUT LEAVES MARK

Look at the photo below. After getting over the initial shock of it, you will probably ask yourself, "How could someone come up with an ad like that?"

I imagine the conversation in the ad agency must have gone something like this:

"We've got to come up with an ad for the 10th anniversary of PlayStation," said the first executive.

"Hey, why not connect PlayStation to the whole Mel Gibson, 'Passion of the Christ' thing?" said another.

Jumping into the conversation, a third person said, "Yeah, we could get a smirking kid and put a crown of thorns on his head that are fashioned out of PlayStation symbols. Then we'll have the art department make the whole thing look like a Renaissance painting."



The conference room is rocking with a surge of corporate adrenaline now when someone shouts, "How about this catch line: 'Ten years of Passion'?"

The group decides that the idea is another triumph of their cleverness and that the ad is a great concept.

Sony Computer Entertainment Inc. — the makers of PlayStation and the company that is ultimately responsible for the ad — lives by the slogan, "Live in your world, play in ours." Thus was born one of the most boneheaded and now short-lived ad campaigns in history.

Sony circulated the ad for Italian newspapers only to find a backlash from the Vatican and the faithful from as far away as the Diocese of Charlotte. Cardinal Ersilio Tonini used an understatement to describe the ad as "irreverent" and went on to note, somewhat sarcastically, "Now children can think that the Passion of Christ is a game."

In the media age, we are inundated with images and impressions that are created to evoke a response, usually to buy something. Most of these messages pass by us with little or no notice. But this ad is a grand example of the occasional sharp slap in the face of which advertisers dream.

Sony responded to the furor by withdrawing the ad. In a statement by an Italian Sony public relations official, the

Catholics & the Media

DAVID HAINS
GUEST COLUMNIST



company said, "The intended spirit of the advertising message has been misunderstood; Sony Computer Entertainment Italy has withdrawn the campaign and will not repeat it in the future."

"Misunderstood" by whom? The entertainment conglomerate was probably referring to outraged Catholics such as Chris Baker of St. Therese Church in Mooresville. To him, the timing of the ad makes it even more insulting.

"It will soon be Christmas time and here is Sony, licking its chops as it anticipates holiday sales," he said. "Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus, yet this ad is a mockery of Jesus. How can they be so blind?"

Amen.

Baker is asking family and friends to boycott Sony products this year. He is also looking for other ways to spread the word. If you are interested in supporting his cause you can e-mail him at chrisgbaker@adelphia.net.

The folks who really "misunderstood" this are the advertising executives who created the ad and the Sony executives who approved it. Anyone with a basic comprehension of Christianity knows that Christ's sacrifice on the cross is never a laughing matter.

Baker, who works for a large bank and knows something about corporate mindsets, says something is amiss in the Sony culture when an ad like that wins approval. Didn't Sony know the ad was offensive? Is the company equally clueless about the values of the people of Islam or, since Sony is a Japanese company, the adherents of Shinto?

Advertising is a mysterious art form that is built on the twin columns of sleight-of-hand and the maxim that a sucker is born every minute. Sometimes advertisers don't care what you think of the product, the ad agency or the corporation, as long as you stop by their tent long enough to listen to the Siren shill of the barker.

Baker, and hopefully a lot of other people, are saying, Okay, Sony, you managed to get our attention; now we are going to get yours by voting with our wallets not to buy any of your products during this holiday season.

Merry Christmas.

David Hains is director of communications for the Diocese of Charlotte. Contact him at dwhains@charlottediocese.org.

Married priests in the Roman Catholic Church

Q. In your column concerning celibacy several months ago, you stated that there are in the Roman Catholic (Latin) church today many married converts from other Christian faiths who now serve as ordained priests in the United States and Europe.

We have at least one of these priests serving in our diocese. What is the process that qualifies one to convert and become a noncelibate priest in the Latin rite? Is it limited only to certain designated other Christian faiths? (Ohio)

A. Catholic policies permitting married converts to become candidates for the priesthood are relatively recent and still developing. A few basic criteria, however, seem to be emerging.

The largest number of married Roman Catholic priests in our country are former Episcopal priests, members of the Anglican Communion. Their situation is to some degree unique among non-Roman Catholic clergy.

As was true in the Oxford movement during the 1800s in England, some Episcopal priests of the present generation who leaned toward Roman Catholicism felt they should remain within the Anglican tradition and work toward a reunion of larger groups of Anglicans with the church of Rome.

In time, many decided to join the Catholic faith individually, usually with their families, and apply as married candidates for ordination in the Roman Catholic Church. As Anglicans, they said, they were formed within the Catholic system, and embraced Catholic tradition and teaching.

Some of them, especially those who looked for the larger reunion of the churches, even accepted the primacy of the bishop of Rome. They maintained that both in marrying and in their movement toward the Roman Catholic Church with hopes for ordination, they acted in good faith.

The Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith accepted this reasoning, it seems. It recognized these Episcopal priests and their families as acting in good faith, and approved their reception into the Roman Catholic Church and eventual ordination as mar-

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



ried men. They were, in other words, dispensed from the promise and commitment of celibacy.

Some married Lutheran clergy, now Catholic priests, feel that the attitude of Anglican clergy finds a parallel in many Lutherans who consider themselves "evangelical Catholics," temporarily separated from Rome and working for reunion.

One former Lutheran clergyman, now a Catholic priest, holds that this understanding is grounded in the Lutheran Augsburg Confession of 1530, and opens the way for married Lutherans to be received on the same basis as Episcopalians, with the same possibility of ordination to the priesthood.

On the other hand, people who are raised Roman Catholic are presumed to know and be committed to the present Catholic discipline of a celibate priesthood. They may choose either to marry or be ordained, are aware from the beginning that one of these sacraments precludes the other.

It seems certain that Roman Catholic policies for ordaining married converts to our faith are still developing. Probably many as yet unforeseen factors will become part of the debate, and affect the church's practice. How those factors are addressed and resolved as time goes on will partly determine which other Christian faiths might possibly be treated similarly.

A free brochure on ecumenism, including questions on intercommunion and other ways of sharing worship, is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 5515, Peoria, IL 61612.

Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address, or e-mail: jjdietzen@aol.com.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

The purpose of creation

Happy souls have faith in God at all times

It is not what actually happens to you in life that is critical; it's how you deal with it that is. At every stage of our development we possess the spiritual freedom to choose our own attitude and consequently our own destiny.

Do you choose happiness or gloom? The will says "yes" or "no." Grace builds on nature, therefore it is important to see that the will is the center of the personality. We may be driven by unconscious, emotional forces from time to time, but we are not controlled by them. As St. Thomas said, "If you want to be a saint, will it."

By God's grace, holiness is really possible.

Father Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, a Jesuit anthropologist, interpreted the theory of evolution as having been designed by a supreme intelligence. He insisted that the universe is a God-oriented phenomenon, identifying God as the Alpha and the "Omega" of all creation, the beginning and the end.

Thus, the purpose of the entire evolutionary process reaches fulfillment in the Lord.

We know that Jesus will come again at the end of human history. We also know that Jesus is the center of our spiritual lives. He gives meaning to life itself. Jesus is not only the Lord of every

Spirituality for Today

FATHER JOHN CATOIR
CNS COLUMNIST



individual person, but also the Lord of history.

Behind the theory of theistic evolution is the belief that men and woman are works of art in progress, and that human beings are perfectible.

The church believes in human progress. We are all part of the colossal struggle to grow in wisdom, age and grace, thus advancing human history to its ultimate purpose — namely, to be happy with God forever.

Jesuit Father Jean Pierre de Caussade, the noted 18th-century writer on spirituality, said: "The secret of happiness and sanctity rests in our fidelity to the will of God as it is manifested in the duty of the present moment. ... The great and solid foundation of the spiritual life is to give oneself to God ... in such a way that the good pleasure of God, and his happiness, become our sole joy and good."

"The Little Flower," St. Therese of Lisieux, agreed wholeheartedly.

As she lay dying, she made the statement that she preformed all her actions in life with a single purpose in mind: "to make God happy." She did this by loving him and being happy with him throughout her short life on earth.

Jesus said, "I have told you all these things that your joy may be full." He wants us to be happy with him here and now.

In the past it was driven into us that we can offend God by not doing his will, but too few of us understand that we also can make God happy simply by being happy with him from day to day.

The Little Flower emphasized the importance of trying to make God happy. It made her happy to approach the spiritual life in this way. In the book "The Happiness of God, Holiness in Therese of Lisieux" by Susan Leslie, a contemplative nun from Oxford, England, we read:

"Therese insists that to be happy is an important way of showing our love for God, for he loves a happy soul, one perfectly attuned to him, content with all he wills or permits. The happy soul has faith in the loving providence of God, even in times of darkness and perplexity."

At audience, pope calls for prayers for peace in Jerusalem

The Pope Speaks

POPE BENEDICT XVI



BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Pope Benedict XVI called for prayers for peace in Jerusalem, asking that it become a meeting place free of discord.

During his general audience in St. Peter's Square Oct. 12, the pope ended his catechesis on a psalm that prays for peace in ancient Jerusalem by asking for prayers for that city today.

"We also want to pray for the city of Jerusalem that it may be ever more a meeting place of religions and peoples and really a place of peace," the pope said.

In his reflections on Psalm 122, the pope said the Hebrew word "shalom" or "peace" was traditionally considered to be the root word of the holy city's name, "Jerushalajim," "interpreted as 'the city of peace.'"

Jerusalem was not only a seat of government, it was also "the highest judicial seat" of the house of David, he said.

Jewish pilgrims would head to the city in order to settle any controversy and return home "more just and peaceful," said the pope.

The psalm traces "an ideal picture of the holy city" as a religious and social center, "showing that biblical religion is not abstract or individualistic, but is the heaven of justice and solidarity," he said.

Harmony among people is a necessary outcome from communion with God, he said.

Just as the psalmist praised Jerusalem as being "a city of compact unity," the Christian faithful must be the living stones that hold and support each other and make the church one and solid, he said.

The pope quoted St. Gregory the Great, who said each person must learn to accept and support one's neighbor and forge bonds of "reciprocal and patient love."

"If I do not exert myself to accept you as you are, and you do not work to accept me as I am, a building of charity cannot rise up among us," the pope said in reference to teachings by St. Gregory.

The foundation that supports the entire weight of the living stones of the faithful is Christ, who also "carries the weight of all our sins," he said.

The pope called on everyone to build peace by each one carrying the other, linked by "the joyous certainty that the Lord is carrying us all."

"In this way the church grows as a true Jerusalem, a place of peace," he added.

At the end of the audience, the pope offered greetings in 12 languages to some 50,000 pilgrims packed into St. Peter's Square.

Internet predators

Talking to strangers is now commonplace

Since we were little, our parents took us by the hand and told us, "Don't talk to strangers." They instilled a bit of fear in us in order to keep us safe, in order to decrease the chance of strangers hurting us.

A little fear never hurt anyone in this situation. Now in the teenage years, it seems silly for parents to resort to that old fear tactic, since a teenager is smart enough to avoid talking to strangers.

Or is it really that silly?!

Who is stylistchicky? Who is matman34? Who is ladybug46? Or wheeliefrog? Or even Kasetate?

These are screen names that pop up in chat rooms on the computer screen. But, we have no idea who types the blog beneath the name. Chat rooms and Internet surfing are areas of social life for many teens that parents are clueless about.

"Blog? What's a blog?" many parents may ask.

Teens could easily lecture their parents about Internet usage before parents could lecture them, but that doesn't answer the question: "Who is butterfly56?" We can never be sure who is on the other side of that Internet conversation since the majority of chat rooms are unsupervised.

Teens are not children. They are not ignorant of Internet predators. They

Coming of Age

KASE JOHNSTUN
CNS COLUMNIST



have more knowledge of spam scams than their parents and elders, but sometimes the "safe zones" on the Internet are not safe at all.

The revealing of personal information even in the most casual of chats could be extremely dangerous. Many Internet scammers and identity thieves need very little information to take advantage of an innocent surfer and are pretty good at disguising themselves as peers and digging for seemingly harmless information.

Predator: According to Webster's dictionary, a predator is one that preys, destroys or devours. So, according to this definition, Internet predators are aptly named. There are sexual Internet predators, financial Internet predators, fraudulent Internet predators, racist Internet predators.

All of these predators are looking for

someone who'll just open up slightly to let them in, someone whom they can convince to talk sexually or meet them for a sexual encounter after they have provided a comforting voice in a confusing time, someone to give the little information needed about their parents' financial situation or banking information (teens often are tricked when asked to submit information for a prize they've won or could win), or to introduce racist garbage that devours their previous Christian beliefs.

Chances are Wheeliefrog, stylistchicky, or matman34 are good people dealing with the same issues you are dealing with or are interested in the same hobbies you are involved in: explaining why you both have navigated to the same chat room.

Still, parents have said for years, "Don't talk to strangers." But since the Internet age gives us opportunities to talk to others who share our interests, talking to strangers is a reality for many.

It's not that simple to avoid these strangers. What teens can do when entering a chat area is to steer the conversation around to college football, rock idols or train collecting. They must be smart, cautious and cold. If the conversation strays, teens should stray from that site — and report the predator.

Keep your guard up.

St. Jude Church thrives in mountain community of Sapphire Valley

ST. JUDE CHURCH

3011 Highway 64
Sapphire Valley, NC 28741

Phone: (828) 743-5717

Vicariate: Asheville

Pastor: Father Tien H. Duong

Number of Households: 75 seasonal,
290 total

A mission of Sacred Heart Church
in Brevard



Father Tien H. Duong



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

St. Jude Church in Sapphire Valley has served a small but dedicated Catholic community in the North Carolina mountains for the past 35 years.

SAPPHIRE VALLEY — It was 35 years ago, just before the founding of the Diocese of Charlotte, that a small group of Catholics from tiny mountain towns gathered in a local real estate office to celebrate Mass for one of the last times.

Those devoted Catholics — from places like Cashiers, Glensville, Lake Toxaway and Sapphire Valley, had big plans for the near future. They were preparing for a church they could call their spiritual home.

In the decades preceding the diocese's founding in 1972, western North Carolina was still very much a missionary region when it came to propagating the Catholic faith. People in

Macon and Jackson counties met for liturgies celebrated by visiting priests in a Highlands movie house and on the sun porch of an area hotel before congregating in the real estate office meeting room.

They also traveled to Brevard, where Sacred Heart Church had been built in 1949. Highlands welcomed the construction of a church in town in 1950. But in Sapphire Valley, Catholics still depended on those periodic visits from clergy or they traveled for Mass.

By the 1960s, Sapphire Valley Catholics — considered a mission community of the Brevard parish — began speaking earnestly about building a

church. Worship space became especially crowded in the summer months, when out-of-state visitors came to the North Carolina mountains for weeks and months at a time.

Father Charles Mulholland, then-pastor in Brevard, petitioned Bishop Vincent S. Waters of Raleigh on the matter, and the bishop granted permission for construction to begin. Fundraising efforts were begun by resident and visiting Catholics, as well as their neighbors of other faiths.

Two of the early leaders in the cause were Gene and Katie Howerdd, who donated the land for the church and later provided the church doors, an organ and funds for landscaping. Other benefactors followed suit, including Father Mulholland's brother, a professor at Catholic University in Washington, D.C., who arranged for architectural students to design models for the Sapphire Valley church as a class project.

One of the models, an octagonal

chapel of fieldstone, was chosen for the site along Highway 64.

Contributions continued to come in from people of all faiths and greatly assisted in getting the church built and the debts paid. The groundbreaking ceremony took place in August 1971, when Father Edward Sheridan was pastor in Brevard. Father Sheridan, two bishops and the abbot of Belmont Abbey celebrated the first Mass in the new church, placed under the patronage of St. Jude, in July of the following year.

The church was fitted with an altar stone of rock weighing more than one ton, as well as statues from Germany and carved wooden doors crafted centuries ago in Spain. A parishioner, sculptor Francis Trainor, designed the Stations of the Cross, figures for three small grottos recessed in the church's outer walls and a large statue of the Madonna and Child which resides near the church's entrance.

Other parishioners donated a ship's bell and tower and funded the paving of a 100-car parking lot beside the church.

By church law, St. Jude Church remains a mission of Sacred Heart Church in Brevard. However, the church was in the ministerial care of Our Lady of the Mountains Church in Highlands from 1986 to 1996.

During the summer, St. Jude Church has between 400 and 500 people attending Mass on the weekends, while approximately 115 people attend Mass during the winter months of January through March. There are now 75 year-round households and 290 total households, counting the seasonal members. The church continues to grow as Cashiers experiences higher than normal growth for North Carolina.

In 2000, with the continued growth of the mission, St. Jude Church received permission to add a social hall to the church. Money was raised in late 2000 and early 2001 and the hall was completed in December 2002. The 4,000-square foot hall has a meeting area, kitchen, four classrooms and a parish office.

In July 2005 Father Tien H. Duong was appointed as pastor of St. Jude Church.

For 35 years St. Jude Church has served a small but dedicated and growing community of Catholics in the southern mountains of North Carolina.

Give the unforgettable gift! Enrich your own spiritual life!

Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise —

"The Footsteps of Paul"

Greece and Turkey

May 11-21, 2006



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,849 for inside cabin (before 1/31/06) - includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

Istanbul — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace

Mykonos — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels

Patmos — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation

Kusadasi & Ephesus — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites

Rhodes — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith

Crete — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion

Santorini — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?

Featuring Blue Diamond Exclusively



Malak Jewelers

At the Arboretum (St. Matthew parishioners)

We extend to you the very finest in Jewelry and Service...
Largest Selection - Best Quality & Prices Guaranteed

Certified Loose Diamonds
Platinum, Gold, Fine Jewelry
Sterling silver and watches
Estate Jewelry - Buy & Sell

26 years of Integrity and Experience!
(704) 341-1188 www.malakjewelers.com
8042-800 Providence Rd., Charlotte



Now featuring special
sterling silver medallion
of Pope John Paul II -
complimentary with
purchases over \$50
(one per purchase)



SYNOD OF BISHOPS

Atlanta archbishop tells synod church needs inspiring preachers

BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ROME — The church needs vibrant, inspiring preachers and new ways to communicate faith traditions in its response to current challenges, said Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory of Atlanta.

While the Oct. 2-23 Synod of Bishops on the Eucharist grapples with concerns such as how to attract more priestly vocations or how to reach out to young people or lapsed Catholics, "we cannot change the faith of the church to accommodate one group or another," he told Catholic News Service Oct. 10 in Rome.

"But what we can do is communicate the faith of the church in such a way so that it is heard by people in a variety of backgrounds," he said.

See SYNOD, page 9



CNS PHOTO BY ALESSIA GIULIANI, CATHOLIC PRESS PHOTO

Cardinal Paul Poupard, president of the Pontifical Council for Culture, and Swiss Bishop Amedee Grab of Chur leave the Synod of Bishops on the Eucharist at the Vatican Oct. 7. The synod, focusing on liturgical and pastoral issues facing the church, was attended by some 240 bishops and 12 priests, plus experts and auditors from around the world.

Annual Report

A special 20-page insert containing the annual financial report will be included in the Oct. 28 issue of The Catholic News & Herald.

ENERGIZING FAITH

Black Catholic administrators inspired at annual meeting

Local programs to be enhanced, says AAAM director

FORT WORTH, Texas — Sandy Murdock, director of the African American Affairs Ministry for the Diocese of Charlotte, was among the participants at the National Association of Black Catholic Administrators' (NABCA) annual meeting.

NABCA held the meeting in Fort Worth, Texas, Sept. 28-Oct. 1. Representatives were present from 37 dioceses across the United States.

See BLACK CATHOLIC, page 12

Indian Catholics spend sleepless night when aid workers don't return

BY ANTO AKKRA
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

BARAMULA, India — Indian church officials coordinating relief for earthquake victims spent a sleepless night Oct. 11 when 18 church relief workers failed to return to their base camp for the night.

"I was terribly worried," said Father Sebastian Kalappurayil, principal of St. Joseph School in Baramula, where 50 church charity

See EARTHQUAKE, page 13



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Eileen Brennan and Nick Grasberger, parishioners of St. Barnabas Catholic Church in Arden, hold rally signs during the Silent No More rally in Asheville Oct. 15.

To be 'Silent no more'

Women speak out against abortion

BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH
CORRESPONDENT

Editor's Note: To protect the identity of the women in this story, only first names were used.

ASHEVILLE — Shelley was 17, Catholic, unmarried and pregnant. Her life would never be the same again.

The doctor who confirmed her pregnancy told her to get an abortion. It was, he said, just "the removal of some tissue, no big deal."

Her mother agreed with the doctor.

Alone, Shelley drove three hours from her small Midwest hometown to Detroit to have the abortion in 1973.

See SILENT, page 6

Fighting for Life

Pro-Life Memorial dedicated,
Room at the Inn Banquet

| PAGES 6-7

Culture Watch

Pope Benedict XVI's first
book, 'Elizabethtown'

| PAGES 10-11

Perspectives

Government reimbursements
for charity, the reality of work

| PAGES 14-15

#BXNPDVQ*****3-DIGIT 275
#420836#
NC COLLECTION
UNC
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

VISUALIZING SUCCESS



CNS PHOTO SARAH WEBB, CATHOLIC STANDARD & TIMES

The printing club, under the direction of adviser Sister Elaine George, a Sister, Servant of the Immaculate Heart, works to complete a job at St. Lucy Day School for Children With Visual Impairments in Philadelphia. The burgeoning school business was the idea of two students.

Students' idea for printing enterprise becomes big business

PHILADELPHIA (CNS) — What began as a pipe dream for a printing enterprise last December at St. Lucy Day School for Children With Visual Impairments is now a burgeoning student business.

"Big companies are asking us to make cards for them," said the co-founder of the school's printing club, Sheila McLaughlin, a 9-year-old fourth-grader who has been legally blind since birth.

"Our cards are special," added co-founder Amy Ryan, Sheila's classmate, who is also 9 and has been legally blind since birth.

"Not many children are in a business to make cards," said co-founder Amy Ryan, Sheila's classmate, who is also 9 and has been legally blind since birth.

The beauty of the cards comes from the hearts and hands that craft them.

"Visually impaired children make them, and the designs are very good, even though they can't see very well," Sheila said. "We can do things that people think that visually impaired children can't do."

Sister Mary Elaine George, a Sister, Servant of the Immaculate Heart and adviser to the printing venture, said she can well recall the indoor recess last year when Sheila and Amy drew pictures using a paint program on the school computer.

She was talking with the two about their art when they began asking one another: "Could we start a business?"

She and the girls held a meeting at the next recess and discussed the product, the necessary materials, cost estimates and profit margins.

Amy and Sheila, third-graders at the

school at the time, decided to employ the fourth-grade class. All became founding members of the business's board of directors.

Although their long-range goal was to sell custom-designed greeting cards, the entrepreneurs decided to start with seasonal Christmas stickers, which they sold to family and friends. Using the profits from that venture, they started the greeting-card enterprise, peddling them at the school's St. Patrick's Day social.

From the get-go, the girls had more than pocket money in mind. When they devised their budget, they earmarked one-third of the proceeds for children's charities and one-third for product development and materials, with the last third to be divided among the club's members.

"Right up front, they wanted to give to (a) children's charity," Sister Elaine said. "I think that's why we're being so blessed with success — because of their generosity."

Their first major client was an archdiocesan organization called BLOCS, for Business Leadership Organized for Catholic Schools, which commissioned 750 personalized thank-you cards for the organization's annual fundraising gala.

Sister Elaine commended the business co-founders for their leadership, and all of the club's members for their work ethic, attention to detail and business savvy.

"They really put forth their best effort. They're highly motivated. I'm really proud of them. ... I really have done very little," Sister Elaine said. "This is the children's inspiration and motivation. They've run with it."

Senate confirms businessman as U.S. ambassador to Vatican Rooney active in Knights of Malta, charities

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Francis Rooney, a businessman with ties in Oklahoma and Florida, was confirmed by the Senate Oct. 7 to be U.S. ambassador to the Holy See.

In a voice vote, the Senate agreed to confirm Rooney's appointment along with the nominations of dozens of other people to posts ranging from assistant secretaries of various federal agencies to judges for the District of Columbia.

Rooney is chief executive officer of Rooney Holdings, which includes insurance and construction companies. He also has been active in Oklahoma and Florida in charitable and community organizations including the Knights of Malta, an Oklahoma Catholic hospital's strategic planning committee, the Ameri-

can Red Cross and the United Way.

He has been acquainted with President George W. Bush at least since Rooney Holdings' Manhattan Construction Co. built the Texas Rangers' baseball stadium when Bush was managing partner of the team in the early 1990s. Rooney and his company contributed or raised more than half a million dollars for 2004 Republican campaigns and the presidential inauguration.

The post of Vatican ambassador has been vacant since Jim Nicholson became secretary of Veterans Affairs in January. Rooney's nomination was announced in July. After a brief hearing to introduce him to lawmakers Sept. 19, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee approved his nomination Oct. 5 in a voice vote.

Diocesan planner

BOONE VICARIATE

SPRUCE PINE — A *Rosary of Intercession for Priests* is recited each Friday at St. Lucien Church, 695 Summit St., before the 9 a.m. Mass. Prayers are offered for bishops, priests and deacons, and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. For more information, call the church office at (828) 765-2224.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — Dr. Luke Timothy Johnson, professor of New Testament and Christian Origins at Emory University, will speak on "*Faith and Possessions*" at St. Peter Church, 507 S. Tryon St., Oct. 29, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Johnson will challenge us to examine what God is telling us about how we use and share our material gifts. Admission is free but please call (704) 332-2901, ext. 12, and leave your name and phone number if you plan to attend.

CHARLOTTE — As a ministry to the hearing impaired, Vanessa Pappas will sign the *Liturgy of the Word* Oct. 30 during the 10 a.m. Mass at St. John Neumann Church, 8451 Idlewild Rd. For more information, call the church office at (704) 536-6520.

CHARLOTTE — *Pathfinders*, a peer-led support group for separated and divorced adults, offers education, support and fellowship through the divorce process. The group meets Tuesdays, 7:30-9 p.m. in St. Gabriel Church's Ministry Building, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, call Nancy at (704) 752-0318.

CHARLOTTE — *TGIF on Wednesday* is a support group for separated or divorced women and men. All are welcome to join us for encourage-

ment and discussion with others making similar journeys at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. in the New Life Center, Room 114. If you have any questions, call Bonnie Motuz at (704) 543-8998.

HUNTERSVILLE — A *Mass to Honor Deceased Loved Ones* is celebrated the last Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. for more information, call St. Mark Church, 14740 Stumpdown Rd. For more Pam Schneider at (704) 875-0201.

CHARLOTTE — The *Ancient Order of Hibernians, Sons of Erin Mecklenburg County Division*, the oldest and largest order of Irish Catholic men, is seeking Irish Catholic men to join them for meetings, community activities and social events. Contact Tim Lawson at (704) 522-9728 or e-mail ncaoh@aol.com for more information including meeting times and location.

CHARLOTTE — A *Support Group for Caregivers of a Family Member with Memory Loss* meet the last Monday of each month, 10-11:30 a.m. at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, contact Suzanne Bach at (704) 376-4135.

HUNTERSVILLE — *Elizabeth Ministry* is a peer ministry comprised of St. Mark Church parishioners who have lost babies before or shortly after birth. Confidential peer ministry, information and spiritual materials are offered at no cost or obligation to anyone who has experienced miscarriage, stillbirth or the death of a newborn. For details, call Sandy Buck at (704) 948-4587.

GASTONIA VICARIATE

BELMONT — *First Saturday Devotions* take place on the first Saturday of each month at Belmont Abbey Basilica, 100 Belmont-Mount Holly Rd. Devotion begins at 9:30 a.m. with the recitation of the rosary, followed by reconciliation and Mass. For more information, call Phil or Terri at (704) 888-6050.

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-mail: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

OCTOBER 21, 2005
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 3

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Vatican assures Muslims of church's commitment

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — As Muslims prepared to celebrate the end of their monthlong Ramadan fast, Archbishop Michael Fitzgerald assured them the Catholic Church's commitment to dialogue would continue under Pope Benedict XVI.

The archbishop, president of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue, sent written greetings to Muslims around the world about to celebrate the Nov. 3 feast of Eid al-Fitr, which marks the end of Ramadan.

In the message, released Oct. 14, the archbishop said many Muslims joined Catholics in following news about Pope John Paul II's illness and death in April.

"It was faith in God and confidence in humanity that impelled the late pope to engage in dialogue," the archbishop said. "He constantly reached out to brothers and sisters of all religions with respect and a desire for collaboration."

Archbishop Fitzgerald said the Catholic Church's commitment to dia-

logue was encouraged by the Second Vatican Council, which concluded 40 years ago.

In the light of the council's teaching, he said, Pope John Paul's efforts were "rooted in the Gospel, following the example of the Lord Jesus who showed his love and respect for each person, even for those who did not belong to his own people."

The archbishop said Pope Benedict, since his April 19 election, has made clear his commitment to continuing dialogue.

"Making reference to the conflicts, violence and wars present in our world," he said, the new pope "emphasized that it is the duty of everyone, especially those who profess to belong to a religious tradition, to work for peace."

Archbishop Fitzgerald said Catholics and Muslims should be encouraged by Pope Benedict's words and "strengthen our engagement in building up good relations among people of different religions, to promote cultural dialogue and to work together for greater justice and enduring peace."

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — The *Greensboro Theology on Tap* will meet Oct. 27, Nov. 3 and Nov. 10 at 7 p.m. at Coopers Ale House, 5340 West Market St. There will be great speakers, excellent food and conversation. TOT will have a food drive to benefit Urban Ministry. Non-perishable items will be collected each Thursday. For more info e-mail greensborotot@yahoo.com or call Deb at (336) 286-3687.

GREENSBORO — If you have a special need for prayers, or would like to offer your time in prayer for others' needs, please call the *Prayer Chain* at Our Lady of Grace Church. The Prayer Chain is a sizable group committed to praying for your needs and the needs of your family and friends on a daily basis. To request a prayer or to participate in the Prayer Chain, call the church office at (336) 274-6520, ext. 10 and leave your name, address and phone number.

GUILFORD COUNTY — The *Ancient Order of Hibernians Guilford County Division*, the oldest and largest order of Irish Catholic men, is looking for more Irish Catholic men to join them for meetings, educational seminars and social events. Contact Michael Slane at (336) 665-9264 for time and location.

HICKORY VICARIATE

HENDERSONVILLE — The *Widows Lunch Bunch*, sponsored by Immaculate Conception Church, meets at a different restaurant on the first Wednesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. Reservations are necessary. For more information and reservations, call Joan Keagle at (828) 693-4733.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

SALISBURY — *Elizabeth Ministry* is a peer ministry comprised of Sacred Heart Church parishioners who have lost babies before or shortly after birth. Confidential peer ministry, information and spiritual materials are offered at no cost or obligation to anyone who has experienced miscarriage, stillbirth or the death of a newborn. For details, call Renee Washington at (704) 637-0472 or Sharon Burges at (704) 633-0591.

SALISBURY — Are you tired of constantly strug-

gling with your weight? Consider giving God a chance to touch your heart, your life and your eating. *Light Weigh* Bible study and video series meets at Sacred Heart Church, 128 Fulton St. Classes will meet Tuesdays through Jan. 3 in the Conference Room, 5:30-7 p.m. For more information, contact the church office at (704) 633-0591.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

FRANKLIN — *Respect Life* meets the first Wednesday of every month after the 5:30 p.m. Mass in the Family Life Center at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 299 Maple St. All those interested in promoting the sanctity of human life are invited to attend. For more information, contact Julie Tastinger at (828) 349-9813 or jatastinger@aol.com.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

WINSTON-SALEM — The *Portiuncula Franciscan Spiritual Center*, 211 W. Third St., provides an environment, experiences and resources that enable people to meet God in both stillness and activity. A study and action program, *Pace e Bene (Part One): From Violence to Wholeness*, explores nonviolence as a creative and effective process for resolving the conflicts in our lives and in the world. The group will meet Oct. 24 and 31, 7-8:30 p.m. For more information, call Sister Kathy Ganiel, at (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

CLEMMONS — Msgr. Mauricio West will celebrate a *Healing Mass* at Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd., Nov. 7 at 7:30 p.m. Individual prayer for healing will follow Mass. For more information, contact the church office at (336) 778-0600.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 15 days prior to the event date in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Vatican official calls for better care of mentally ill

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — More needs to be done to help the mentally ill and to support programs of early diagnosis and prevention of mental illness, said a top Vatican official.

Cardinal Javier Lozano Barragan, head of the Pontifical Council for Health Care Workers, appealed to public health officials worldwide "to find urgently needed help" for those with mental disorders.

Many of these people are "on the streets or with their families where they cannot receive the (proper medical) help they need," he said in his message for World Day of Mental Health celebrated Oct. 10.

He asked that health and government officials make mental health care more accessible and equitable and that treatment be "in full respect for the integrity and dignity of the sick."

According to the World Health Organization, some 450 million people worldwide suffer from a mental disorder and 873,000 people commit suicide each year, the cardinal said in his text.

"Mental disability represents a true and real social-health emergency," he said, adding that it does not have enough support from existing health and governmental programs.

"In over 25 percent of (the world's)

health clinics, patients do not have access to essential psychiatric medicines; there is fewer than 1 psychiatrist for every 100,000 people for 70 percent" of the world's population, he said.

Mental illness tends more often to strike those who are "intellectually, culturally or economically disadvantaged," he said.

Cardinal Lozano also said societies need "to promote healthy lifestyles that are consistent with a culture of values."

He said people cannot remain silent in the face of a culture or society that condones exploiting people and that demonstrates "continued aggression against (a person's) serenity and mental balance."

The "crisis of values" also leads to greater loneliness among individuals, breaks up traditional social structures, and discredits the support of the family, he said.

The Catholic Church always has played an important role in offering prevention and help to those afflicted by mental illness, he said.

Church-based programs and workers show that "mental illness does not create insurmountable obstacles and does not impede" building a relationship with sufferers that is based on "authentic Christian charity," he said.

KURDISH WOMEN VOTE IN KIRKUK, IRAQ



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

Kurdish women vote in the northern city of Kirkuk, Iraq, on the constitutional referendum Oct. 15. Vote counts appear to indicate that the new constitution will be accepted, despite opposition from Sunni Muslims.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Oct. 30 — 2 p.m. Mass
Diocesan Celebration in honor of
Marriage Anniversaries
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Charlotte

Nov. 3 — 6 p.m.
Friends of Seminarians Dinner
Bishop's residence, Charlotte

Nov. 5 — 5 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Charlotte

Nov. 6 — 5 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. Francis of Assisi Church, Jefferson

FAITH EXCHANGE

Welcome to Faith Exchange, a new feature in *The Catholic News & Herald* where our readers do the writing. We'll pick one response to publish in an upcoming issue. Additional responses will be posted on our Web site, www.charlottediocese.org/catholicnews.

Question of the week: Why is your parish right for you?

Submit your story by e-mail to catholicnews@charlottediocese.org or mail to *The Catholic News & Herald*, 1123 S. Church St.; Charlotte, N.C. 28203

Photographs are welcome, but cannot be returned.

Remember:

1. Submissions should be 150-200 words. 2. Stories must be completely true. 3. Include your name, hometown, parish and daytime phone number. 4. Deadline for receipt is Nov. 1.

Faith behind bars

Prison ministers recognized at annual gathering

HICKORY — Volunteers involved with prison ministry in the Diocese of Charlotte recently gathered for the second annual Prison Ministry Appreciation Day, held at the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory Oct. 1.

"It was a time to show the appreciation of the diocese and the permanent deacons for the hours spent bringing the Lord's message and Eucharist to prisoners in western North Carolina," said Deacon Ben Wenning, coordinator of the permanent diaconate, which oversees prison ministry in the Diocese of Charlotte.

The featured speaker was John Kopec, a retired New York police officer and prison ministry chaplain, who shared how a near-death experience changed his life and brought him to North Carolina to work in prison ministry.

Mary Webb, a parishioner of St. Barnabas Church in Arden, received the John Gallan Prison Ministry Award.

Webb's involvement in prison ministry began 12 years ago, when she first began raising money for a chapel at Craggy Correctional Center in Asheville. She and her husband, Keith, initiated Prison Fellowship, a program to assist inmates nearing release to transition back into the community.

In addition to the John Gallan award, Webb has been nominated for the 2005 Volunteer of the Year award at Craggy Correctional Center.



COURTESY PHOTO

Mary Webb shows off her John Gallan Prison Ministry Award Oct. 1. Pictured (from left) are Deacon Jim Johnson, Keith Webb, Mary Webb and Bill Mateieve.

The John Gallan award was created in 2004 by Sergio Gomez, an inmate at the Mecklenburg Correctional Center in Boydton, Va. When informed that the award was going to Webb, Gomez wrote her a letter reflecting the appreciation of inmates toward those in prison ministry.

"I want to thank you on behalf of all of the inmates and prisoners for your time and dedication," he wrote. "I thank you for being that instrument which our Lord uses so powerfully."

The next Prison Ministry Appreciation Day will be held in September at the Catholic Conference Center.

Saluting heroes

Holy Angels honors many during Spirit Week

BELMONT — The residents and staff of Holy Angels paid special tribute to heroes during Spirit Week, an annual event that recognizes and celebrates the spirit of Holy Angels, its employees and the community.

Spirit Week, this year themed "Catch the Spirit," was celebrated Sept. 11-17. More than a dozen Gaston County emergency workers and military servicemen and women were recently honored during "Patriotic Day." Members of the Belmont fire and police departments, Gaston County Emergency Medical Services and the Armed Services were treated to a reception in their honor on Holy Angels' main campus.

Regina Moody, Holy Angels president and chief executive officer, presented each "hero" with a flag created on paper by residents during hand-over-hand art classes.

The diverse heritage of Holy Angels' 230 employees was celebrated during Spirit Week's "International Day." Ten countries were represented, including the United States.

"Holy Angels is so fortunate to have incredibly dedicated employees," said Moody. "It's important that we recognize and celebrate those gifts and talents they bring to our residents each and every day. Spirit Week allows us to do that."



COURTESY PHOTO

Holy Angels' resident Tori enjoys Patriotic Day with staff members Amber Tomecek Arnold (left) and Stella Rommarito during Spirit Week at Holy Angels in Belmont.

Holy Angels is a private, nonprofit corporation in Belmont that provides residential services to children and adults with varying degrees of mental retardation and physical disabilities.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information about Holy Angels, call (704) 825-4161 or visit www.holyangelsnc.org.


ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO THE HARVEST?

Then he said to His disciples, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers for His harvest." (Mt 9:37)

I am praying that you will join me in responding to our Lord's request for more "laborers" in harvesting the abundant fruit to be found at Belmont Abbey College. Over 125 years ago the Benedictine Monks came south in response to God's call to begin His work in the vineyard of North Carolina.

He is calling you to place your hands upon the same bricks that were formed and put in place by these holy monks so long ago. I am looking for strong, dedicated, Catholic students to help realize our vision of excellence and virtue. Belmont Abbey is your Catholic College and God is calling you to the "harvest."

Dr. William K. Thierfelder
President


BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE
THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED

U.S. News
America's
**Best
Colleges
2006**

Best
Southeastern
College
The
Catholic

☐ I WANT TO HELP BUILD OUR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY. PLEASE SEND ME A STUDENT REFERRAL PACKAGE.

If you would like to help Belmont Abbey College by referring or becoming a new student, please fill out this form and send it to us or go online to BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu and click on Referral Package in the Quick Links. We will send you our complete referral/information package with detailed information about the Abbey and all it has to offer!

Your Name _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____
Email _____
Phone _____ No. of Packages Requested _____

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
100 BELMONT-MT. HOLLY ROAD
BELMONT, NC 28012-1802
BELMONTABBEYCOLLEGE.EDU

Permanent deacons, wives retreat to Hickory

Deacons renewed and inspired during retreat



PHOTO BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY

Permanent deacons and their wives sing and relax after evening prayer at their annual retreat at the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory, held October 14-16.

BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY
CORRESPONDENT

HICKORY — Recently, 70 permanent deacons and wives experienced a weekend of spiritual renewal and camaraderie on their 15th annual retreat at the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory, Oct. 14-16.

"The retreat is designed to give both the deacons and their wives issues to think about and to give them time to reflect about these things," said retreat facilitator Father John Putnam, who serves as judicial vicar, pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Salisbury and vicar forane for the Salisbury Vicariate.

Father Putnam's goal was certainly met according to Martha Duca, wife of Deacon Peter Duca, permanent deacon at Our Lady of the Assumption Church in Charlotte.

"Father Putnam has brought us back to the basics as far as the liturgy and the world are concerned, including the deacon's role in it," she said. "I am also glad that Father Putnam included the wives as being an important part of the deacon's ministry."

Father Putnam reiterated several times that the deacon (and his wife) must "model their lives on Jesus Christ for the good of every person," with Christ shouldering the bulk of their ministry.

He emphasized that the deacon's principle function is to collaborate his ministry with that of the bishop and the priest, as he calls the people to conversion and holiness.

"Deacons must put on our Lord, Jesus Christ ... to clothe themselves with Christ," Father Putnam said. "This is because ministry is not about 'me' ... but about Christ and what he does in the

(Catholic) Church."

Therefore, Father Putnam instructed, "immerse yourselves in the Paschal Mystery while acknowledging your weaknesses and limitations, and what it is that limits you from truly living Christ."

"I think the retreat was excellent," said Deacon Harold Markle, permanent deacon at Divine Redeemer Church in Boonville. "Father Putnam showed the role of the deacon as very positive."

"Father Putnam combined the doctrine of the liturgy with the personal, so that all of it becomes more meaningful to the life of the deacon and his wife," said Eileen Rohan, wife of Deacon Timothy Rohan, permanent deacon at Our Lady of Grace Church in Greensboro.

"Father Putnam pointed out that the responsibility of our prayer life should come to the fore," said Deacon Rohan. "As Father Putnam says, 'the liturgy should be like our first Mass, our only Mass, and as if it were our last Mass.'"

MILWAUKEE ARCHBISHOP MAKES TELEMARKETING CALLS FOR NEWSPAPER



CNS PHOTO BY SAM LUCERO, CATHOLIC HERALD

Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan of Milwaukee dons a telemarketer's headset Oct. 18 to help the Catholic Herald archdiocesan newspaper drum up subscriptions. Since the newspaper does not receive archdiocesan funding or have a mandatory parish subscription plan, it relies on telemarketers to replenish its subscription base. Archbishop Dolan volunteered to make a few telephone calls to help bring awareness of the need for more subscribers to the archdiocesan newspaper.

6TH ANNUAL KENNEDY LECTURE

OCTOBER 29, 2005

FAITH AND POSSESSIONS

by

LUKE TIMOTHY JOHNSON, PH.D.

Woodruff Professor of New Testament and Christian Origins, Emory University

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
St. Peter's Catholic Church
507 S. Tryon St., Charlotte, N.C.

Admission is free, but please
phone to reserve your place.
704-332-2901, ext. 12.

May Your Hands Be Blessed!

Learn Rosary Making



Call or visit
our website
for your
introductory
offer!

LEWIS
& COMPANY

P.O. Box 268, Troy, NY 12181

(800) 342-2400

rosaryparts.com



Let stairs be our problem... not yours!

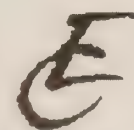
Ask about our Stairway lifts.

- Easily attached to steps (not walls)
- Folds out of the way
- Fits most stairways (straight & curved)
- Very affordable (rent or buy)
- We install

Chair & Equipment Rentals & Sales, Inc.

800 Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC • (800) 333-8431

Member of St. Thomas Aquinas



Women speak out against abortion

SILENT, from page 1

"Women are told abortion is a simple choice and are therefore unprepared for the pain and suffering they experience as a consequence of (having an) abortion," Shelley said. "We believe abortion should be unthinkable for women facing an unplanned pregnancy."

Shelley and other women shared their personal stories about abortion at a Silent No More rally in Pack Square in downtown Asheville Oct. 15.

"My mom said abortion would end my pain," Shelley said. "I'm here to tell you that it began my pain."

Parishioners from St. Barnabas Church in Arden rallied to the women's support, holding signs reading, "I regret my abortion," "Women need love not abortion" and "Abortion hurts women."

Shelley now helps facilitate Rachel's Vineyard retreats at Living Waters Catholic Reflection Center in Maggie Valley for women who have had abortions.

Telling her story, Shelley said, "brings back the pain, but you don't want other women to make the same mistake. I like to share my story with young people, because this all begins with a fall from chastity."

Going into the clinic to have the abortion, she recalled, "was like there was this little person on my shoulder, whispering in my ear, 'This is all you can do. You have no other choice.' As soon as I had the abortion, that same voice was saying, 'What a horrible person you are. You killed your child.'"

The nondenominational Silent No More Awareness Campaign holds rallies nationwide to inform the public about the emotional, physical and spiritual consequences of abortion. Silent No More organizers hope more women will have the courage to tell their own stories and end the silence that surrounds abortion.

In 1974, Mary's unborn child was diagnosed as hydrocephalic, an abnormal increase of fluid within the skull causing enlargement of the skull and atrophy of the brain. She wept as she recalled the partial-birth abortion of her baby, whom she later named Luke.

"I could have held him, fed him, sung him lullabies until he died," she said. "My hope is that soon women will not go anywhere near the thought of having an abortion. The least we can do is give a child a birthday."

None of the women who spoke at the rally said they were given alternatives.

"No one offered any other choice," Shelley said. "If I'd been offered adoption, I could find my child. If there had been a place like Room at the Inn (a home in Charlotte for unmarried mothers), I could have gone there."

Shelley later had a son. "You have this empty feeling," she said. "In psychological terms it's called the 'replacement child.'"

She said that 50 percent of abortions are second abortions. Shelley's son was

3 years old when she terminated her third pregnancy. Still unmarried, in a prison "of drugs, low self-esteem, sexual promiscuity and twice-attempted suicide," she feared she couldn't raise two children alone.

Later, while studying nursing, Shelley had a shattering revelation.

"I don't know how medical (personnel) can say that it isn't a human being," she said.

In anatomy and physiology class, the instructor explained how the egg and sperm join to become a human being.

Shelley said she suddenly thought, "Oh, my God, what have I done?"

Dr. Maureen Kennedy, an obstetrician and gynecologist in Asheville, explained how some medical personnel deny the unborn child's humanity.

In her residency training, she said, "abortion was (termed) just a procedure, someone else's choice, in which I shouldn't interfere. There is a silence among physicians and healthcare workers, too."

Kennedy described the "emotional and medical consequences" of abortion, "the long-term risks of suicide and depression, the increased risk of breast cancer."

"We owe it to all women to be 'silent no more,'" she said.

"I think priests and ministers don't talk about this from the pulpit because they're afraid they'll offend someone who's had an abortion," Shelley said. "I say to them, 'So you're going to let them sit there and suffer?' Initially the women might be angry and hurt, but eventually it will free them to seek healing and forgiveness. The hardest person to forgive is yourself."

What message does Shelley want priests to give about abortion?

"I'd like them to say it's the wrong thing to do, but that there is hope and healing and that the (Catholic) Church doesn't condemn them, that they can receive forgiveness," she said.

Shelley later married. Her husband, Rick, adopted her son. They had another son and now have five grandchildren.

Rick "spiritually adopted" Shelley's unborn children, whom she named James and Elizabeth. James would be 32 years old now; Elizabeth, 26.

"I've forgiven myself, my children have forgiven me, but I will never forget," Shelley said. "I know that I had a son and a daughter. She was my only daughter, and I didn't let her live."

Although Shelley told her husband about her abortions before they married, she had never spoken publicly about them. When the family moved to Arden six years ago and joined St. Barnabas Church, she saw a church bulletin announcement from the Respect Life committee asking for volunteers to tell about their abortions.

Reluctantly, she called the committee chair, who said that she, too, had had an abortion. Encouraged by her Respect Life involvement, Shelley went to a Rachel's Vineyard retreat.

Promoting a culture of life



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Bishop Peter J. Jugis dedicates the Blessed Mother Teresa Pro-Life Memorial at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Charlotte Oct. 16. The church's Respect Life committee facilitated the installation of the outdoor life-size statue of Blessed Mother Teresa cradling an infant.

"Blessed Mother Teresa was a great witness to the dignity of all human life during her ministry among the poor," said Father Mark Lawlor, pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Church. "Since abortion became so widespread in the 1970s, the Catholic Church has protected the sanctity of life."

When Mother Teresa visited Charlotte in 1995, she issued a firm warning, saying, "Any country that accepts abortion is not teaching its people to love. The greatest destroyer of love and peace is abortion."

A plaque on the base of the statue contains this same quote.

"Our (Respect Life) committee and parish wanted to have a lasting reminder that would bear witness to the violence of abortion against mother and child," said Diane Hoefling, Respect Life coordinator for St. Vincent de Paul Church. "Blessed Teresa's example of selfless love in serving the 'poorest of the poor' challenges all of us to defend human life through every stage and condition and to promote a culture of life."

"It helped me to forgive myself, to name my children and know that they are safe in heaven with God, to forgive the doctor, to (posthumously) forgive my mom," she said.

She wears a pin that many other mothers wear, with little silver figures bearing birthstones, but two of the figures on Shelley's pin are angels.

"James and Elizabeth, I'm so sorry," Shelley said at the rally. "If I'd known then what I know now, you would never have died."

Contact correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach at (828) 627-9209 or e-mail jnell@dnet.net.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on Rachel's Vineyard, call Rachel's Vineyard at (877) HOPE-4-ME; Shelley at (828) 230-4940; or Vickie at (828) 213-1784; or visit www.rachelsvineyard.org.

For more information on Silent No More, visit www.SilentNoMoreAwareness.org or call (800) 395-HELP or (866)-482-LIFE.

Groce
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

1401 Patton Ave. 72 Long Shoals Road
Asheville, NC Arden, NC
(828) 252-3535 (828) 687-3530

Pre-arrangements and obituaries on-line at www.grocefuneralhome.com

**Assuring
Absolute
Integrity**

Asheville's Catholic Funeral Directors
Dale Groce • John Prock

Toll-free (888) 874-3535

Standing for life



COURTESY PHOTO

George Burazer, a parishioner of Queen of the Apostles Church in Belmont, and Donna Snyder, parish Respect Life coordinator, hold pro-life placards along with their fellow parishioners in the Life Chain outside the church on Respect Life Sunday, Oct. 2.

October is Respect Life Month, and many churches across the United States kick-off the month with Life Chains, in which parishioners stand alone church property lines, on city sidewalks and with other church groups in their towns.

We Love Blessed Sacrament Academy !!



Call now to guarantee your child's enrollment.
Space is LIMITED! 704-841-2292

Visit us on the web: www.blessedsacramentacademy.org

Located behind Windsor Square in Matthews, NC. Independent of Charlotte diocesan schools. Member of NAPCIS

- ◆ A classical curriculum in the Catholic tradition
- ◆ Latin, French, Music & Art
- ◆ Grades K-8
- ◆ Excellent scores on standardized tests



Father George Almeida Hosts...

Northeast Cruise & Tour

Enjoy Spring-time in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island
Sail the Scenic St. Lawrence River to Quebec and Montreal

On May 19, 2006 join your Spiritual Director Father George Almeida and other Roman Catholics on this 15-Day vacation including a seven-day deluxe Northeast Cruise with Holland America Line and a seven-day Northeast vacation. Spend one night in Boston with a comprehensive city tour before boarding your 5-star ship the ms Maasdam. Mass will be celebrated daily while on board ship. Ports include Bar Harbor, Maine; Halifax and Sydney, Nova Scotia; and Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. Cruise into the mouth of the St. Lawrence River to Saguenay Fjord with 1,500 foot-high cliffs. Your final ports include Quebec City and Montreal. In Montreal meet "your man" for a city tour of the "Paris of the Americas." Your motor coach tour will continue through the Adirondack and Catskill Mountains, Hyde Park, Philadelphia, and New York City, with included city tours. Prices start at only \$1798 (per person, double occupancy) including all taxes, the motor coach tour with daily escorted sightseeing and seven nights in hotels, and the seven day deluxe cruise. Add \$400 for airfare from Charlotte. Space is limited. \$100 deposits are now due!

Call for brochure & information 7 days a week:

'YOUR MAN' TOURS 1-800-968-7626

Providing carefree vacations since 1967!

Banquet benefits maternity home



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Father Frank Pavone, national director of Priests for Life, greets guests following the Room at the Inn banquet, "No Greater Gift," Oct. 13. Father Pavone was the keynote speaker for the annual fundraiser, which benefits the Catholic maternity home.

BY KAREN A. EVANS

STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Respect for all life must begin in the home and be encouraged by the Catholic Church, according to Father Frank Pavone, national director of Priests for Life.

Father Pavone was the featured speaker at "No Greater Gift," the 11th annual banquet benefiting Room at the Inn, a Catholic maternity home in Charlotte that offers pregnancy assistance for unmarried pregnant women and their babies, both born and unborn.

Approximately 1,250 attended the banquet held at the Charlotte Convention Center Oct. 13. Among those attending the banquet were Bishop Peter J. Jugis of Charlotte; Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin of Charlotte; Msgr. Mauricio West, chancellor of the Diocese of Charlotte; Abbot Placid Solari, abbot and chancellor of Belmont Abbey; and pro-life advocate Alveda King, niece of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. and daughter of civil rights leader A. D. King.

Last year, the banquet raised more than \$160,000 for the maternity home.

During the banquet, Holy Angels was presented with the Msgr. William Wellein Outstanding Service Award. Holy Angels is a private, nonprofit corporation in Belmont that provides residential services to children and adults with varying degrees of mental retardation and physical disabilities.

Creating a culture of life in today's society begins at home, Father Pavone said. This is done by spending time with the sick and the elderly and welcoming the unborn in new ways.

When people spend time with the sick and elderly, "we are teaching our children ... that this life hasn't lost its value," said Father Pavone. "The Catholic Church must sound the trumpet, because it's the Church, above all, that can mobilize people."

Father Pavone said practices such as naming a child before birth or having a funeral Mass for a miscarried child are also

good ways to promote the culture of life.

Legalized abortion and euthanasia have "blunted our sense of right and wrong," said Father Pavone. "If we hadn't had some 42 million children aborted ... I don't think it would have been as difficult for people to say 'Terri Schiavo was murdered' (in March 2005)."

"The problem that (abortion providers) are facing is that you can't take the stigma out of abortion, because it's inherently so unnatural and repulsive," said Father Pavone. "They have not been able to succeed, in all these years of it being legal, to take the stigma out of it. That's why so many doctors don't want to do it."

Father Pavone also said that both pro-life and abortion advocates agree that there will be fewer doctors willing to perform abortions in the coming years.

Since opening its doors in December 1994, Room at the Inn has served more than 300 women and their children. More than just a place to live, Room at the Inn offers women a Christ-centered rehabilitation program, based on education, personal responsibility and spiritual direction punctuated with mental health and adoption counseling services.

Transportation and social appointments, work and school is provided, as is training in parenting, nutrition, budgeting, chastity and job skills. Mothers often work to pay off past creditors and to restore their credit ratings.

Many of the mothers who find Room at the Inn arrive broken in heart and spirit, often rejected by their families and the fathers of their babies.

As a response to research that shows that 37 percent of all pregnant college-age women have abortions, Room at the Inn also plans to launch a program to provide the organization's professional services to pregnant students on area college campuses.

"If we're each going to be faithful to Jesus Christ, we must stand on the platform of life," said Father Pavone.

'Loving kindness of God'

Religious, lay observers speak of healing power of Eucharist



CNS PHOTO BY ALESSIA GIULIANI, CATHOLIC PRESS PHOTO

Pope Benedict XVI attends eucharistic adoration in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican Oct. 17. With simplicity and long stretches of silence, the pope and members of the Synod of Bishops gathered together to show their devotion to the Eucharist.

BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — The Eucharist has the power to heal shattered lives and even transform the world, but first it needs to permeate people's daily existence, said some participants at the Synod of Bishops.

Their testimony Oct. 12 was the first time synod fathers heard the voices of 25 lay and religious women and men, who offered their perspective and experience in promoting the power of the Eucharist.

These observers do not have voting power in the Oct. 2-23 synod, but they were invited to offer their views.

Sister Elvira Petrozzi, a founder of the Cenacle Community in Italy, told of the healing power she has seen resulting from eucharistic prayer. For 22 years she has worked with homeless adults, children and drug addicts.

She said she had no idea what "therapeutic or medicinal method" she could offer the substance abusers, since "no pill gives the joy of life and a heart at peace."

Instead, she said, she offered people her experience of God's mercy and the practice of personal prayer and eucharistic adoration.

At first, people would not understand why they were kneeling before a consecrated host, and she said she would explain that "the Eucharist is not understood with the head, but is experienced in the heart."

After a while, these troubled teens and adults would undergo a "eucharistic miracle," Sister Petrozzi said.

Slowly "you would see their eyes get brighter as they began to understand and as they began to experience God in the Eucharist, and that's when you knew that they were being healed," she said.

In the Eucharist, Jesus left his people "a treasure, the medicine, the most extraordinary light for leading us out of the darkness of evil," she said.

Canossian Sister Margaret Wong of Hong Kong told participants that church workers promoted eucharistic adoration for physically and mentally disabled people, they found there were many apparently normal, but still vulnerable people who needed God's loving embrace.

There were people in society "with a broken self-image, broken relationships and broken spirit (who) were rejected by their broken families and our broken society marked with secularism and materialism."

Sister Wong said they invited many of these people "to seek spiritual healing from our eucharistic Lord" and that many "inner healings were reported."

She said in the Eucharist, one can see "the broken heart of Christ thirsting to save a broken humanity; in him we learn to embrace and love sincerely all these broken ones."

Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Charlotte 704-334-6421

Pineville 704-544-1412

Mint Hill 704-545-4864

Derita 704-596-3291

Inside and out

Many synod observers noted that for the Eucharist to have a real effect on people's lives, it must be lived outside the Mass in one's daily routine.

Zbigniew Nosowski, a member of the national council of the laity in Poland, said a "eucharistic spirituality" involves not just going to Mass and adoration of the Eucharist. He said lay Christians "need a new understanding of relations between the Eucharist and their everyday life."

The Eucharist has something "very important and very concrete" to say for life and decision-making.

The Eucharist says "the more you give yourself to others, the more you'll find yourself; the more you love, the more you should sacrifice; the more you give, the more you'll receive," he said.

He said having this "eucharistic attitude" was key to becoming "a truly eucharistic person, even if you do not participate in the holy Mass every day."

Through her selfless and total giving to God's will, Mary, the mother of Jesus, was "a woman of the Eucharist (even) before it was established," said Nosowski.

He said it was crucial that the plight of the poor not be forgotten, especially when receiving the Eucharist. The two great treasures of the church, he said, are the Eucharist and the poor, but seldom are they linked.

"We need visible signs of their unity" so those who share in the eucharistic bread "should always in a visible way express their solidarity with the poor ones who do not have their daily bread to eat."

A world with hope

Christian Brother Alvaro Rodriguez Echeverria, president of the Union of Superior Generals in Costa Rica, said this sense of mission inherent in the Eucharist can help people change the world.

He said that in working in youth ministry, he saw young people develop "a new passion" to do something for their communities and the world.

By meeting Christ, many young people would find personal "tranquility and peace," and they would "also find the strength to discover the world of their crucified brothers and sisters," who were victims of war, violence and hunger and without a future, he said.

He said young people were the most sensitive among the church's members when it came to understanding "the dashed hopes that daily afflict millions of children and young people in today's world."

Sister Rita Burley, superior general of the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in Great Britain, said the "Eucharist and work for justice are inseparable."

"Communion with Christ in the Eucharist implies accepting the moral responsibility to work with him, in collaboration with others, to transform unjust structures and mentalities into strategies and plans which further the true nature of God's love for our human family," she said.

By gazing upon Christ in the Eucharist, she said, one sees "the loving kindness of God, and so we look on the world with hope."

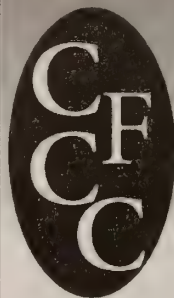
DO ADS WORK? LISTEN TO THIS:

"We have been very pleased with the readers' response to our ad in The Catholic News & Herald. We advertise our caregiver services in a number of publications and none has produced the interest and response we've received from The Catholic News & Herald."

— Jill B. Stewart, Owner, Visiting Angels

THE CATHOLIC
NEWS HERALD

CALL TODAY for low rates to tell over 125,000 readers every week about YOUR company! 704-370-3332



Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center

Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023

www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma

Owner/Director

Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

New
Covenant
Bookstore

Books • Gifts
Religious Articles

(336) 760-1673

Tues-Fri: 10:30-5

Saturday: 10-1

Mary Jo Kahl, Owner
Parishioner - Our Lady of Mercy

304 Upton St.
Winston-Salem, NC 27103
www.newcovenantbookstore.com

Inspiration needed, archbishop says

SYNOD, from page 1

Archbishop Gregory said the church across the world has to speak to a variety of audiences, including Catholics who regularly attend Mass, young Catholics who have not yet been "properly evangelized and catechized," people who "have yet to be evangelized," and Catholics who have become "disenfranchised for whatever reason" from the church.

All these people "belong to the heart and soul of the church," he said, and bishops, priests and religious have a responsibility to "develop strategies that address the different life situations" of all of them.

He said the way the Gospel message is communicated may adapt to fit the times and different audiences, but the truths inherent in church teaching may not.

Church leaders must concentrate on "allowing the teaching and the truth of the Gospel to be translated into a way of communication" with people who come from a myriad of backgrounds.

The church also needs vibrant, inspiring preachers, he said in his Oct. 11 speech to synod members.

"In the United States of America, some of our Catholic people will go to Sunday Mass and then return home to listen to the radio or view the televised religious programming of other Christian denominations simply because they are still hungry for inspiring preaching," he said, according to information released by the Vatican.

"Still others go so far as to attend religious services at these other churches after they've attended Sunday Mass," he said.

The archbishop told synod participants that he has "repeatedly heard of people who regularly will travel excessive distances to participate in a Mass that has a celebrant with proven capability to offer a serious, moving and compelling homily."

He offered a quote from the late German Cardinal Augustin Bea, who said a priest who was skilled in offering the sacrifice in the Mass, but not in breaking open the word of God for people, was only exercising half his priestly ministry.

How the priest says the words of the eucharistic prayer is important, he said, because Catholics "are starving for truly prayerful expressions of the eucharistic actions."



CNS PHOTO BY ALESSIA GIULIANI, CATHOLIC PRESS PHOTO

Indian Cardinal Telesphore Toppo of Ranchi, Bishop William S. Skylstad of Spokane, Wash. and Archbishop Anthony Sablan Apuron of Agaña, Guam, are seen at a meeting of the Synod of Bishops on the Eucharist at the Vatican Oct. 13. Bishop Skylstad is president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Prayers throughout the Mass and liturgy must be offered in a way that "inspire and edify the faithful," said Archbishop Gregory.

"We bishops, in our role as the primary preachers in our local churches, must lead in our own good example rather than merely asking our priests and deacons to be better prepared homilists for our people," he said in his speech.

Open discussions

Archbishop Gregory, who was participating for the second time in a Synod of Bishops, told CNS that Pope Benedict XVI's introduction of an hour of open discussion at the end of the day has been "a very helpful opportunity" for the synod participants "to say what is on (their) mind and heart in a less-structured way."

There had been "a certain predict-

ability" in formal synod discussions, which tend to follow the working document released before the start of a synod, he said.

The open discussion was going "very, very well," he said, adding he thought the pope had really "set the stage for that type of exchange" of free, "open conversation."

He said Pope Benedict has been "a rapt listener" during the presentations, takes notes and "is engaged."

"When there are humorous things said, he chuckles, and yet he listens carefully to what is being said," said the archbishop.

"I think the stage is set for a good synod whatever the end product (or final document) may be," he said. This synod has been taking place in "a very warm and collegial atmosphere," which is "always a good thing," he added.



4th Annual Vineyard of Hope Wine Tasting and Auction

Honoring Dr. William Rice

The Vineyard of Hope is not just another event in town. This annual fundraiser for Catholic Social Services provides vital funds for the programs and services of CSS. Get a group together and buy your tickets today!

Friday, November 4 at 7 pm
Hyatt SouthPark

Carnegie Blvd. at Barclay Downs Dr.

The evening includes: Wine tasting, Heavy hors d'oeuvres
Live entertainment including Our Lady of Consolation Choir
Silent and live auctions, Recognition of the contributions of
Dr. William Rice to Catholic Social Services

All proceeds benefit Catholic Social Services

Individual tickets are \$40 or \$75 for two.

Table purchases and scholarships are available.

Call 704-370-3232 or visit www.vineyardofhope.com

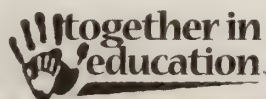


Sisters of Mercy of the Americas
Regional Community of North Carolina



HELP SUPPORT ST. PATRICK'S

Link your Harris Teeter VIC Card to 2409 while you're
in line checking out or online at www.harristeeter.com



It Costs You Nothing! Harris Teeter gives 2% of the
Harris Teeter Brand Items you purchase to St. Patrick's school.

The **Catholic Company**

Lake Norman Book Store
maryimmaculata.com

CAROLINA CATHOLIC
BOOKSHOPPE

Mon. thru Sat.
10 am - 6 pm



Now 2 COMPLETE Catholic stores for

- Unique gifts & cards
- Books, rosaries, medals
- Previously read book section (at Lake Norman)
- Video rentals
- Artwork

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Vatican releases Pope Benedict's first book, 'God's Revolution'

BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — The Vatican joined with other publishers in an 18-nation release of Pope Benedict XVI's first book as pope — a collection of his speeches from August events in Cologne, Germany.

In his newest book, titled "God's Revolution," the pope "outlines the project for his pontificate," according to a press release by the Italian publishers, San Paolo.

The Italian edition hit bookstores in Italy Oct. 11, while the English edition published by Ignatius Press was expected to be ready for release in the United States and Canada by the end of October.

The 129-page volume "deals with the questions of Christian faith and the destiny of humanity, of the state of Israel, Islam, the legacy and the future of the church and society," said the press release.

But instead of any new pronouncements, the book is a collection of talks the pope gave during the Aug. 18-21 events in Cologne, including World Youth Day and meetings with representatives of Germany's Jewish and Muslim communities. The texts include the pope's complete remarks, not just his original written addresses.

The Vatican saw there was a need to release the full content of the pope's spoken presentations in book form so that they would be available to the wider public.

The papal vicar of Rome, Cardinal Camillo Ruini, said that while the media gave extensive coverage of the youth gathering this summer, the contents of the pope's speeches "inevitably received rather minor circulation."

"It's impossible for the mass media to cover everything," he said at a press conference Oct. 11. He added there is little room for media outlets "to delve into the content" of the pope's speeches.

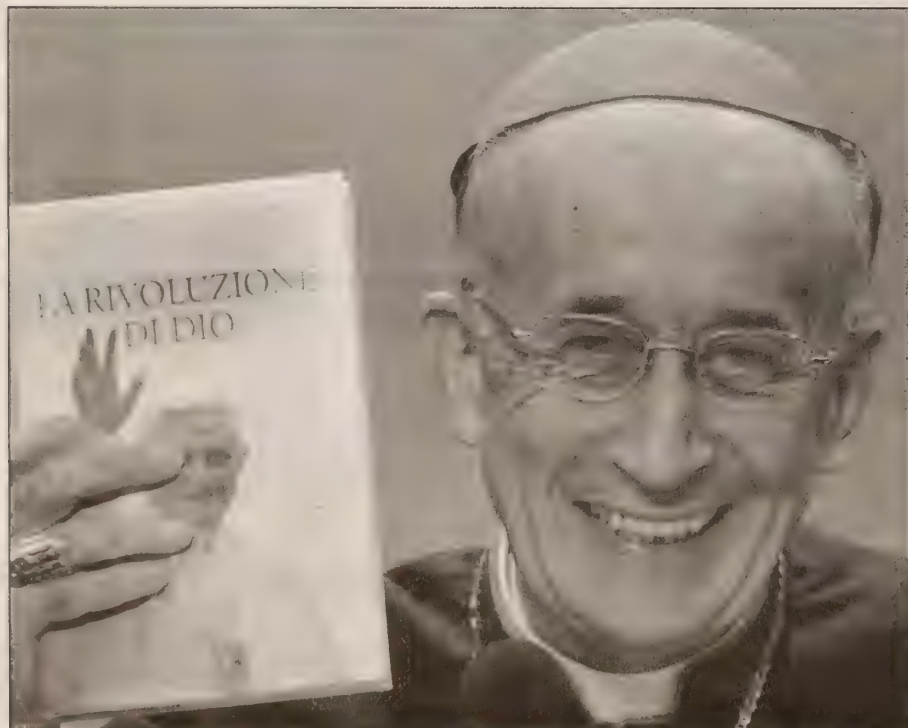
Father Claudio Rossini, head of the Vatican's publishing house, Libreria Editrice, said turning the 12 speeches the pope made in Cologne into a book helps "distribute the texts beyond the usual channels" of the Vatican's newspaper, L'Osservatore Romano, and the Vatican's television, CTV.

The pope's discourses are rich in teaching and instruction that "need to be read, reread and reread again patiently," Father Rossini told Catholic News Service.

Father Rossini said the Vatican wanted to see "how the market responds to this" before deciding if it would publish other key addresses in book form.

Cardinal Ruini, who wrote the book's introduction, said the collection of speeches represents a guidebook and "source of light" for Christian living.

The book's teachings show that the pope is "a great teacher of the faith and at the same time a shepherd who knows the path that will lead us into intimacy with God," he said.



CNS PHOTO BY ALESSIA GIULIANI, CATHOLIC PRESS PHOTO

Italian Cardinal Camillo Ruini of Rome holds Pope Benedict XVI's new book "God's Revolution," during a press conference at the Vatican Oct. 11. The book is a collection of talks the pope gave during his Aug. 18-21 visit to Cologne, Germany, for World Youth Day and other events, including meetings with representatives of Germany's Jewish and Muslim communities.

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: OCT. 30, 2005

Oct. 30, Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle A Readings:

- 1) Malachi 1:14 — 2:2, 8-10
Psalms 131:1, 2, 3
- 2) 1 Thessalonians 2:7-9, 13
- 3) Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12

Humility goes a long way

BY SHARON K. PERKINS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

I don't usually look to Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein for theological inspiration, but the first musical they wrote — "Oklahoma!" — features some lyrics sung by the matronly and wise Aunt Eller Murphy while trying to bring peace between farmer and rancher:

"I'd like to teach you all a little sayin', and learn the words by heart the way you should. I don't say I'm no better than anybody else, but I'll be dang'd if I ain't jist as good!"

I have often heard people propose variations on this saying as a good working definition of humility, a theme that runs throughout all the selected readings for this Sunday. The more I reflect on those readings, the more I think that Aunt Eller had it right — with a few qualifications.

Humility has been held as one of the great virtues indicating personal holiness; one need only look at the lives of the

saints for myriad examples. However, today's readings seem to be even more concerned with the importance of humility in religious leaders — not merely the ordained ones, but anyone responsible for the care of souls and the proclamation of the word of God.

The prophet Malachi curses those priests who injure worshipers by their deceptive practices, partial decisions and false instruction.

Jesus likewise exposes the hypocrisy of those scribes and Pharisees who use their positions of leadership to bring honor to themselves while excessively burdening those in their care.

The psalmist and St. Paul, however, provide a model and a remedy for such self-exaltation.

"My heart is not proud, nor are my eyes haughty," says the psalmist, and St. Paul maintains that it is because of the demeanor of the apostles — who had every right to impose their status but chose to serve others humbly — that the word of God was able to be favorably received.

Secure in their identities as God's beloved and Christ's followers, they neither debased themselves nor sought their own glorification but freely performed the words of Jesus: "The greatest among you must be your servant."

It is difficult to remain humble with those we lead. Our freely chosen, self-effacing attitude of service — especially toward those over whom we hold religious authority — opens the way for God's word to be heard and received.

Questions:

Over whom do you have authority? When has your leadership of them been self-centered or prideful? How will you practice humble service toward those you lead?

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 23-OCTOBER 29

Sunday (Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Exodus 22:20-26, 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10 Matthew 22:34-40; Monday (St. Anthony Mary Claret), Romans 8:12-17, Luke 13:10-17; Tuesday, Romans 8:18-25, Luke 13:18-21; Wednesday, Romans 8:26-30, Luke 13:22-30; Thursday, Romans 8:31-39, Luke 13:31-35; Friday (Sts. Simon and Jude), Ephesians 2:19-22, Luke 6:12-16; Saturday, Romans 11:1-2, 11-12, 25-29, Luke 14:1, 7-11.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 30-NOVEMBER 5

Sunday (Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time), Malachi 1:14-2:2, 8-10, 1 Thessalonians 2:7-9, 13, Matthew 23:1-12; Monday, Romans 11:29-36, Luke 14:12-14; Tuesday (All Saints), Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14, 1 John 3:1-3, Matthew 5:1-12; Wednesday (All Souls), Wisdom 3:1-9, Romans 5:5-11, Matthew 25:31-46; Thursday (St. Martin de Porres), Romans 14:7-12, Luke 15:1-10; Friday (St. Charles Borromeo), Romans 15:14-21, Luke 16:1-8; Saturday, Romans 16:3-9, 16, 22-27, Luke 16:9-15.

125,000 people will read these words this week!



Shouldn't they see YOUR COMPANY'S name here?

LOW ad rates - easy for small businesses and individuals, too!

Call (704) 370-3332 now!

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD



Coming soon:

A retirement lifestyle that will free you to enjoy every moment. Even if you happen to be doing nothing at the time.

Join us for lunch and learn more.

Tuesday, November 1st OR Tuesday, November 8th
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Forsyth Country Club

3101 Country Club Road, Winston-Salem, NC 27104

RSVP by Tuesday, October 25th to (336) 886-4103
or toll-free (866) 627-9343.



Having a plan for the future feels good. So does a retirement lifestyle that lets you stay in control, and nurtures your mind, body and spirit. Coming soon to High Point, North Carolina, Pennybyrn at Maryfield will give you this peace of mind, freeing you to enjoy everything more in an atmosphere dedicated to the spirit of graceful living. We invite you to join us for a delicious complimentary lunch and a brief presentation on the many benefits of this innovative, carefree lifestyle.

At Pennybyrn, you'll be able to put your worries about the future to rest... and sleep like a baby again!

Entry fees starting at \$115,400.

PENNYBYRN
at MARYFIELD

A Continuing Care Retirement Community

Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor Servants of The Mother of God

1315 Greensboro Road, High Point, NC 27260



A call worth taking



CNS PHOTO FROM PARAMOUNT

Orlando Bloom and Kirsten Dunst star in a "Elizabethtown," a sentimental, if not completely satisfying, romantic comedy drama about a disgraced sneaker designer (Bloom) who, after nearly sinking his employer's footwear empire and contemplating suicide, must retrieve the remains of his father — who died unexpectedly — in rural Kentucky. There he reconnects with his roots and, while en route, encounters a sunny, free-spirited flight attendant (Dunst) who brightens his view and appreciation of the world.

Despite a miscast Bloom and a baggy script, director Cameron Crowe's film celebrates family and love, imparting a warm and welcome message that, though full of risk, life is ultimately worth living.

An implied sexual encounter, an attempted suicide, a questionable (for Catholics) dispersal of ashes, and some rough and crude language. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

Cardinals of a different kind

Three baseball players reflect on their Catholic faith

BY JEAN M. SCHILDZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ST. LOUIS (CNS) — St. Louis Cardinals players David Eckstein, John Rodriguez and Jeff Suppan recently stepped up to the plate to talk about their Catholic faith.

In interviews with the *St. Louis Review*, archdiocesan newspaper, the Redbirds' shortstop, outfielder and pitcher, respectively, said their faith is very important to them. While they do not often tout their religion in public, they believe their actions on and off the field define them as Catholics.

All three professional athletes were born into the faith. Each goes to Mass regularly and has made prayer a key part of his daily life.

On Oct. 8 the Cardinals beat the San Diego Padres 7-4, to win a best-of-five series in the first round of the National League playoffs. They faced the Houston Astros for the National League

Championship Series.

Eckstein treats his faith like he plays shortstop — very seriously.

Being on the road so much and playing weekend games can play havoc with going to Mass, but Eckstein makes it a priority.

"I make sure I attend Mass every week," he said, recalling that the only time he has missed Mass during his five years in the majors was in Toronto. The team was there during the SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome) scare, and players could not leave the hotel except to play ball.

He also prays every day, including before every game. He asks for the grace "to be the best I can be, and be the best team player I can be to help the team be successful on that day."

When in St. Louis for a weekend series, Eckstein likes going to Mass at Busch Stadium. Mass is offered there on weekends for club personnel and stadium employees.

Black Catholics inspired at meeting

BLACK CATHOLIC, from page 1

"It was an excellent opportunity for me to meet and network with other black Catholic administrators from across the country," said Murdock.

"I learned so much about the programs other black Catholic ministries are conducting, their activities in their communities and their commitments to the mission of the office of black Catholic ministry — understanding and faith equals leadership and direction,"

she said.

NABCA provides a forum for black Catholics to gather and share their collective resources to address the spiritual needs, leadership issues and concerns facing the black communities it serves. The membership is comprised of laity, religious and clergy representing more than 60 dioceses throughout the United States.

The retreat opened with a spiritual session led by Sister Patricia Haley, a Sister of Charity and a founding member of the National Black Sisters' Conference. Sister Haley focused on "The Col-

laborative Leader: Listening to the Wisdom of God's People."

The meeting addressed issues related to recent NABCA congresses, the realities of ministering to black Catholics and the Catholic Church's response to hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Participants shared how their individual dioceses responded to the needs of the hurricane survivors on the Gulf Coast, where a large percentage of black Catholics reside. Participants were encouraged to continue seeking and welcoming black Catholic hurricane survivors into their parishes and to evangelize all survivors.

NABCA's actions focus on the Catholic Church of the United States. Every meeting provides the opportunity to proclaim the Word, heal and serve, worship and build and strengthen community.

Murdock will utilize much of what

was covered at the meeting for the African American Affairs Ministry.

"I came away with some wonderful ideas to enhance our forthcoming programs that will energize our communities," she said.

"The African American Affairs Ministry will continue to lend support to and be advocates for black people of African descent," said Murdock. "One of the goals of our strategic plan is to offer programs that educate all people with regard to our rich history in the Catholic Church, our heritage, culture and the wonderful gifts we bring to the community."

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on the African American Affairs Ministry, visit www.charlottediocese.org/aaam.html.

Elementary School Principal Archdiocese of Atlanta

St. Mary's Catholic School, an accredited school with a rich 60-year history wrapped in a new \$6 million facility, is accepting applications for the position of elementary school principal. The school enjoys a highly engaged parent base, an active parish of 1000 families, and broad community recognition and support.

St. Mary's is located in Rome, Georgia, a beautiful, vibrant town, one hour northwest of Atlanta. One of the South's best kept secrets, Rome is an established community with three colleges, symphony, theatre, and a warm and inviting atmosphere.

Energetic, creative leaders who will take our school to the next level of excellence, please apply. Active Catholics with a master's degree in educational administration (or its equivalent) and at least three years of demonstrated experience in administration will be considered. Handsome salary and benefits.

Please submit letter of interest, resume, three letters of reference and university credentials to:

Fr. Jim Miceli
St. Mary's Catholic Church
911 N. Broad Street
Rome, GA 30161

FULL TIME SENIOR STAFF ACCOUNTANT

The Diocese of Charlotte is seeking a full time Senior Staff Accountant. This position supervises a staff of three employees. Areas of responsibilities include overseeing monthly financial statement preparation, general ledger, accounts payable, cash receipts, payroll and budgeting.

Requirements include:

- Bachelors Degree in Accounting.
- At least four years experience in accounting preferably with a not-for-profit organization.
- Excellent computer skills - specifically with excel.
- Experience with Blackbaud software - a plus.
- Supervisory experience preferred.



Please send resume and salary history by November 1, 2005 to:

Stella Nell, Controller,
Diocese of Charlotte,
1123 South Church Street,
Charlotte, NC 28203-4003, or email to
sgnell@charlottediocese.org.

The Diocese of Charlotte is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT

COMMUNITY GROUP HOME MANAGER (adults): Live in (7 days on/7days off). Prepare/serve meals, transportation, recreation, cleaning, medical treatments, work goals. Requirements: HS/GED and group home and MR/DD experience. Apply in person: Holy Angels, Monday-Friday 8:30 am - 7 pm, 6600 Wilkinson Blvd., Belmont, NC. info@holyanimalsnc.org

SERVICES

PIANO TUNING & RESTORATION: Hi-Quality Used Pianos. PIANO CRAFT (336)

454-2000. Al Guecia, formerly of Steinway & Sons. IHM Parishioner.

EMERALD HOME REMODELING: NC Licensed General Contractor. Kitchens, Baths, Additions, Handyman services, etc. All size jobs completed. (704) 684-0301(T); (704) 719-0808(cell) for free consultation

FOR SALE

CD & POSTER OF THE EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS events offered for sale. Relive this uplifting spiritual event through the beautiful photographs of Vicki Dorsey. CD \$20; 9.5"x18" Poster \$15. Call (828) 586-0133 or e-mail: inspirationsbyvicki@yahoo.com; or send check to Vicki Dorsey, 6115 Skyland Drive, Sylva, NC 28779.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

The Archdiocese of Atlanta seeks an experienced principal to lead Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School, a SACS accredited college preparatory high school; co-educational, with 258 students and 35 faculty members. The School offers a challenging academic and co-curricular program to a diverse student body: 43% African American, 46% Caucasian and 11% other ethnic groups. Located in Fairburn, Georgia, 20 miles south of downtown Atlanta. Position requirements:

- Practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church;
- Educational Leadership Certification;
- Minimum of 3 years of successful Catholic secondary administrative experience;
- Excellent communication skills;
- Collaborative leadership style;
- Experience in fiscal management and institutional advancement;
- Commitment to teaching;
- Fair and consistent disciplinarian.



Negotiable and competitive salary; excellent benefits. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled. Send letter of interest, resume, university credentials, and names, addresses and telephone numbers of at least five references to:

Ruprecht and Associates
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811

Phone: 218-727-5150

E-mail: mruprcht@cpinternet.com

Classified ads bring results! Over 125,000 readers! Over 49,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org,

faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

IN THE NEWS

Sleepless nights for earthquake relief workers

EARTHQUAKE, from page 1

workers and officials were camped. They were spearheading the Indian church's relief work for the victims of the Oct. 8 earthquake that has claimed more than 1,300 lives on the Indian side of Kashmir. Officials estimated nearly 53,000 were killed in Pakistan.

When the church volunteers failed to return to the base camp at Baramula, about 35 miles from the remote mountain villages in the worst-hit Uri region, Father Kalappurayil phoned top army officials, who said the workers' school bus had not crossed the army checkpoints.

The tension grew and by midnight officials from the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India, Caritas India and the Jammu-Kashmir Diocese decided to venture out to search for the missing volunteers.

After procuring special permission from top army officials to drive during the night curfew, Father Kalappurayil drove the church officials to the mountainous region beyond Uri.

When they returned, dejected, after five hours, Sister Elaine Nazareth, superior of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary-run St. Joseph Hospital, was dumbfounded. Sister Nazareth had spent

the night eagerly awaiting the return of those missing: Father Susai Nathan, who led the church team; four nuns; several male volunteers; and a half-dozen Muslim nursing students from the Catholic hospital.

By the evening of Oct. 12, the volunteers had returned.

"We had no option but to stay back in the mountain. With pouring rains, we could not come down," said Father Nathan, who led the church volunteers to the remote villages at elevations of more than 8,000 feet.

After the volunteers split into three groups, Father Nathan said, his group hiked three hours along rocky pathways to reach Gwalan village, where no relief worker had been.

"It was a wonderful experience to stay with the villagers and spend the night in a partially damaged village house. We could feel the hard and difficult times they were undergoing," Father Nathan said.

Abhay Krunsha Kar, program officer of the U.S. bishops' overseas aid agency, Catholic Relief Services, and head of the group that went to Sangri village, said his team was "really touched by the hospitality of these people."

"Even in their suffering, they were concerned about our safety and did not allow us to walk down the mountains in heavy rains," he said.



CNS PHOTO BY ANTO AKKARA

Sister Liza Ignatius, a Franciscan Sister of Our Lady of Grace, attends to 3-month-old Amina in the mountain village of Sultan Daki, India, Oct. 13. Amina's mother died in the earthquake, but the child was found in the rubble four hours after the disaster. The nun, a medical doctor, is among half a dozen medical staff rushed to Kashmir from the Holy Family Hospital in New Delhi to serve earthquake victims in remote areas.

"I will never forget the night we spent with 30 villagers sitting crammed together in a damaged room (of the lone standing house in the village), chatting through the night," said Kar.

The third team, led by Sister Shiny, a member of the Franciscan Missionaries of

Mary who did not give her full name, had returned from Jabala village to the spot where the school bus had been parked.

"We waited and waited for (the other teams) and hoped they would come soon. So, we stayed in the bus the whole night in the cold," she said.

*Enjoy God's peace
and beauty in the
foothills!*

*Share the blessings
of this opportunity*

- Four riverfront homesites offered for sale, all with gated access and private drive
- In the Appalachian foothills, 1 hour west of Charlotte and 40 minutes from Asheville
- Designed by nature, home to abundant wildlife with majestic riverwalk
- Very large lots, 6 to 12 acres each, all with access to community barn
- Frontage on Second Broad River, with beautiful forest land and nature trails all accessible by foot and/or horseback
- Deeded access to 40 acres of pasture and more than ½ mile of riverfront
- Our Lady of the River grotto and Stations of the Cross



A unique opportunity, this property of 110 acres will be used as a retreat ranch for children suffering from cancer, and their families. Held by the Padre Pio Land Trust, it is being developed by Michael and Robin Hunter, Parishioners of Immaculate Conception in Rutherfordton and trustees of Janua Coeli Cancer Foundation. If you are interested in an ideal spot for your vacation home, or have any questions regarding this property, please contact Mike or Robin at (828) 429-8544, (828) 286-1998, or online at www.januacoelicanccerfoundation.com

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Churches: Don't ask to be reimbursed by the government for charity

In the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, many people have done extraordinary acts of generosity. Throughout the country churches have extended themselves to thousands of evacuees by providing housing, food, financial assistance and spiritual care.

For Christian churches this is not just a good deed. It is an essential part of our Gospel mission. Without this charity, we are not truly the followers of Jesus Christ and are not fulfilling his command to love our neighbor.

That is why I was distressed to read in the Washington Post Sept. 27 that FEMA was contemplating reimbursing churches and other faith-based groups for their charity to hurricane victims. This is a very bad idea, not only for the churches but for the government.

In the rush to redeem itself after its incompetent response to Hurricane Katrina, the federal government seems determined to throw money in every direction. But churches should not take this money for three reasons.

—First, it was charity, not a reimbursable government expense. Were we giving freely from our hearts and out of our substance, or were we giving with an eye toward getting reimbursed?

If churches take federal dollars, these acts of kindness become a government program, not a sacrifice made in the Lord's name and for the love of our brothers and sisters. When we do an act of charity, we should not look around for someone either to praise or reimburse us.

—Second, what happens next time? As sure as the sun rises in the morning there will be another natural disaster or humanitarian crisis. What then? Won't people be skeptical about giving and cynical about our motives? If churches, Catholic or otherwise, go to their people for support, the people might say: "Why should I give? You are just going to turn around and ask the federal government for reimbursement."

Government reimbursement will be a short-term gain, but a long-term loss.

—Third, it is an inappropriate en-

Parish Diary

FATHER PETER J. DALY
CNS COLUMNIST



tanglement of government and religion. I really do believe in the separation of church and state, not so much because it is good for the state but because it is very good for religion.

In general I agree that "he who pays the piper calls the tune." If the federal government pays the piper, it is only a matter of time before it will start calling the tune. Then in short order the Salvation Army will no longer be able to mention salvation. Catholic Charities will no longer be Catholic.

If we accept federal money for charity to hurricane victims, what will be the restrictions? Are we allowed to put Bibles and rosaries on cots in the shelters? Are we allowed to offer a prayer before serving meals? Are we allowed to offer religious services and prayers in shelters paid for by federal money? Can there be a chapel?

Some churches argue that they have 20 years of wear and tear on their facilities after housing evacuees. Good. They should wear it proudly: Jesus would be happy to see that kind of wear and tear.

The whole church, everywhere, should be willing to join together to help individual congregations bear relief expenses. My own parish has sent nearly \$20,000 to various churches along the Gulf Coast to help with hurricane expenses. That's how it should be done: church to church, not government to church.

We should not kid ourselves. We are not rendering a sacrifice to God if we ask Caesar to pay our bills. Once we invite Caesar into our temples to pay for our "charity," we may never get him out.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

Pope says people should love God, who is always forgiving

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — People should not fear God, thinking he is always ready to punish, but rather they should love him because he is always ready to forgive, Pope Benedict XVI said.

"God is not a relentless sovereign who condemns the guilty, but a loving father whom we must love not out of fear of punishment, but because of his goodness," the pope said Oct. 19 during his weekly general audience.

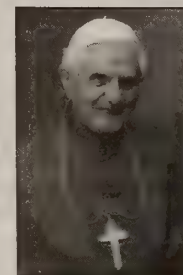
The pope's audience talk focused on Psalm 130, often called the "De Profundis" from the Latin version of the initial words of its first line: "Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice!"

Pope Benedict told an estimated 40,000 people gathered under a light drizzle in St. Peter's Square that the psalm is "a hymn to divine mercy and reconciliation between the sinner and the Lord, a God who is just but always ready to reveal himself as merciful and compassionate."

The psalm, he said, begins with a voice crying out from the depths of evil and guilt, a voice of awe-filled reverence in recognition of God's great power, but

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



also filled with trust in God's ability to forgive and save.

After the psalmist acknowledges his sin, he demonstrates his hope, "the certainty that God will pronounce a liberating word and cancel his sin," the pope said.

Pope Benedict said that for Catholics the psalm is "an invitation to confession and the gift of reconciliation."

He also quoted St. Ambrose who said, "Never lose hope in divine forgiveness, however great your sin. With God there can always be a change of heart if you acknowledge your offense."

At the end of the audience, the pope blessed a new statue placed in a niche on the exterior of St. Peter's Basilica. The statue is of St. Mariana de Jesus Paredes Flores, Ecuador's first saint.

The jigsaw puzzle of life

Games can reveal the mysteries of life, faith

I was struggling with a jigsaw puzzle yesterday, trying to make pieces that sure looked like they should fit together actually merge.

All of a sudden I realized in a blinding epiphany of spiritual insight (I might have heard drum rolls augmented by thunder in the distance) that jigsaw puzzles are a most excellent metaphor for life and faith.

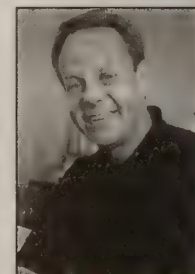
OK, not necessarily the jigsaws with only nine huge pieces or the sappy ones of cats sleeping on a country porch next to a rocking chair, but the great religious stuff would be the ones of Alpine mountains or Gothic cathedrals.

Just think of it. We are given all these pieces of life that seem like they should fit together, but when you throw them out onto the table of time you can't tell what the heck they are supposed to be, much less how they fit together. So you start looking for the pieces that have straight edges in the hope they will at least create a border within which the other pieces can be corralled.

But you desperately need the picture on the box to give you guidance. That's our Catholic faith, see? We need the vision, the goal, the guiding principle.

Uncle Dan

DAN MORRIS
CNS COLUMNIST



Think of the pieces with the straight edges as natural law. But we need more. We need that illustration on the box. Without it, the puzzle (a.k.a. as "life") is exponentially more difficult. We are left fiddling with puzzle pieces that tease and taunt but do not really belong together or even fit or even merge without whacking them with the soup spoon of life.

Pretty cool, eh? One can think of the illustration on the box as the catechism, or the teachings of the church, or the tradition of the church, or the Ten Commandments backed up by the Beatitudes, or your fourth grader teacher Sister Mary Bernadette.

So if you think of those little blue pieces as the myriad of little decisions we have to make in a day and how difficult that would be without the guidance of a moral sense, then don't you think a jigsaw puzzle is just like life and that the picture on the box is like the moral compass of faith?

Comments are welcome. E-mail Uncle Dan at cnsuncle01@yahoo.com.

That first job and the reality of work

Take pride in your work, no matter how trivial

I started looking for an after-school job only days after I turned 16. I found one quickly, and a week later I was dressed in a colorful vest at my very own checkout counter in a local discount department store, helping the good residents of my town go home with new clothes and bottles of Clorox.

I took my first paycheck to the bank and cashed my haul. Comparatively, it wasn't much, but for a girl whose previous employment was periodic baby-sitting, the paycheck was a golden promise of mall spree and movie matinees.

It didn't quite work out that way.

Because I was working four days a week, my friends went to the mall without me. And because my boss scheduled me for shifts that ran from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m., I missed most movies and didn't have time to go shopping for clothes and CDs as I'd hoped to do. The challenge of the job, which seemed so interesting when I was learning about processing coupons, running credit cards and approving tax-free purchases, dropped off after a week or two.

None of the cashiers really talked that much or were even friendly to one another; we came, worked and left. The front-end supervisor barked at us and had little patience for screw-ups. It was quite different from the gentle, more ac-

Coming of Age

KAREN DIETLEIN
OSBORNE
CNS COLUMNIST



commodating treatment we got at school — yes, even in detention where you served your time and the offense was forgotten. Here, the wrong mistake could get you fired.

The reality of work certainly didn't line up with what I'd expected.

They don't teach you about the minutiae of daily job life at school. Even with the most fun, most interesting and most "fulfilling" jobs out there, people still have to deal with mounds of drudge work and difficult days. Even the most important CEOs have to spend hours sitting in meetings. Recording artists pull grueling 16-hour days in the studio. Doctors and nurses save lives, yes, but that's between the mounds of paperwork they have to complete.

I've held a number of jobs including working in a bookstore, flipping burgers and teaching grammar at my college's writing center. They all shared one par-

ticular quality: Despite the stellar moments each job promised, the day-to-day slog could be overwhelmingly dull if I allowed it to be.

As I scanned item after item and dealt with difficult customers, I realized that the job wasn't going to change; I would have to.

If the job didn't challenge me, I thought, I'd have to create the challenges myself. So I made a game out of how many customers I could process in one hour, competed with myself to sell more of this or of that, and increased my transaction accuracy level so I didn't have to deal with the front-end supervisor. On my one-year anniversary, the boss was pleased with my performance, and I got a raise.

I also coordinated my schedule with the store's human resources manager so that I didn't have to work evenings during the week. Instead, I could see my friends, do my homework and spend some quality time at the Cineplex. I also ramped up my efforts to be friendly to my socially reticent co-workers, and it paid off: I'm still friends with one of them nearly 10 years later.

Whether you're scooping ice cream, pumping gas or reigning as king of the checkout line, it's something to remember: Work may be dull at times, but it doesn't have to be boring.

How disasters affect us

The Human Side

FATHER
EUGENE HEMRICK
CNS COLUMNIST



Many people I know are wondering aloud about a world that seems to be torn asunder by disasters.

More than 300,000 people have been killed or orphaned by the Dec. 26 tsunami, hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the mudslides in Central America and the recent earthquake in Pakistan, India and Afghanistan.

Add to this the terrorist alerts, the possibility of a bird-flu plague as devastating as the Black Death and daily reports of people being blown up by suicide bombers, and is it any wonder that so many people are fearful?

I have to wonder if these catastrophic events are one reason we are seeing a surge in the suicide rate of college students. Young people are very sensitive, coming at life with enthusiasm and freshness. The disadvantage in this is that they haven't experienced enough of life to be able to sort it out and get control over its darker side.

Some evangelists are using these ominous occasions to say we aren't living life according to the Ten Commandments. Others won't go this far, but they hold that God's hand is behind the disasters and is prompting us to pray more.

I believe there is another dimension to disasters that will help us better understand where God is in a world that seems to be coming apart.

One psalm reads: "I am like a dead man, forgotten, like a thing to be thrown away. I have heard the slander of the crowd. Fear is all around me. ... But as for me, I trust in you, Lord. I say: 'You are my God.'"

When dark events crash upon us, we feel as if we are like the psalm's "dead man, forgotten." When this happens, it is as if all our strength has left us. A feeling of having lost control over our own life sets in. Worse than this, fear creates a sense of loneliness, as if we are the only ones in its grip.

On the other side of this spectrum of fear is faith, a spirit that engenders strength and says to us: "You aren't alone. God is with you. When you embrace him nothing can break your spirit. Faith is your strength, your companion, your means of taking control!"

Christ was forever reminding us to battle fear with faith. History reminds us that disasters have always been part of life in this world and that the world has not quite fallen apart. With faith, humankind met the challenges and overcame them.

The times we live in are challenging us to follow the wisdom of Christ and of history. Now is the time to raise our faith to a new level. With the power of faith, nothing should break our spirit.

What a will can do for you

There are at least six things a well crafted will can do for you.

1. A will can let you close the books on your earthly stewardship responsibilities. You've made careful decisions to conserve your estate during life and you naturally want to do the same at death.

Through your will, you can wrap up your affairs and "put your house in order."

2. A will can help you express your love and thoughtfulness to others.

When a person dies without a will, those who are left behind must sort out the estate and make difficult decisions without the necessary preparation. Uncertainties arise. Disagreements develop. The grieving process is compounded by frustration.

What a difference there is when the bereaved are left with funeral instructions, an inventory list and a well crafted will.

3. A will can remind your loved ones of your basic beliefs and commitments, and can affirm your guiding principles. Your words can provide comfort and encouragement.

The way you distribute your estate can also express your commitments. Bequests to family members show your love and concern for their welfare. And bequests to organizations speak volumes about your values.

4. A will can ensure that your desires are fulfilled.

If you have dependent children, you

can designate who will care for them. You can specify the person who will handle the closing of your estate. You can select the trustee to oversee one or more trusts.

You can time the distribution of gifts to children and grandchildren. You can designate the giving of specific items to family members and friends. You can make provisions to support charitable organizations.

A will puts you in the driver's seat and allows you to make decisions according to your values, concerns and commitments.

5. A will can conserve your assets, ensuring that more funds are available to meet your objectives.

A will may also reduce the administrative costs of probate and reduce estate taxes. Wise stewardship means making sure your assets go as far as possible.

6. A will can provide peace of mind. You can relax in the knowledge that your temporal affairs are in order. You have cared for those persons and those concerns close to your heart. Your will can also bring a sense of peace and security to others.

With all these benefits, one might expect that every person would have a will. But the opposite is true. About half of all Americans die without a will. And many of those wills are out of date or invalid.

Guest Column

JUDY SMITH
GUEST COLUMNIST



For most people, making a will is like preparing a tax return — they put it off as long as they can. You may recognize some of these excuses: "It's too expensive"; "I can't handle the decisions"; "My estate is too small"; "It will hasten my death"; "I don't have time"; "I don't know who to name as my executor or as a trustee or as the guardian for my children"; "I don't know where all my records are"; "I'll do it later."

Have you been putting off preparing a will? Do you have an outdated will? Now is a good time to take care of this.

Give your attorney a call today and make an appointment. Sound professional advice will contribute to your peace of mind and that of your family.

Judy Smith is the director of planned giving for the Diocese of Charlotte. Contact her at (704) 370-3347.

PARISH PROFILE

Brevard parish is heart of Catholic community in Transylvania County



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Sacred Heart Church in Brevard has been the spiritual home for many Catholics in Transylvania County for nearly 60 years.

BREVARD — The story of Sacred Heart Church is rooted in the history of the Catholics who pioneered the mountainous region of western North Carolina. The earliest known Catholic presence in Transylvania County can be traced to 1820. At that time, about the nearest Catholic community was far away in Charleston, S.C.

The first permanent settlement occurred in what is now the Sapphire-Whitewater area when Dr. Christopher Grimshawe moved there in the 1890s from the Piedmont area of South Carolina. West Virginian Louis Carr arrived in 1913 to establish a sawmill and a lumber company in the heavily forested region.

Shortly thereafter, Rosemarie Morris, raised Catholic by her convert mother, Mary Helen Young, moved with her family from the Nantahala area to Brevard. Today, the Morris family has deep ancestral ties to the Young, Queen and Nimrod Jarrett families who still inhabit the region.

The establishment of paper mills in Depression-plagued 1938 was a financial boon to the area. The mills attracted job seekers, Catholics among them, who came from around the country. For these early arrivals, the weekly trip to Immaculate Conception Church in Hendersonville was the road to maintaining their faith.

Within a year, however, the growing number of Catholics in the Brevard area warranted the establishment of a mission staffed by the Hendersonville priests. For the next 10 years, Mass was celebrated in civic halls, bank buildings and private residences.

The organization of Catholics in Transylvania County in 1946, later named the Brevard Catholic Society, witnessed the vision that was to become Sacred Heart Church. Representatives from the Catholic community petitioned then-Bishop Vincent S. Waters of Raleigh for a parish of their own. Through fund-raisers such as spaghetti dinners, dance and card parties, along with the generosity of benefactors, the local faithful scraped together enough money to purchase land and start design and construction.

Bishop Waters dedicated the original Sacred Heart Church on Aug. 28, 1949. The 30 founding families who undertook the challenge to form as a parish and build the first church are commemorated on a bronze plaque located in the entry to the current church building.

Growth of the parish family continued, and by the early 1960s, it was necessary to expand. A new wing was added in 1965 but even this larger structure was soon too small. The nucleus of a small but growing Catholic presence was felt in Cashiers and Sapphire Valley,

SACRED HEART CHURCH

4 Brian Berg Lane
Brevard, NC 28712
(828) 883-9572

Vicariate: Asheville

Pastor: Father Carl T. Del Giudice

Permanent Deacons: Deacon John J.

Burke, Deacon Patrick Crosby

Number of Households: 606



Father Carl T. Del Giudice

and in 1972, under the pastoral leadership of Father Edward Sheridan, St. Jude Chapel was built and dedicated.

Planning for the current church building on Brian Berg Lane was initiated in 1984. Architect and parishioner Al Platt designed the new complex, created to meet the spiritual, social and formation needs of the growing parish. On Nov. 27, 1988, then-Bishop John F. Donoghue dedicated the new church.

The parish steadily continued to grow and the demands of faith forma-

tion, administration and fellowship during the pastorate of Father Carl T. Del Giudice lead to the planning, design, construction and the eventual dedication of the Parish Life Center in 1998.

On Aug. 21, 1999, Sacred Heart parishioners celebrated the church's 50th anniversary with more than 450 parishioners, young and old, attending a Mass with then-Bishop William G. Curlin.

"We're celebrating the events of our lives," Father Del Giudice, said at the celebration. He also took the opportunity to pay tribute to "the very hard work, courage and fortitude that built the community we have here."

A considerable number of the parishioners devote themselves to various ecumenical and interfaith organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, S.A.F.E., Rise and Shine, and Transylvania Christian Ministries Association, a local charity outreach. At this organization, known locally as Sharing House, parishioners oversee the distribution of donated food and clothing to needy families.

At the S.A.F.E. house, volunteers care for battered women. At Rise and Shine, they serve as volunteer counselors and help school children after school with their lessons.

Sacred Heart Church enjoys a steady annual growth rate, of which a considerable number are not only retirees, but also young immigrants from Mexico and other Latin American countries. All are becoming active and committed members of the parish family.

In order to meet the faith demands of this growing parish family, four Masses are offered each weekend including one celebrated in Spanish. Parallel faith formation tracks are offered for both English-speaking and Spanish-speaking children, youth and adults.

Staff Writer Karen A. Evans contributed to this article.

Give the unforgettable gift! Enrich your own spiritual life!

Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise —

"The Footsteps of Paul"
Greece and Turkey

May 11-21, 2006



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,849 for inside cabin (before 1/31/06) - includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

Istanbul — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace

Mykonos — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels

Patmos — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation

Kusadasi & Ephesus — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites

Rhodes — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith

Crete — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion

Santorini — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?

TASTEFULLY YOURS
CATERING
around the world experience...
Delicious Menus for You and Your Guests
Tastefully Yours Catering
888 4 Church Street • Suite A • Charlotte, NC 28204
704.632.8040 • tastefullyyours.com
Located in Charlotte • Southend

Full Service Caterer
Holiday Parties
Receptions
Rehearsal Dinners
Engagement Parties
Bridal Showers
Spa Parties
Visit our cafe for a sampling of the possibilities!
A Wedding License is required for all events.



Dawn on the horizon

CSS program aids
grandparent
caregivers

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Margie Cooper walks with the slow, steady pace of a woman who feels each of her 80-some years. Born at a time when "those things weren't written down," she has to guess at her exact age.

She raised five children of her own. Eleven years ago, she started over with her great-granddaughter, Quenisha. Two years ago, she took in another granddaughter, Alexi.

Quenisha lived in foster care for the first eight months of her life, until she came to live with Cooper. Alexi has been with Cooper and Quenisha since birth. Cooper has no idea where Alexi's parents are.

Like most seniors, Cooper lives on a fixed income, and

See HORIZONS, page 9



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Margie Cooper, center, sits with her great-granddaughter, Quenisha (left) and her granddaughter, Alexi (right) in their apartment in Charlotte. Cooper, who has raised each of the girls since they were less than a year old, now gets assistance from New Horizons for Children and Families, a new program operated by Catholic Social Services in the Diocese of Charlotte (CSS), in partnership with Smart Start of Mecklenburg County.

Contrary to reports, Harriet Miers was not raised as a Catholic

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON —

Harriet Miers was not raised as a Catholic.

Catholic Church records and the White House both refute what has become a boilerplate part of discussions about Miers, the White House general counsel and nominee for the Supreme Court.

News stories, commentaries and editorials nationwide

See MIERS, page 5

Doing justice to God's creation

BY JOANITA M.
NELLENBACH
CORRESPONDENT

MAGGIE VALLEY —

Many humans have a relationship to God, but not to the earth God created, according to Sacred Heart of Mary Sister Clare McBrien.

"God acts within creation," she said. "Thinking of God as outside creation implies God as a ruler. God is in everything, thus everything is holy."

Speaking at the Bishop Begley Conference on Appalachia II: "Environmental Justice and Living Sustainably," Sister McBrien continued, "Now we are seeing that humans are part of creation, within creation,

See CONFERENCE, page 8



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI waves as he arrives to celebrate the canonization Mass of five new saints in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican Oct. 23. The pope formally ended the Year of the Eucharist at the Mass.

Synod closes with strong emphasis on eucharistic renewal

BY JOHN THAVIS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — The Synod of Bishops closed with a strong call for eucharistic renewal, urging a deeper understanding of the Eucharist among the world's Catholics but no major changes in church rules on priestly celibacy or shared Communion.

Pope Benedict XVI, who presided over the three-week assembly, formally closed the synod Oct. 23 with a Mass in St.

Peter's Square. He thanked the more than 250 bishops for their input and invited Catholics to contemplate the Eucharist as the key to revitalizing their faith.

Catholics should also understand that "no dichotomy is admissible between faith and life," he said.

The pope expressed his deep sadness that four Chinese members of the synod were not

See SYNOD, page 4

Year of the Eucharist
Adoration List

| PAGE 5

Culture Watch

Book looks at history of prayer
in U.S., 'North Country'

| PAGES 6-7

Perspectives

Making a happy marriage,****
clichés in the media

| PAGES 10-11

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

THE BATTLE FOR SUNDAY



CNS PHOTO BY KAREN CALLAWAY, NORTHWEST INDIANA CATHOLIC

Pete Nicksic battles for the ball against Brian Keilman at a soccer game in St. John, Ind. Seeking to restore a balance to family life, a parents' group hopes to recapture Sunday as a day for families, not organized sports.

Balance4Success project seeks to keep Sundays for family

ST. PAUL, Minn. (CNS) — Seeking to restore balance to family life, a parents' group in Minnesota hopes to recapture Sunday as a day for families, not organized sports.

"Coaches are interested in scheduling as much play time as they possibly can," said Andrea Grazzini Walstrom, founder of Balance4Success. "Sunday is just another day they can use to get kids out playing."

The Balance4Success initiative "Taking Back Sunday" seeks a boycott of sports practices, games and tournaments scheduled on Sundays.

"We're just trying to force the athletic system to think a little differently," said Terrie Pearson, a parishioner at Mary, Mother of the Church in Burnsville. "It has gotten out of hand. They're just kids."

Sunday sports steal valuable time from the family, said Grazzini Walstrom. Although sports can bring "great benefits" for children, such as social skills and lessons in responsibility and leadership, "those aren't the only skills we want them to have. We want them to understand family connectivity," she said.

In the midst of their children's jam-packed schedules, families struggle to find time together. University of Minnesota professor Bill Doherty calls this phenomenon "overscheduled kids and underconnected families."

Parents involved in Balance4Success suspect that other parents want more family time but lack the courage or sup-

port to oppose the scheduling.

"It's hard to speak up — it seems like you're being selfish and denying your child an opportunity," Doherty said. "Parents have a hard time doing that if they think they're the only ones. We're trying to empower people to know that there are a lot of folks who are concerned."

While hoping to reach out to like-minded parents, Balance4Success is not directly trying to change any parent's mind.

Grazzini Walstrom is realistic about the boycott's consequences. While she hopes teams will stop holding games and practices on Sundays, she knows some will ask the boycotting players to leave.

A parishioner at St. Thomas Becket Church in Eagan, Paul Caron said hockey is part of the family time he spends with his three boys. "I don't see a problem with balancing both," he said.

Families are not the only ones struggling to find time on Sundays amid sports schedules. Many churches are having difficulty scheduling youth events, Grazzini Walstrom said.

Churches "have to build faith formation around sports, and they think that's backward," she said. "They think that faith and family should come before sports. But, unfortunately, in our culture that is not what is happening."

Bonnie Serio, faith formation coordinator at St. John Neumann in Eagan, said sports leagues conflict with youth activity scheduling all week long. "The travel leagues are killing us," she said.

Programs funded by California institute offer hope after tsunami

DALY CITY, Calif. — In Colachel, India, \$7,000 builds a home to replace one destroyed by December's tsunami.

Thanks to the Catholic-run Seton Institute in California, 20 new houses have been completed for families. The institute, which funds health care projects in impoverished countries, is also providing skill-building classes.

But even more importantly, hope is rising in the tsunami-affected region, said Sister Flory Paraniham, who thanked the institute for raising \$1 million in tsunami relief funds.

"The world came together," said Sister Flory, a Sister of St. Anne whose order conducts educational programs in sewing and computer skills for widows, young girls and expectant mothers who lost everything to the sea.

Although "recovery will take years," she said, "a beginning has been made."

Women in programs funded by the Seton Institute receive a year of free skills training. In the craft and sewing programs,

items are sold and the money is kept in trust for when the women leave the program. Then, each woman is given a sewing machine, "and after that they will be able to stand on their own," Sister Flory said.

"Everything was not lost in the tsunami, although in those days, it felt as if it were. Individuals at that time asked me, 'Where is my future? What will happen to me?' and I had no answers," Sister Flory said.

"Now I can say, 'There is an answer,' she added. "Thanks to Seton Institute, lives are being rebuilt."

The institute, based in Daly City, recently announced funding totaling \$60,000 to five health projects in Poland, Uganda, Rwanda, Liberia and Haiti.

"We are always looking for new, worthy health care projects in disadvantaged countries where Catholic sisters are leveraging a small amount of money into a very large return," said Sister Joyce Weller, a Daughter of Charity who chairs the board of Seton Institute.

Diocesan planner

BOONE VICARIATE

NORTH WILKESBORO — A *Catholic Scripture Study* group is beginning at St. John Baptiste de La Salle Church, 275 CC Wright School Rd. Visit www.catholicscripturestudy.com for more information. The first class is Nov. 2, 7-8:30 p.m. Please call Rob Hicks at (336) 957-7193 for more information or if you plan to attend.

BOONE — Father David Valtierra of the Oratory in Rock Hill will speak at St. Elizabeth Church, 259 Pilgrims Way, Nov. 5 on "Women in the Bible: Their Stories and Spirituality." This will be the seventh installment in his annual "A Day with Scripture" series. The program will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, contact the church office at (828) 264-8338.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., will host a *Christian Coffeehouse* Nov. 5 at 7:30 p.m. Single and married adults are invited for an evening of contemporary Christian music, food and fellowship. For more information, call Kathy Bartlett at (704) 400-2213.

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., invites you to a presentation by the *Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation* (HCEF), a charity supporting Catholics in the Holy Land. The presentation will be Nov. 6 at 7 p.m. in the Banquet Room of the New Life Center. The presentation will also focus on ways to become more involved in HCEF's programs, including the Children's Peace Project, a program that brings 8th graders from the Holy

Land to the United States. For more information, please visit HCEF's website at www.hcef.org or contact Jane Balbirnie at (704) 544-3372.

CHARLOTTE — *Theology on Tap* will meet Nov. 8 at 6:30 p.m. at Pepparoni's Pizza in Park Road Shopping Center. Father Timothy Reid will discuss "Catholicism in our Daily Lives." Father Conrad Hoover will discuss "Catholicism & Other Faiths" Nov. 15 at 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact Catrina Conway at (704) 665-7374.

CHARLOTTE — *Christians in Career Transition*, a support group for those whose job status is causing them to seek employment. Sessions include interactive discussions on networking, resumes and interview skills. The group meets the first and third Monday of each month, 7-9 p.m. in room 132 of the New Life Center at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy. Please call Jack Rueckel at (704) 341-8449 for more information.

CHARLOTTE — The *St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order* gathers the first Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. at Our Lady of Consolation Church, 2301 Statesville Ave. Those interested in learning more about the SFO and the Franciscan way of life are invited to attend. For more information, call Tom O'Loughlin at (704) 947-7235.

CHARLOTTE — The *Happy Timers* of St. Ann Church meet the first Wednesday of each month with a luncheon and program at 1 p.m. in the Msgr. Allen Center, 3635 Park Rd. All adults age 55 and older are welcome. For more information, call Charles Nesto at (704) 398-0879.

GASTONIA VICARIATE

BELMONT — *First Saturday Devotions* take place on the first Saturday of each month at Belmont Abbey Basilica, 100 Belmont-Mount Holly Rd. Devotion begins at 9:30 a.m. with the

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-mail: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

OCTOBER 28, 2005
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 4

The *Catholic News & Herald*, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The *Catholic News & Herald* reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The *Catholic News & Herald*, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Pope Benedict's first encyclical finished, to be released in December

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has finished writing his first encyclical and is expected to release it in early December, Vatican sources said. The sources told Catholic News Service Oct. 20 that the encyclical was a 46-page spiritual meditation focusing in large part on "eros" (love) and "logos" (the word) and their relationship to the person of Christ. The pope worked on the encyclical during his summer stay at the papal residence outside Rome. The text was being translated into various languages, including English, the sources said. In two articles written before his election and published in a recent issue of the magazine *Communio*, Pope Benedict wrote about the unity of the word and love, as personified in Christ. He highlighted the importance of the personal encounter with Christ, which stirs up love, and said love of God helps define

recitation of the rosary, followed by reconciliation and Mass. For more information, call Phil or Terri at (704) 888-6050.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — The *Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians of Guilford County* will gather for the monthly meeting Nov. 1, the feast of All Saints, at St. Benedict Church, 109 West Smith St., for the 12:15 p.m. Mass. Members will gather for lunch at Ganache Cafe after Mass. Any questions can be directed to Mary Giff at (336) 855-7014.

GREENSBORO — The *Greensboro Theology on Tap* will meet Nov. 3 and 10 at 7 p.m. at Coopers Ale House, 5340 West Market St. There will be great speakers, excellent food and conversation. TOT will have a food drive to benefit Urban Ministry. Non-perishable items will be collected each Thursday. For more information, e-mail greensborotot@yahoo.com or call Deb at (336) 286-3687.

GREENSBORO — The *Reemployment Support Group* of St. Paul the Apostle Church will meet Nov. 3, 7:30-9 p.m., in Room 8 of the Parish Life Center, 2715 Horse Pen Creek Rd. If you are currently out of work or looking to make a career change, join us for encouragement, support and informative topics to help you in your job search. For more information, call Colleen Assal at (336) 294-4696, ext. 226.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

MOORESVILLE — One of the most important aspects of parenting is the ability to set healthy boundaries with teenagers. Shannon Wilson, family therapist, will present *Parents, Teens and Boundaries: How to Draw the Line* Nov. 12, 1-4 p.m., at St. Therese Church, 217 Brawley School Rd. This workshop will teach parents practical strategies for boundary setting to help them deal better with avoiding conflict, resolving

the correct idea of human autonomy. He also wrote that Christ as "logos made flesh" implied reconciliation between supernatural revelation and reason.

Jesuit working for literacy in India wins \$1 million Opus Prize

MILWAUKEE (CNS) — A Jesuit priest working in India to bring books and teachers to the desperately poor is the 2005 recipient of the \$1 million Opus Prize. Jesuit Father Trevor Miranda heads Reach Education Action Program, founded in Mumbai, India, which has opened more than 450 literacy centers in just six years. The organization's goal, the priest said, is to bring literacy to "every street, pavement, slum, hilltop (and) tribal village, to bring about social transformation." The Opus Prize is given annually to individuals or organizations of any religious background that demonstrate innovative strategies to solve deeply rooted community problems in a

problems and issues, and establishing a mutual foundation of love and respect. For more information, call Dave Conklin at (704) 664-7762, ext. 108.

SALISBURY — Sacred Heart Church, 128 N. Fulton St., celebrates a *Charismatic and Healing Mass* the first Sunday of each month at 4 p.m. Prayer and worship with prayer teams will be available at 3 p.m., and a potluck dinner will follow the Mass. Father John Putnam, pastor, will be the celebrant. For further information, call Bill Owens at (704) 639-9837.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

CLEMMONS — Msgr. Mauricio West will celebrate a *Healing Mass* at Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd., Nov. 7 at 7:30 p.m. Individual prayer for healing will follow Mass. For more information, contact the church office at (336) 778-0600.

WINSTON-SALEM — The *Compassionate Care-Givers* meet every first, third, and fifth Thursdays of each month at St. Benedict the Moor Church, 1625 East 12th St. This group provides affirmation, support and prayer for people who have cared for and are caring for loved ones living with Alzheimer's and any other chronic illnesses. For more information, call Sister Larretta Rivera-Williams at (336) 725-9200.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 15 days prior to the event date in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

way that fosters personal responsibility and independence. The foundation is a philanthropy established by the Opus Group, a commercial real estate development company based in Minnetonka, Minn., that contributes 10 percent of its pretax profits to community and religious organizations.

Water-damaged Xavier University in New Orleans plans to reopen

WASHINGTON (CNS) — When Norman Francis was a freshman at Xavier University in New Orleans in 1948, his work-study scholarship landed him the job of repairing damaged books in the university library. These days, Francis, who has been Xavier's president for nearly four decades, is once again fixing things, although this time on

a colossal scale: overseeing the repair of the entire university. The library books, damaged when the library filled with 6 feet of water in Hurricane Katrina, are just one of his concerns because nearly every campus building was waterlogged during the Aug. 29 storm and the massive flooding that followed. An early estimate of the recovery price tag, including reconstruction, faculty salaries and student financial aid, was about \$90 million. Finding the money to pay for the loss is now the daunting task before school officials. Xavier, the country's only historically black Catholic university, does not have the large endowment that larger universities do. Instead, it has a \$50 million endowment primarily restricted for scholarships. Eighty-five percent of its student body receives financial aid. The school's insurance will cover wind damage but not the extensive water damage on the campus.

Rebirth of Christian faith in former Communist republic

CNS PHOTO BY FATHER PAUL WICKER

Children throw flowers in front of a procession marking the 70th anniversary of a priest's ordination in Miastkowka, Ukraine. Father Paul Wicker, pastor of Holy Apostles Church in Colorado Springs, Colo., brought an important message back to Catholics from his trip to Ukraine: Celebrate your faith and embrace the Eucharist. He spent six weeks in the former Soviet republic, which is enjoying a political and, for Catholics, religious rebirth.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Oct. 30 — 2 p.m. Mass
Diocesan Celebration in honor of Marriage Anniversaries
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Charlotte

Nov. 3 — 6 p.m.
Friends of Seminarians Dinner
Bishop's residence, Charlotte

Nov. 5 — 5 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Charlotte

Nov. 6 — 5 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. Francis of Assisi Church, Jefferson

Nov. 7 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
Immaculate Conception Church, Hendersonville

Nov. 8 — 11 a.m.
Presbyteral Council Meeting
Pastoral Center, Charlotte

SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL

Dec. 8 will mark the 40th anniversary of the close of the Second Vatican Council.

In the coming weeks, *The Catholic News & Herald* will feature a variety of stories looking back on the council and the impact it has had on the Catholic Church throughout the past four decades.

On page 10 of this week's issue, Father John Catoir highlights what were, in his opinion, the major accomplishments of the council.

Synod closes with eucharistic emphasis

SYNOD, from page 1

allowed to travel to Rome for the assembly and said the church in China was still on a "suffering path."

On Oct. 22 the synod handed the pope a list of 50 propositions, or final recommendations, which acknowledged a priest shortage in some parts of the world but said eliminating priestly celibacy and ordaining married men were not the solution.

"I think it is significant that there has been a massive restatement of the tradition in the Latin Church of mandatory celibacy for priests," Australian Cardinal George Pell of Sydney told reporters.

In an unusual move, the pope immediately ordered the propositions published; normally they are considered confidential. He said he would use the bishops' recommendations in preparing his own document sometime in the future.

The synod also published a final message, which asked Catholics to allow the Eucharist to transform their lives and the life of the world.

The message expressed pastoral concern and sadness for the situation of Catholics who have divorced and remarried civilly without an annulment, but offered no relaxation in church rules that prohibit them from receiving Communion.

The synod's propositions echoed that statement, but suggested that some margin of flexibility might be found in further study of church law on the conditions for annulments.

The status of divorced and remarried Catholics was one of several sensitive pastoral issues raised by bishops on the synod floor, leading some to expect the synod to call for revision of church policies. But in the end the assembly recommended no significant changes.

Instead, the synod:

- Praised the value of priestly celibacy and called for a greater push in vocations as the answer to the priest shortage. It said ordaining married men in the Latin church was "a road not to follow."

- Reaffirmed that shared Communion with non-Catholic Christians "is generally not possible" and said an "ecumenical concelebration" of the Eucharist would be even more objectionable.

At a closing press conference, French Archbishop Roland Minnerath of Dijon, the synod's special secretary, said it was a mistake to have expected major changes on issues like divorced Catholics.

"Obviously, the aim of the synod is not to introduce doctrinal or disciplinary innovations in the life of the church, but to

renew pastoral support for these situations," he said.

"We cannot change the rules," he said.

Overall, the synod offered a strong endorsement of the liturgical reforms of the Second Vatican Council, saying they had greatly benefited the church. Abuses have occurred in the past, but have substantially diminished today, it said.

Despite recent speculation over wider latitude for celebrating the pre-Vatican II Tridentine Mass, the synod's final documents did not even mention that possibility.

The synod encouraged promotion of eucharistic adoration, but stressed that the practice should be seen in relation to Mass.

To promote better Mass attendance, the bishops recommended better liturgies, strong preaching and improved education of Catholics in their understanding of the Eucharist.

They also emphasized that while the Eucharist is the center of Christian life not everyone has an automatic right to receive it at all times.

The question of Communion and Catholic politicians received some attention at the synod. One final proposition called for "eucharistic coherence" and said Catholic lawmakers cannot promote laws that go against human good, justice and natural law.

But it indicated pastoral flexibility in determining whether specific politicians should receive Communion, saying bishops should "exercise the virtues of fortitude and prudence" and take into account local circumstances.

Archbishop Minnerath said the synod was not trying to single out politicians as a special group. Every Catholic is called to live the faith coherently and to consider that when it comes time for Communion, he said.

The synod's other recommendations included:

- Better emphasis on the missionary aspect of the Eucharist.

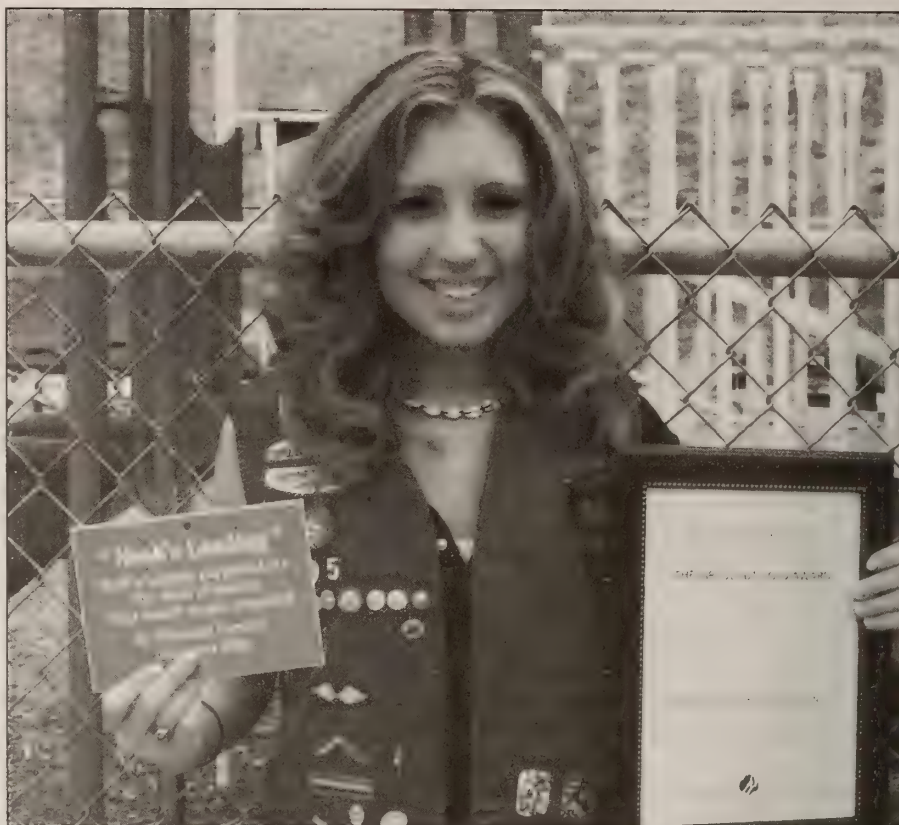
- Study and possible change in the order of the sacraments of baptism, confirmation and the Eucharist.

- Possible relocation in the liturgy of the sign of peace exchange.

- Reminding the faithful of the importance of genuflection or other gestures of adoration before the consecrated host.

- Better awareness of the Eucharist's connection with social justice issues, including ecological concerns.

With the end of the synod came the close of the Year of the Eucharist convened by Pope John Paul II. The bishops said they hoped the special year might be "a point of departure for a new evangelization of our globalized humanity that begins with the Eucharist."



COURTESY PHOTO

Shannon Parette stands in front of "Noah's Landing" at New Beginnings Preschool in Concord. She organized the construction of the playground by parents of the preschoolers and parishioners of St. James Church.

Improved Beginnings

Girl Scout organizes construction of new playground, earns Gold Award

CONCORD — Shannon Parette, a member of St. James Church in Concord, recently earned her Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest award a Girl Scout can earn.

To earn her recognition, presented by the Hornet's Nest Girl Scout Council, Shannon collaborated with three employees of New Beginnings Preschool, the parish preschool for St. James Church: Clovia Pattee, director; Dick Bensler, building chairperson; and Richard Borsuk, maintenance supervisor, to design and build a playground, "Noah's

Landing," for the preschool.

Shannon organized several "work days" for parents of the preschoolers and parishioners of St. James Church to stake out the area, pour concrete for a bike path and chalk pad, install of new swings and spread mulch groundcover.

Shannon is a member of Troop 205, which is sponsored by Poplar Tent Presbyterian Church. She has been active in scouting for 12 years. A senior at Northwest High School in Concord, Shannon plans to pursue a career in the medical field upon graduation.

TAKE YOUR EVENT somewhere unusual...

The Catholic Conference Center offers the exuberance of nature in a celestial environment unlike any you've ever been to before. Eight meeting rooms. Fifty hotel-style lodging rooms. Bountiful dining and a staff ready to serve you in style! All this and more on 172 beautifully landscaped acres offering that special "retreat" environment in a modern conference setting.

1551 Trinity Lane, Hickory, NC 28602
(828) 327-7441 or Toll-free (888) 536-7441

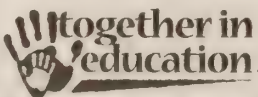


**The Catholic
Conference
Center**

Check out our website
www.catholicconference.org
info@catholicconference.org

HELP SUPPORT ST. PATRICK'S

Link your Harris Teeter VIC Card to 2409 while you're in line checking out or online at www.harristeeter.com



It Costs You Nothing! Harris Teeter gives 2% of the Harris Teeter Brand Items you purchase to St. Patrick's school.

Adoration of the Eucharist is offered at the following churches:

Andrews	Holy Redeemer Church	Fridays, 9-10 a.m., with confessions ending with Benediction
Arden	St. Barnabas Church	Sundays, 1-10 p.m.; weekdays, 6 a.m.-10 p.m., Saturdays, 6 a.m.-4 p.m.
Asheboro	St. Joseph Church	first Fridays following 8:15 a.m. Mass until 1 p.m.
Asheville	Basilica of St. Lawrence	daily, 6 a.m.-9 p.m.
Belmont Abbey	Mary, Help of Christians Church	daily, 5 a.m.-10 p.m.
Boone	St. Elizabeth Church	first Fridays 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. Mass
Bryson City	St. Joseph Church	first Fridays following 5:15 p.m. Mass (unless otherwise posted) until 6:30 p.m.
Charlotte	Our Lady of the Assumption Church	first Fridays, following 7 p.m. Mass for one hour
	St. Ann Church	Saturdays following 8 a.m. Mass until 9 a.m.
	St. Gabriel Church	perpetual adoration
	St. Matthew Church	Fridays following 9 a.m. Mass until 9 a.m.
	St. Peter Church	Saturday, in chapel
		first Fridays following the 12:10 p.m. Mass with Benediction at 1:30 p.m.
	St. Thomas Aquinas Church	Fridays following 12:15 p.m. Mass until 8:30 p.m.
	St. Vincent de Paul Church	first Fridays following 9 a.m. Mass until 10:30 a.m.
Clemmons	Holy Family Church	Thursdays, 9:30-10:30 a.m. except holidays
Concord	St. James the Greater Church	first Fridays, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Mass at 11 a.m.
Denver	Holy Spirit Church	first Fridays, 7 p.m.-1 a.m. Saturday
Forest City	Immaculate Conception Church	Thursdays, 7-8 p.m.; Fridays, 12:30-1:30 p.m.; Sundays, 8-9 a.m.
Franklin	St. Francis of Assisi Church	first Fridays 9 a.m. until 9 a.m. Saturday; other Fridays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Gastonia	St. Michael Church	eve of first Friday, 10 p.m. until 8 a.m. Friday
Greensboro	St. Benedict Church	first Fridays, 12:15-8 p.m.
	St. Paul the Apostle Church	first Fridays, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Hendersonville	Immaculate Conception Church	first Fridays, 9-11:30 a.m.
Hickory	St. Aloysius Church	first Fridays, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.
High Point	Christ the King Church	first Fridays: call church for time
	Maryfield Chapel	perpetual adoration
Huntersville	St. Mark Church	Fridays, 8 a.m.-7 p.m.
Jefferson	St. Francis of Assisi Church	Fridays, 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Kannapolis	St. Joseph Church	Thursdays, 4-7 p.m.; Fridays, 10 a.m.-7:45 p.m.
Kemersville	Holy Cross Church	Fridays following 9 a.m. Mass until 7 p.m.
King	Good Shepherd Church	Fridays, 6-7 p.m.
Lexington	Our Lady of the Rosary Church	Fridays following morning Mass until 5 p.m.; Benediction following 11 a.m. Mass Sundays
Lincolnton	St. Dorothy Church	Fridays, 6-7 p.m.
Linville	St. Bernadette Church	Fridays following 11 a.m. Mass
Marion	Our Lady of the Angels Church	first Fridays, 8:30-11:30 a.m. followed by Benediction and Mass. For Spanish-speaking parishioners, 6-8 p.m.
Mocksville	St. Francis of Assisi Church	first Fridays, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.; Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m.; children's adoration last Fridays 12:30-1:30 p.m.
Monroe	Our Lady of Lourdes Church	Saturdays, 6:30 p.m.-12 a.m. Sunday
Mooreville	St. Therese Church	first Fridays following 9 a.m. Mass until Benediction at 4:45 p.m.
Morganton	St. Charles Borromeo	Fridays following 6 p.m. Mass until 7:30 p.m.
Mt. Airy	Holy Angels Church	Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m.; Thursdays, 10-11 a.m.
Newton	St. Joseph Church	first Fridays following 12:10 p.m. Mass until 6 p.m.
Salisbury	Sacred Heart Church	Thursdays, 7-8 p.m.; Sundays 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Sparta	St. Frances of Rome Church	Mondays, 10:15-11:15 a.m.
Spruce Pine	St. Lucien Church	first Fridays, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Statesville	St. Philip the Apostle Church	first Fridays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Swannanoa	St. Margaret Mary Church	first Fridays following 12 p.m. Mass until 5 p.m.
Sylva	St. Mary Church	first Saturday following the 9 a.m. Mass until 3 p.m.
Thomasville	Our Lady of the Highways Church	first Fridays, 12-7 p.m.
Tryon	St. John the Baptist Church	Wednesdays, 3:30-4:30 p.m.; first Fridays 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Waynesville	St. John the Evangelist Church	first Fridays following 9 a.m. Mass until 4:30 p.m.
Winston-Salem	St. Leo the Great Church	first Fridays following the 8:15 a.m. Mass until 5 p.m., except during summer months

Miers never a Catholic, new report says

MIERS, from page 1

have repeated the description that Miers was brought up Catholic but now attends an evangelical Protestant church.

However, according to White House spokeswoman Maria Tamburri, "Harriet Miers did not grow up Catholic."

When news reports first quoted the nominee's acquaintances as saying she had been raised a Catholic before joining an evangelical Protestant church in 1979, the editor of the Texas Catholic, newspaper of the Dallas Diocese, began checking records of baptisms and other sacraments.

"The Diocese of Dallas has no record of Harriet Miers or her immediate family ever having been a member of the Catholic Church," said Deacon Bronson Havard, spokesman for the Diocese of Dallas and editor of the newspaper. "We have checked all known sacramental records."

Miers' longtime friend, Texas Supreme Court Justice Nathan Hecht, has been variously quoted as saying Miers was "raised Catholic," or that her family attended both Catholic and Protestant churches or that she "had a Catholic upbringing."

Since her nomination was an-

nounced Oct. 3, those comments have evolved into the widespread assumption that Miers was a baptized Catholic who left the church as a young adult to join Valley View Christian Church with a full-immersion baptism. Several local and syndicated newspaper columnists have raised theological concerns about the favorable spin some evangelicals have given to the idea that Miers' left the Catholic Church to "find Christ" as an evangelical Protestant.

Miers might well have occasionally attended Catholic churches as a child or young adult, but there is no evidence that she ever considered herself a Catholic.

Deacon Havard also said as an active Catholic and journalist for 35 years in Dallas he has never heard anyone refer to Miers as a Catholic or former Catholic until the current set of rumors.

He noted that a local Episcopal church has pews dedicated to her parents and that she worshipped there with her family on a recent trip to Dallas. Deacon Havard also said it was reported locally that Miers on the same Sunday attended a worship service by a group that split from Valley View Christian Church, which she and Hecht, among others, recently left.

RATES ARE STILL AT ALL-TIME LOWS!

30-Year Fixed: **5.625%**

3/1 ARM: **5%**

As mortgage interest rates fall, we work with quality lenders to find the best loan for your needs & goals.

NEW WORLD MORTGAGE

Member of the

Jayne McGonnell
Mortgage Specialist
St. Thomas Aquinas
704.549.4600 x1028
877.402.4600 (tollfree)
704.516.9682 (cell)

Many Annuity Owners Lose Money. Will YOU?

Some annuity owners lose money because they didn't know what questions to ask when they bought, and their salesperson did not volunteer any information.

If you own an annuity or are considering taking advantage of their many benefits, my **FREE** report, "Using Guaranteed Annuities to Help You Survive Your Retirement," will tell you what questions to ask.

The report is **FREE** and shows you how to get more benefits from your existing assets and help preserve your annuity value.

Call 800-800-4960, ext. 7405 (24 hours)

for your **FREE** report!

Dr. Richard Pucciarelli

Certified Senior Advisor

Member of Asset Protectors and Advisors Group



TO INCLUDE YOUR CHURCH IN THIS LIST, PLEASE CALL (704) 370-3354.

Culture Watch

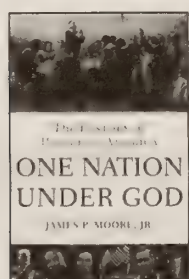
A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Unique book looks at history of prayer in United States

BY PATRICK J. HAYES
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

"One Nation Under God" is an elegantly written survey of prayer in America that captures the spiritual imagination from the very first page.

James P. Moore Jr., a professor at Georgetown University's McDonough School of Business, begins with the death of his father and his resulting quest for solace in the nation's prayer practices. These practices are as diverse as they are plentiful. There are prayers — in connection with the land, music, preaching, literature, sports, politics — for nearly every occasion and taste. Subtitled "The History of Prayer in



America," this soul-stirring book is one of the few recent histories of its kind and it promises to hold pride of place in writing on American culture.

Moore shows how prayer connects to the momentous events of U.S. history, such as the encounter of two cultures with the arrival of Columbus, the Revolution, the early days of the government, the Civil War, the Depression, the world wars and beyond. He looks at nearly every presidency to determine the impact prayer had on policy and policymakers. For instance, just as President George W. Bush recently called upon the nation to engage in a day of fasting and prayer for the victims of Hurricane Katrina, numerous other presidents have asked for God's aid on the country's behalf. Moore sifts many of the presidential papers to find instances where they invoked God's assistance in carrying out the duties of office or beseeched God to bless the nation.

The real strength of the work lies in the personalities that Moore says have contributed to a national ethos of prayer. Here we find Mother Elizabeth Seton and Babe Ruth (among the few Catholic references), Gen. George Patton and Harriet Tubman, T.S. Eliot and J. P. Morgan, Benjamin Franklin and Mary Pickford, Thelonius Monk and Reinhold Niebuhr. It is not impossible, but one must search harder in Moore's text to see all of the Jewish and Muslim, Buddhist and Hindu champions of prayer.

One wonders, also, about the

prayers of the common person in time of peace. What were the Irish or Chinese immigrants praying as they drove the railroad spikes? How did people bury their dead or marry? What kind of common theology has arisen from so much popular hymnody or catechesis on prayer or its ritual enactment?

We do find in Moore's catalog some of the most touching prayers ever written. For me, none struck a more moving chord than a prayer now enshrined by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. It was found by the liberators of Ravensbruck concentration camp on a scrap of paper near the body of a dead child:

"O Lord, remember not only the men and women of good will, but also those of ill will. But do not only remember all the suffering they have inflicted on us. Remember the fruits we brought, thanks to this suffering: our comradeship, our loyalty, our humility, our courage, our generosity, the greatness of heart which has come out of all this; and when they come to judgment, let all the fruits that we have borne be their forgiveness."

Moore leaves the future of prayer in the capable hands of today's youth who, he says, send their prayers as genuinely and devoutly as those of America's forebears. While reading Moore's book, I found myself listening more for prayer within our culture and especially in the lives of the students I teach. It is there in great numbers — sometimes silent but always active — adapting and reinventing its forms as the times demand.

Hayes teaches theology at Marymount College of Fordham University in Tarrytown, New York.



**Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center**

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: NOV. 6, 2005

Nov. 6, Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle A Readings:

- 1) Wisdom 6:12-16
Psalm 63:2-8
- 2) 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
- 3) Matthew 25:1-13

Preparing to enter God's kingdom

BY BEVERLY CORZINE
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

The TV screen ushers us into a dimly lit room where an aged woman lies in a sea of voluminous white comforters, pillows and lace. The dim light in the room allows us to see some visitors, listening to the woman's soft, rambling words. The figure in the immense bed could be Dickens' Miss Havisham with her mass of disheveled silver hair.

We, the viewers, join the visitors to hear this matriarch as she begins to recount the achievements of a long and exciting life. Caught up in her recollections, she glances toward a television and sees a shot of a beautiful young woman preparing to step into an ultramodern bathtub.

Our matriarch falls back among the mounds of white linen. Disillusioned, she

dies, knowing there is still something she does not possess.

Obviously, the intent of this clever TV commercial is to intensify consumer desire for upscale bathroom fixtures; it is not a treatise on preparation for death and dying.

The unintended message of this brief vignette provides a contrast with the readings for this first weekend in November. The readings for our Sunday liturgies are beginning to take on an apocalyptic tone and start to reflect the waning of another year.

In the Gospel, Jesus tells a parable to help us understand the necessity for being prepared for entering the kingdom of heaven. He describes 10 young women enduring an extended wait for the bridegroom. When he finally arrives, the five who have extra flasks of oil for their lamps are able to join him. The five without oil are locked outside in the dark and cannot be part of the celebration. Jesus does not describe the unfortunate five as bad people. However, they do not possess the wisdom to recognize the most essential preparation task for the wedding feast.

In his first letter to the Thessalonians, St. Paul assures us that the most important gift in life is faith in the risen Lord. For Paul, the fruition of all wisdom is to know Jesus and to have faith that God raised Jesus from the dead. The lasting achievement of a lifetime is to have looked forward to meeting the risen Lord and prepared well for the celebration.

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 30 - NOVEMBER 5

Sunday (Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time), Malachi 1:14-2:2, 8-10, 1 Thessalonians 2:7-9, 13, Matthew 23:1-12; **Monday**, Romans 11:29-36, Luke 14:12-14; **Tuesday (All Saints)**, Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14, 1 John 3:1-3, Matthew 5:1-12; **Wednesday (All Souls)**, Wisdom 3:1-9, Romans 5:5-11, Matthew 25:31-46; **Thursday (St. Martin de Porres)**, Romans 14:7-12, Luke 15:1-10; **Friday (St. Charles Borromeo)**, Romans 15:14-21, Luke 16:1-8; **Saturday**, Romans 16:3-9, 16, 22-27, Luke 16:9-15.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 6 - NOVEMBER 12

Sunday (Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time), Wisdom 6:12-16, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, Matthew 25:1-13; **Monday**, Wisdom 1:1-7, Luke 17:1-6; **Tuesday**, Wisdom 2:23-3:9, Luke 17:7-10; **Wednesday (The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome)**, Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9, 12, 1 Corinthians 3:9-11, 16-17, John 2:13-22; **Thursday (St. Leo the Great)**, Wisdom 7:22-8:1, Luke 17:20-25; **Friday (St. Martin of Tours)**, Wisdom 13:1-9, Luke 17:26-37; **Saturday (St. Josaphat)**, Wisdom 18:14-16; 19:6-9, Luke 18:1-8.



Please pray for the following priests who died during the month of November:

Rev. Msgr. John P. Manley	1981
Rev. John J. Hyland	1975
Rev. John S. Regan	1976
Rev. Stephen A. Sullivan	1989

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

'North Country' a gold mine of a film

A fitting tag line for director Niki Caro's sterling "North Country" (Warner Bros.) could have been: "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they shall be satisfied." So shall those looking for a film with a compelling story and forceful performances.

Inspired by real events, "North Country" is a social-conscience drama along the lines of "Erin Brockovich," "Silkwood" and "Norma Rae." Like those films, it has a strong, central, working-class female character.

Charlize Theron stars in this compelling drama set in northern Minnesota about a struggling single mother of two (Theron), who takes a job at a local mine, and encounters hostility and abuse from the predominantly male ranks.

With the help of a sympathetic lawyer (Woody Harrelson), she eventually stands up for herself and her female

co-workers (including Frances McDormand) by filing a landmark sexual harassment lawsuit against the mining company. Buttressed by an emotionally forceful performance by Theron, Caro's film avoids melodrama while touching on issues of gender discrimination, justice, family, community and human dignity.

Scenes of workplace harassment including lewd comments and humor plus obscene graffiti, groping and assorted other malicious mischief involving scatological and sex gags, implied spousal abuse, a suggested rape, and recurring rough and crude language and profanity. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is L — limited adult audience, films whose problematic content many adults would find troubling. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.



CNS PHOTO FROM WARNER BROS.

"An Ocean Song"

Magnificent Semi-Oceanfront House!

Available for 2006 Rentals Outer Banks, Corolla, North Carolina

NEW, 9 bedroom, 8.5 bath house with elevator, sleeps 24 people
Stunning ocean views. Private pool, hot tub, tiki bar, home theatre room, recreation room w/pool table, game table, office and more!

House #448 Corolla Classic Vacations 1-866-453-9660



Movie Capsules

'DREAMER: INSPIRED BY A TRUE STORY'

Warm and winning family film set in rural Kentucky about a dispirited race-horse trainer (Kurt Russell), his young daughter (Dakota Fanning) and estranged father (Kris Kristofferson), who nurse an injured Seabiscuit-like thoroughbred back to form and in the process mend their own broken relationships. Written and directed by John Gatins, the movie is a handsome and unapologetically sentimental old-fashioned crowd-pleaser, with tender performances by Fanning and Russell and heartfelt themes of family, the healing power of love and the importance of holding on to one's dreams. A few mildly rude expressions and a racetrack accident that may disturb sensitive young children. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-I — general patronage. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested.

'THE FOG'

Schlocky remake of John Carpenter's 1980 horror film about a cursed island community off Oregon enveloped by a sinister shroud of fog that brings with it the ghostly crew of an ill-fated ship returning to exact revenge on the locals (including Tom Welling, Maggie Grace and Selma Blair) for murderous crimes committed by the town's founding fathers. Directed by Rupert Wainwright, the new version pretty much follows the original's soggy B-movie lead, but, despite slicker effects and a bigger budget, it is mist-ifyingly less suspenseful this time around. Strong violence and gore, including flaming bodies, and an impaling with shards of glass, a sexual encounter, horror effects, and minimal crude language. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.



4th Annual Vineyard of Hope Wine Tasting and Auction

Honoring Dr. William Rice

The Vineyard of Hope is not just another event in town. This annual fundraiser for Catholic Social Services provides vital funds for the programs and services of CSS. Get a group together and buy your tickets today!

Friday, November 4 at 7 pm
Hyatt SouthPark
Carnegie Blvd. at Barclay Downs Dr.

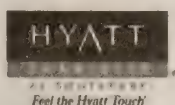
The evening includes: Wine tasting, Heavy hors d'oeuvres
Live entertainment including Our Lady of Consolation Choir
Silent and live auctions, Recognition of the contributions of
Dr. William Rice to Catholic Social Services

All proceeds benefit Catholic Social Services

Individual tickets are \$40 or \$75 for two.
Table purchases and scholarships are available.
Call 704-370-3232 or visit www.vineyardofhope.com



Sisters of Mercy of the Americas
Regional Community of North Carolina



The **Catholic Company**

Lake Norman Book Store
maryimmaculata.com



CAROLINA CATHOLIC BOOKSHOPPE

Mon. thru Sat.
10 am - 6 pm

Now 2 COMPLETE Catholic stores for

- Unique gifts & cards
- Books, rosaries, medals
- Previously read book section (at Lake Norman)
- Video rentals
- Artwork

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!*We Build Friendships With Families*

We know it isn't easy to invite someone into your home to provide homecare. You'll interview and select any caregiver who we refer to you. At Visiting Angels, character matters in caregivers!

Up to 24 hour care. Hygiene assistance, meals, light housework, companionship. Our caregivers are thoroughly screened.

704-549-4010*Visiting Angels*E-mail us at Jill.Stewart@VisitingAngels.com

Elementary School Principal Archdiocese of Atlanta

St. Mary's Catholic School, an accredited school with a rich 60-year history wrapped in a new \$6 million facility, is accepting applications for the position of elementary school principal. The school enjoys a highly engaged parent base, an active parish of 1000 families, and broad community recognition and support.

St. Mary's is located in Rome, Georgia, a beautiful, vibrant town, one hour northwest of Atlanta. One of the South's best kept secrets, Rome is an established community with three colleges, symphony, theatre, and a warm and inviting atmosphere.

Energetic, creative leaders who will take our school to the next level of excellence, please apply. Active Catholics with a master's degree in educational administration (or its equivalent) and at least three years of demonstrated experience in administration will be considered. Handsome salary and benefits.

Please submit letter of interest, resume, three letters of reference and university credentials to:

Fr. Jim Miceli
St. Mary's Catholic Church
911 N. Broad Street
Rome, GA 30161

Bishop Begley Conference advocates environment protection

CONFERENCE, from page 1

but not above creation."

The conference, held at Living Waters Catholic Reflection Center in Maggie Valley Oct. 21-22, built on the first Bishop Begley Conference, held in 2003. The conference is named for Bishop Michael J. Begley, first bishop of the Diocese of Charlotte, and one of the signers of the 1975 document, "This Land is Home to Me: A Pastoral Letter on Powerlessness in Appalachia."

That letter and 1995's "At Home in the Web of Life: A Pastoral Message on Sustainable Community in Appalachia," both written by the Catholic bishops of Appalachia, are at the conferences' roots.

This year's conference called for focusing on local initiatives rather than dependence on the global economy, to live more simply and to stop practices that deplete the environment.

In addition to Sister McBrien, an ecology educator with the Appalachian Office of Justice and Peace, speakers included Anthony Flaccavento, executive director of Appalachian Sustainable Development (ASD); Robert Gronski, policy coordinator for the National Catholic Rural Life Conference; Dave Cooper, environmental activist; Jeff Brooks, marketing and communications coordinator of NC GreenPower; and Daria Gere, staff member of Save Our Cumberland Mountains.

Sister McBrien said she has been to many conferences on Catholic social teaching where "they never mention the environment. They say the documentation isn't there."

But, she said, documentation is in such works as bishops' pastoral state-

ments and Pope John Paul II's Earth Day speech in 1990.

"At Home in the Web of Life," she said, "says we should build sustainable communities."

Building such communities was the subject of Flaccavento's presentation, "Sustainable Development in Appalachia: Diversifying and Strengthening the Region's Economy while Conserving the Environment."

Flaccavento's organization has helped create a sustainable infrastructure in agriculture and forestry in southwest Virginia and northeast Tennessee.

"We have to build strong local communities," he said. "Sustainability builds on what exists. For instance, teaching farmers to be as productive as possible, to rebuild the soil and make better use of the land."

ASD works with local loggers, who adhere to strict guidelines as to what they can cut. There is no clear-cutting (denuding forests), so woods and wildlife habitats aren't destroyed.

The logs are cut in a sustainable wood-processing center that produces 20 to 25 percent more wood per log than conventional sawmills. The wood is air dried, then dried in a solar kiln that uses no petroleum products.

In his workshop, "Local Food Circles," Gronski said that local cultures can be reclaimed through local food. Food circles include all the farmers within a 100-mile radius of any location. Thus people buying within the food circle get seasonal produce direct from local farmers.

"Earth isn't a planet with life on it, but with life in it," Sister McBrien said. It has a circulatory system (water) and lungs (plants). We are called to offer a new vision, for people to examine their consciences and their conduct."

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

The Archdiocese of Atlanta seeks an experienced principal to lead Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School, a SACS accredited college preparatory high school; co-educational, with 258 students and 35 faculty members. The School offers a challenging academic and co-curricular program to a diverse student body: 43% African American, 46% Caucasian and 11% other ethnic groups. Located in Fairburn, Georgia, 20 miles south of downtown Atlanta. Position requirements:

- Practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church;
- Educational Leadership Certification;
- Minimum of 3 years of successful Catholic secondary administrative experience;
- Excellent communication skills;
- Collaborative leadership style;
- Experience in fiscal management and institutional advancement;
- Commitment to teaching;
- Fair and consistent disciplinarian.

Negotiable and competitive salary; excellent benefits. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled. Send letter of interest, resume, university credentials, and names, addresses and telephone numbers of at least five references to:

Ruprecht and Associates
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811

Phone: 218-727-5150

E-mail: mruprcht@cpinternet.com

Classifieds

SERVICES

EMERALD HOME REMODELING: NC Licensed General Contractor. Kitchens, Baths, Additions, Handyman services, etc. All size jobs completed. (704) 684-0301(T); (704) 719-0808(cell) for free consultation

FOR SALE

CD & POSTER OF THE EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS events offered for sale. Relive this uplifting spiritual event through the beautiful photographs of Vicki Dorsey. CD \$20; 9.5"x18" Poster \$15. Call (828) 586-0133 or e-mail: inspirationsbyvicki@yahoo.com; or send check to Vicki Dorsey, 6115 Skyland Drive, Sylva, NC 28779.

EMPLOYMENT

COMMUNITY GROUP HOME MANAGER (adults): Live in (7 days on/7 days off). Prepare/serve meals, transportation, recreation, cleaning, medical treatments, work goals. Requirements: HS/GED and group home and MR/DD experience. Apply in person: Holy Angels, Monday-Friday 8:30 am - 7 pm, 6600 Wilkinson Blvd., Belmont, NC. info@holyanagelsnc.org

Classified ads bring results! Over 125,000 readers! Over 49,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org,

faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

CSS program aids caregivers

HORIZONS, from page 1

must take numerous prescription medications. Recently, an official at the Mecklenburg County Health Department informed her that her Medicaid was cut off.

During a September home visit, Carmen Cruz, a social worker with New Horizons for Children and Families, learned about Cooper's loss of health coverage. She contacted the Health Department and had Cooper's Medicaid re-instated.

Thanks to New Horizons, Cooper and others like her now have a valuable resource of information, assistance and referral services.

Approximately 160,576 adults in North Carolina have grandchildren living with them full time.

These unique families exist for several reasons: death of the parent, drug dependence, imprisonment or inability to parent.

Catholic Social Services in the Diocese of Charlotte (CSS), in partnership with Smart Start of Mecklenburg County developed New Horizons, a program in support of grandparents and "kinship families" parenting children birth to five years of age. Kinship families are made of children and their guardians who are not their parents.

Fifteen families are already enrolled in the program, which was launched last July.

Social workers provide case management in assisting these families with services, which include monthly home visits, on-going parent education and referrals for assistance within CSS and appropriate community resources.

"The whole point of the program is support," said Colleen Cranford, project director for New Horizons. "We realize that these people parenting again can involve a lot of stress."

Home visits include an assessment of the safety of the household: cabinet locks, smoke alarms, proper storage of chemical-based cleaners. The counselor also assesses the physical and mental development of each child.

A licensed counselor is available to help strengthen these families with individual and family counseling along with therapeutic support groups for caretakers and for children. Parent education classes, which run for six weeks at a time focusing on age's birth to 12 years of age, are offered as well.

Cranford said that the needs of children from birth to 5 years old who are being raised by grandparents or older relatives are complex. These needs can only be addressed by a program such as New Horizons.

"CSS has the expertise to provide this safety net and in partnership with

Smart Start, will provide these resources in Mecklenburg County," she said.

New Horizons staffers also will help grandparents navigate the confusing channels of the Department of Social Services and other agencies.

"It can be complicated to receive services at a lot of these places and the grandparents just don't understand," said Cranford. "Our job is to call and figure it out for them."

New Horizons for Children and Families is the only program in Mecklenburg County that provides comprehensive services including professional mental health intervention, parenting education and case management to benefit families in which children are being raised by older relatives.

To be eligible for the program, participants must live in Mecklenburg County, at least one child must be 5 years old or younger and the grandparents or guardians must be the primary caregivers and sole decision-makers.

Funding is assured only for the next two years, Cranford said. After that, CSS expects the program will receive continued funding for the future.

In the meantime, Margie Cooper and others like her are reaping the benefits of CSS and Smart Start.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

DID YOU KNOW?

According to the 2000 Census, North Carolina has:

- 160,576 grandparents living with grandchildren.

- 47% are African-American

- 47% are Caucasian

- 2% are Hispanic/Latino

- 2% are American Indian or Alaskan Native

- The city of Charlotte has 5,175 grandparents responsible for meeting the basic needs of grandchildren.

- 42.9% of the grandparents have had responsibility for the grandchildren for 5 years or more.

- 42.6% were households without parents present.

- 28.2% were over the age of 60.

- 3.6% of all households in North Carolina are grandparents living with grandchildren.

- 19.4% were living in poverty in 1999

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on New Horizons for Children and Families, contact Catholic Social Services at (704) 370-3248.

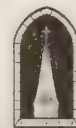
ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO THE HARVEST?

Then he said to His disciples, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers for His harvest." (Mt 9:37)

I am praying that you will join me in responding to our Lord's request for more "laborers" in harvesting the abundant fruit to be found at Belmont Abbey College. Over 125 years ago the Benedictine Monks came south in response to God's call to begin His work in the vineyard of North Carolina.

He is calling you to place your hands upon the same bricks that were formed and put in place by these holy monks so long ago. I am looking for strong, dedicated, Catholic students to help realize our vision of excellence and virtue. Belmont Abbey is your Catholic College and God is calling you to the "harvest."

Dr. William K. Thierfelder
President



BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE

THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED



☐ I WANT TO HELP BUILD OUR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY. PLEASE SEND ME A STUDENT REFERRAL PACKAGE.

If you would like to help Belmont Abbey College by referring or becoming a new student, please fill out this form and send it to us or go online to BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu and click on Referral Package in the Quick Links. We will send you our complete referral/information package with detailed information about the Abbey and all it has to offer!

Your Name _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____
Email _____
Phone _____ No. of Packages Requested _____

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

100 BELMONT-MT. HOLLY ROAD
BELMONT, NC 28012-1802
BELMONTABBEYCOLLEGE.EDU

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

News media code words: the shortcut to a small mind

I've always disliked clichés. I avoid these code words because I find them unimaginative crutches used by writers with feeble talent. But I once worked with a television producer who thought clichés were great. She said clichés are code words that express an easily understood point of view in a minimal amount of time.

"A stitch in time saves nine," I replied.

The problem with clichés is that they lack clarity. For example, the media often refers to a Catholic as "devout" or the more formal "devout Roman Catholic." Do "devout Catholics" ever miss Sunday Mass? Is a Catholic devout if, like Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, he or she opposes abortion but supports capital punishment? Senator John Kerry's views are just the opposite. Is he devout?

Clichés can also be used to divide us.
Red State,
Blue State,
One you like,
One you hate.

The code word/cliché of the past few weeks has been "raised Catholic" when used in reference to Supreme Court nominee Harriet Miers. As reported on page 1, thanks to a deacon in the Diocese of Dallas who did the research, it has been cleared up that Ms. Miers was never a Catholic.

So what was the original intent of the wrongly reported cliché that Harriet Miers was "raised Catholic?" Inherent in those two words are these questions: What faith is she now? Did she reject Catholicism?

Those are very good questions, but unfortunately clichés don't provide answers. That opens the drain for speculation, which quickly clouds the important issue of the role that faith might play in a Supreme Court nominee's decision-making process.

Was "raised Catholic" intended as a wink to the fundamentalist community that she had "found" Jesus in an evangelical Protestant church and therefore somehow would be a fit justice for the Supreme Court? Catholics, as noted

Catholics & the Media

DAVID HAINS
COMMUNICATIONS
DIRECTOR



above, are divided on the issue of abortion, and the White House seems to want to make clear where Ms. Miers stands and therefore how she will vote in the event that she has the opportunity to overturn *Roe v. Wade*. But who knows — that's just one avenue of speculation that the code words opened.

We Catholics are part of a diverse worldwide church. Our traditions go back 2,000 years. These twin towers make our beliefs hard to categorize. And that is a good thing. If someone thinks they know you or your faith via a cliché, than they miss the opportunity to truly understand something beautiful. The flame of faith that burns in each of us can provide warmth and light to others, but the light will remain under a basket if we don't get past the clichés.

Don't expect the general media to be a great deal of help. News organizations and pundits have a limited amount of time and space — 600 words for me. Code words can become irresistible shortcuts. The only way I've found to avoid falling into a cliché rut is to be exposed to varying viewpoints.

And so, if you subscribe to "America" magazine, visit the Web site of "Crisis" every now and then. You might think the sun rises over the editorial page of *The New York Times*, but remember, *The Wall Street Journal* can be pretty thought-provoking, too. Even better, have a discussion with a fellow Catholic, a Protestant, a Jew or a Muslim about God.

Yes, it will take a little longer to come to an informed opinion. But think about it, what's the rush?

If the shoe fits, wear it. There, that makes 600.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to *The Catholic News & Herald* become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, *The Catholic News & Herald*, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

The Second Vatican Council's 40th anniversary

Forty years ago, on Dec. 8, 1965, the Second Vatican Council came to an end. Down through the decades most Catholics have applauded its many accomplishments. An angry minority thought it was a disaster. I belong to the first group, and I'll tell you why.

I think Pope John XXIII was the most outstanding church leader of the 20th century. He promoted a pastoral style of leadership that put charity first. He taught that the best way to counteract errors was by demonstrating the validity of the church's teaching through Christian charity: "There is nothing more effective than charity, in eradicating the seeds of discord, nothing more efficacious in promoting concord, a just peace and the brotherly unity of all."

I was only a seminarian when John XXIII was pope, and I admired him from afar. Cardinal Leon Joseph Suenens, the leader of the progressive wing of the council fathers, invited me to be his occasional secretary during the 1980s and 1990s when he came to the United States. I learned a lot about the workings of the council from him during those years.

Sixteen documents were written during the council under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and each one of them reflected Pope John's pastoral approach to leadership. Two in particular stood out as pivotal: The "Declaration on Religious Freedom," largely the result of the thinking of Jesuit Father John Courtney Murray (1904-1967), and "The Decree on Ecumenism," promoted in large part by theologian Father Hans Kung.

Past popes had condemned the very thought of religious freedom, but the council fathers found the courage and humility to reverse the ultraconservative "Syllabus of Errors," issued by Pope Pius IX in 1864. The church once demanded freedom for itself when it was in the minority but refused to grant it to

Spirituality for Today

FATHER JOHN
CATOIR
CNS COLUMNIST



others when they were in the minority, using the principle that "error has no rights." This principle was dropped when the teaching on religious freedom became more developed.

Today the church teaches that no one should be subject to coercion of any kind when it comes to the act of faith. The document on religious freedom also taught us that the church has the power to change some of its traditions.

The "Decree on Ecumenism" dealt with the problem of the reunification of all the Christian churches. New thinking on the dignity of the human person and freedom of conscience led to an entirely new approach to church unity.

The chief obstacle to reunion rests in the different concepts of the church. One view sees the church as an absolute monarchy; the other sees church authority as a collegial service. The council adopted the view that the authority of the pope and bishops henceforth would be considered a service to be implemented in a collegial mode.

We no longer see unity in terms of a return to Rome by the other churches, but rather as a restoration of all things to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. All parties have agreed to share the blame for the divisions among us. Pope John Paul II even went so far as to apologize publicly for the church's part in causing this division.

We are all working diligently to fulfill the mandate of Jesus, spoken at the Last Supper, "That all may be one."

Lessons from the Millions More Movement

As I walked along the Washington Mall in the nation's capital, I came upon a rally that was a sight for sore eyes: the Millions More Movement.

In 1995 a similar rally was held; an estimated 1 million people, most African American, attended. Though this year's crowd was much smaller, witnessing it was an awesome experience.

A number of the talks zeroed in on Hurricane Katrina and how poor African Americans were betrayed by America. They also addressed unemployment, equal rights, slavery, self-empowerment and a number of other social justice issues.

Interestingly, there was a strong emphasis on family unity, hence the reason for calling it the Millions More Movement, rather than the Million Man March.

This event's statement is one we have heard over and over: The poor people of New Orleans represented the pockets of poor people throughout this country who are neglected, forgotten and abandoned.

But why state the obvious? Because it is not obvious to everyone, especially people who live comfortably and have no

The Human Side

FATHER EUGENE
HEMRICK
CNS COLUMNIST



sense of social justice. But this movement goes deeper than this.

The word "doubt" conveys the notion of paralysis, of an inability to move because of being caught between two conflicting possibilities. Too many Americans are still not convinced that we have desperately poor people in our big cities, suburbs and rural areas. They have yet to become believers and to act upon that belief.

Events like the Millions More Movement emphatically state that in the richest nation in the world, people must come to realize that we still have a long way to go in assuring the equality we champion and giving the care to each person that we tout.

A determined woman — worker for the Lord

Back in the early 1950s, Hollywood made a movie called "Come to the Stable" with Loretta Young and Celeste Holm playing two penniless nuns who came to America from France at the end of World War II to found a hospital for children.

It was a fictionalized version of a story that was much more powerful in fact. The real-life woman played by Young was Mother Benedict Duss, an American-born graduate of a medical school in Paris, a nun at the Benedictine Abbey at Jouarre in France and a fugitive from the Gestapo. More than that, she was a faith-motivated, courageous pioneer determined to found a Benedictine monastery for women in America as her way of thanking this country for liberating her abbey in France.

In the decades that followed the movie until her death Oct. 2, 2005, at age 94, Mother Duss was the first to acknowledge what a tempestuous 60-plus years this had been for her as the maverick foundress of the Abbey of Regina Laudis in Bethlehem, Conn. She had to face poverty, trauma, setbacks, success, failure, physical illness, sometimes harsh accusations — but always she had fidelity and love from her "daughters," every one of whom I call "my sisters."

The Bottom Line

ANTOINETTE BOSCO
CNS COLUMNIST



I visit them often at their abbey, some 45 of them, all professionals who have taken vows making them members of this first cloistered Benedictine community of women to be established in the United States. These women wear a traditional habit and live according to a rule written for community life by St. Benedict in the sixth century.

But that's just the overview. What has been established here is a model that was expected to fail — building a monastery on American ground for American women, based on a 1,500-year-old rule.

But Mother Benedict was no ordinary woman. The work she did for her community and the villagers of Jouarre put her in great jeopardy after the Americans entered World War II and the Germans occupying France declared all

Americans their "enemies."

She became a fugitive from the Gestapo and somehow escaped arrest. At the liberation of Jouarre by the Americans, Mother Benedict had something of a mystical experience, leading her to promise then and there that she would thank her birth country for this liberation by founding a monastery in America.

How she convinced the Vatican that this was a viable project is a tale of a strong woman facing up to powerful men and winning. She also had the coincidental luck of finding some American women, notably artist Lauren Ford, who offered her and her companion, Mother Mary Aline, hospitality and a place to start at their home in a tiny town called, appropriately, Bethlehem in the hills of Connecticut.

Much attention came their way after Hollywood made the movie, and even more eyes were on this abbey when a beautiful blonde star named Dolores Hart left Hollywood and entered the community in 1963 — known and beloved these many years as Mother Dolores.

In a time when religious orders are dying, Regina Laudis, founded by a strong woman who so respected the individuality of women, swims against the tide with a thriving community.

What makes a happy marriage?

Our Turn

THERESE J. BORCHARD
CNS COLUMNIST



Good communication was one of the many secrets to happy marriages when I interviewed hundreds of couples for my book "I Like Being Married."

Says my husband on communication: "You continue to ask each other how her day was, you send a quick e-mail, you take time to have lunch once in awhile."

Among the other secrets to happy marriages were these:

Forgiveness. "Without forgiveness, love has no meaning," says best-selling author Marianne Williamson. "It has no fullness or maturity. Only when two people have shown each other the worst side of our natures are we truly ready for the task of love," she says. Ruth Bell Graham, wife of evangelist Billy Graham since 1943, says, "A happy marriage is the union of two good forgivers."

Compassion. "Love often makes itself visible in pain," said Father Henri Nouwen, a noted spirituality writer. "Good marriages don't just happen," says Tipper Gore, married to former Vice President Al Gore since 1970. "They take a lot of love and a lot of work. When things get rough, you don't just cut and run." Actor Christopher Reeve said: "We made a bargain for life. I got the better end of the deal."

Familiarity and friendship. "Familiarity breeds content," says Leach. "Familiarity is knowing someone so well that you both say the same surprising things at the same time and feel the love in the laughter that follows. It is being so close to the other that you think her thoughts and feel her feelings at the same time she thinks and feels them," he says.

Vulnerability. "Before I met my husband, I was always kind of private and had doubts about the wisdom of opening myself up too much," says Kathleen Walsh of Upper Saddle River, N.J. "Gradually, though, we learned about giving 100 percent, and about deciding to love, and about finding the energy and patience, and about becoming vulnerable," she says.

Perseverance. "In every marriage there are horrible, hurtful, 'I don't know if I can stand one more minute of this pain' moments," says Judy Markey of Chicago. "But you get through them. You get through them because fundamentally you know there is something worth salvaging. ... Because you believe fiercely in the worthiness of the imperfect union," she says.

Fun. "When I first met John, I couldn't believe life could be this much fun," says actress Kelly Preston, married to actor John Travolta since 1991. "There's always a game to play and something fun to do — a way to look at life with joyous eyes," she says.

And, of course, there is prayer.

Your faith is yours

Don't be fooled. They are not there to be your friends. They are not there to have an open discussion. They are not there to hang out. They are not truly interested in your daily life. Don't be fooled.

I walked down the winding Dublin streets, listening to my MP3 player and feeling loneliness along with excitement. I felt the crisp Irish fall air along with the heat under my jacket from my walking. I focused on the downtown skyline, using it as a target, turning left, then right, allowing it to guide me.

I had left the United States a couple months earlier, visited a friend in Germany and then headed to Dublin to begin writing. I had been there a week, sleeping and reading quietly in a room at a hostel converted from a convent, but still operated by nuns.

On the winding streets, songs brought me back home, music filled my insides with a yearning for family and friends who, the last time I listened to those tunes, were with me.

In the distance I saw two young men in suits, ties and badges walking down the road. Being from Utah and recognizing their religious affiliation, I crossed the street to say hello.

"Hey, where are you guys from?" I asked, hoping to talk about home, hoping to bring up restaurants we all may have frequented, guessing they would like to talk to someone who grew up near them too, as the majority of Utah's population lives in one northern area along the Wasatch front. They told me that they grew up less than 15 miles from where I grew up.

"That's great! What do you guys miss about it?" I asked, expecting to talk about the mountains or the fishing or the mountain biking.

They responded, "Have you ever been introduced to the LDS faith?" This shocked me. I thought, like me, they would be happy to meet somebody from home.

"Yeah, yeah I have," I disappointingly responded.

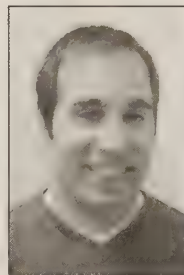
"Would you like to learn more? We would like to set up a moment to discuss it further with you."

I said, disguising my frustration and responding nicely, "No thanks, I am a practicing Catholic, and I'm not interested." I turned and headed down the street, continuing toward my landmark horizon.

Your faith is yours. Your beliefs are

Coming of Age

KASE JOHNSTUN
CNS COLUMNIST



yours. If missionaries from other faiths try to make you doubt your faith, that is their way in.

Missionaries of any faith tend to be kind, good-hearted people. But there are some whose only goal is to convert you away from your faith to theirs. Don't be fooled by friendly inquiring. There are very few things that I am downright pessimistic about, but this is one of them.

It's OK to have doubts, to have questions and to seek answers. But if you have doubts, talk to your parents, priest, teachers, but not to someone with an ulterior motive — not one whose aim is to find a hole in your faith and to fill it in with something quite different.

St. Vincent de Paul a thriving parish for 40 years



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

In less than 50 years, St. Vincent de Paul Church has established itself as the spiritual home for many south Charlotte Catholics.

CHARLOTTE — The parish of St. Vincent de Paul Church traces its roots back to Jan. 23, 1961, when Bishop Vincent S. Waters of Raleigh purchased eight acres of land on Old Reid Road. He planned to establish a parish and parochial school on these acres.

A gymnasium went up first, to be used as a temporary chapel until the church and/or school could be built. Little did the church leaders suspect that the gymnasium would become the church itself for almost 40 years.

On Oct. 29, 1961, Bishop Waters dedicated St. Vincent de Paul as a mission church of St. Ann Church. In the early 1960s, the population of Charlotte was growing rapidly, as was its Catholic community.

On July 9, 1965, Bishop Waters proclaimed St. Vincent de Paul Church a parish in its own right with Father James Noonan as the first pastor. The following year, the parish family added a social hall to its existing facilities, with a cry room, a kitchen and meeting space for the many church activities. The ladies of the parish formed the Women's Guild to help the church meet its needs.

The remainder of the decade saw growth in many areas. In 1966, Father Noonan began a kindergarten in the parish social hall, and two years later the parishioners elected the first parish council.

When Father Noonan left St. Vincent de Paul Church in July 1971 to begin a new assignment, Msgr. John Rouche was appointed pastor. He initiated a Saturday evening Mass and began sponsoring the Girl Scouts.

A year and a half after coming to St. Vincent de Paul Church, Msgr. Rouche was reassigned and the parish welcomed Father Vincent Stokes as its third pastor. His years saw further changes. The acreage purchased earlier was sold off, as the diocese decided the facilities planned for the land were no longer needed.

The parish added a new wing to provide additional seating for Mass, as well as class and meeting rooms, a nursery and a religious education office. Also during these years, the parish established the craft group, chartered a cub pack and Boy Scout troop and began publishing a newsletter.

When Father Stokes left, Father Joseph Waters became the fourth pastor.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHURCH

3828 Old Reid Rd.
Charlotte, N.C. 28210
(704) 554-7088

Vicariate: Charlotte

Pastor: Father Mark S. Lawlor

Parochial Vicar: Father John F. Starczewski

Permanent Deacon: Deacon Gerald P. Hickey, Deacon Edwin Rodriguez

Number of families: 1,673



Father Mark S. Lawlor

He had dreamed for a long time of establishing a group to help those in crises, and during his tenure a group of men and women formed the St. Vincent de Paul Society to do just that. This ministry continues today for the same purpose.

In August 1977, Msgr. William Wellein became St. Vincent's fifth pastor. He oversaw a number of physical improvements to the church property. During this time, St. Vincent de Paul Church began ecumenical participation with the other Park Sharon-area churches in celebrating joint Thanksgiving and Lenten services, and the semi-annual Rosary Rally took root when the

observance of International Rosary Day began in 1978.

A number of ministries began during the tenure of the next pastor, Msgr. Felix Kelaher, who arrived in September 1984: Knights of Columbus Council 9560, the Visitation Ministry, St. Vincent de Paul Preschool and the adult faith formation classes (RCIA). Under his direction, the parish organized a committee to plan a new church complex.

When Msgr. William Pharr took over as pastor in June 1991, he guided the parish through the important undertaking of renovating and adding to the existing buildings, including a renovation of the church.

As work began on the church, parishioners moved into the newly built activity center for Masses. On Feb. 27, 1999, then-Bishop William G. Curlin dedicated the new church.

Msgr. Pharr also introduced a youth-oriented Mass, the ACES group for senior citizens, and the parish picnic. When he retired in July 2001, the parish dedicated the activity center to him, renaming it in his honor.

Father Mark Lamprich assumed the pastorate when Msgr. Pharr retired in 2001, and added two houses to the church holdings. One serves as a rectory, and the other as a youth house.

Father Mark Lawlor was assigned as pastor in July 2003. In the past two years, two additional adjacent homes were purchased that increase available parish meeting space. There are plans for a columbarium to be constructed on the church property in the near future. To provide for the pastoral care for the large numbers of Hispanic Catholics living within the parish, Father Mark instituted a weekly Mass in Spanish in December 2003.

The parish of St. Vincent de Paul Church has come a long way from the mission church gymnasium. Through the work of many hands and with God's blessing, it has grown into a thriving parish.

Give the unforgettable gift! Enrich your own spiritual life!

Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise —

"The Footsteps of Paul"
Greece and Turkey

May 11-21, 2006



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,849 for inside cabin (before 1/31/06) - includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

Istanbul — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace

Mykonos — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels

Patmos — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation

Kusadasi & Ephesus — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites

Rhodes — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith

Crete — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion

Santorini — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?

Featuring Blue Diamond Exclusively



Malak Jewelers

At the Arboretum (St. Matthew parishioners)

We extend to you the very finest in Jewelry and Service...

Largest Selection - Best Quality & Prices Guaranteed

Certified Loose Diamonds
Platinum, Gold, Fine Jewelry
Sterling silver and watches
Estate Jewelry - Buy & Sell

26 years of Integrity and Experience!

(704) 341-1188 www.malakjewelers.com
8042-800 Providence Rd., Charlotte



Now featuring special
sterling silver medallion
of Pope John Paul II -
complimentary with
purchases over \$50
(one per purchase)



A milestone of love

*Anniversary
couples celebrate
sacrament of
matrimony*

**BISHOP SAYS CHRIST'S LOVE
IS FOUNDATION TO LASTING
MARRIAGE**

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — The sacrament of matrimony is a testament to God's love, one to be shared with the entire world, said Bishop Peter J. Jugis.

Bishop Jugis gave this message to 134 couples invited to renew their matrimonial vows during the annual diocesan wedding anniversary celebration at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Charlotte Oct. 30.

Hailing from all around the Diocese of Charlotte, 50 couples celebrated 50 years and 82 couples celebrated 25



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Tina and Elmer Branstetter accept roses after celebrating 25 years of marriage at the annual diocesan wedding anniversary celebration held at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Charlotte Oct. 30. The Branstetters were one of 134 couples celebrating 25, 50, 60 and 64 years of marriage.

See MARRIAGE, page 5

VATICAN II

Forty years later, Vatican II continues to reverberate through church

BY JOHN THAVIS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Editor's note: This is the first in a series examining Vatican's II legacy.

VATICAN CITY — Forty years after the close of the Second Vatican Council, the deep transformation it set in motion

continues to reverberate through the church at every level, from the halls of the Vatican to the pews of local parishes.

The council's four sessions from 1962 to 1965 and its 16 landmark documents modernized the liturgy,

See COUNCIL, page 8



CNS FILE PHOTO

Between 2,000 and 2,500 bishops attended each Vatican II session inside St. Peter's Basilica.

Pope says Vatican II underlined special Christian-Jewish ties

BY JOHN THAVIS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Pope Benedict XVI said the Second Vatican Council had rightly underlined the special ties between Christians and Jews, while expressing respect for Muslims and followers of other religions.

"The council fathers confirmed the spirit of universal brotherhood that forbids any type of religious discrimination or persecution," he said.

See TIES, page 7

CHapel Hill NC 27599-0001
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
UNC
NC COLLECTION
#420836#
#BXPDPDVO.....3-DIGIT 275
SZ35 P2

Secular devotion

Catholic Daughters; Equestrian
Order of Holy Sepulchre;
Discalced Carmelites

| PAGE 4

Pastoral assignments

Bishop Peter J. Jugis
announces new priest
assignments in diocese

| PAGE 6

Perspectives

Stewardship Awareness
Sunday; responding to evil
and challenges

| PAGES 14-15

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

RING OF GENEROSITY



CNS PHOTO FROM FRANK J. METHE, CLARION HERALD

Msgr. Douglas Doussan, pastor of St. Gabriel the Archangel Church in New Orleans, holds up a wedding ring that was left in a donor envelope at St. Lawrence of Brindisi Church in Los Angeles. A woman who said she had no money to offer left the gold ring saying it was for the victims of Hurricane Katrina. The pastor of the Los Angeles church sought out the parish most in need of help and contacted Msgr. Doussan.

Collection at Los Angeles parish yields gift for Katrina victims

BATON ROUGE, La. (CNS) — The second collection taken up at St. Lawrence of Brindisi Church in the Watts section of Los Angeles, earmarked for Hurricane Katrina victims, contained an unusual donation.

St. Lawrence is an inner-city church of 3,000 families, about 80 percent Hispanic and 20 percent African-American. They are people of "very modest means," said Capuchin Franciscan Father Peter Banks, pastor.

A recent second collection contained a stunning gift left by an anonymous donor: a woman's wedding ring that eventually was sent to a New Orleans church hit by floodwater 8 feet deep after Katrina.

In a church donation envelope, someone left a message hand-printed in Spanish: "For the victims of the hurricane. I did not bring any money. But this should be of some value. It is with all of my heart."

When Father Banks opened the envelope, he saw a gold wedding ring with small notches on the outside.

"My immediate reaction was, what incredible kindness and charity this woman had," he said. "This woman had nothing and she reached down on her hand and took off her ring. ... This was

all she had, and she gave it with all her heart."

For several days, Father Banks carried the ring with him in his shirt pocket to remind him of the woman's generosity. But he knew the ring and its story had to be shared.

"I didn't want to part with it, but it was not mine — it belonged to New Orleans," Father Banks said.

The following weekend the priest shared the story with his parishioners, many of whom have Louisiana relatives.

"I wanted people to know what happened," Father Banks said. "There are saints living within our midst. Our parishioners do relate to tragedy and suffering."

Father Banks then began searching on the Internet for a parish in the Archdiocese of New Orleans that might need direct help recovering from the devastating storm. He came across Msgr. Douglas Doussan's name and made contact with the pastor of St. Gabriel Church in Pontchartrain Park. The church had been flooded by water 8 feet deep.

"It's incredible that people are willing to make such a sacrifice to help those who are traumatized," said Msgr. Doussan. "She obviously was not giving out of her surplus but out of her want."

New study finds lay ecclesial ministry still growing in United States

Major improvements in pay for ministers since 1990

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A new national study reports that there are now nearly 31,000 paid lay parish ministers and more than 2,000 others who work in parish ministry at least 20 hours a week on a volunteer basis.

The study found that since 1990 there have been major improvements in pay for the paid ministers. It also found striking advances since 1990 in the involvement of dioceses in the training, screening, certification and commissioning of lay parish ministers, in providing them with continuing education and in setting employment standards and salary ranges for them.

"For the first time in the history of our country, there are more paid professional lay ministers in our parishes than there are priests," said Father Eugene F.

Lauer, director of the National Pastoral Life Center in New York, which conducted the study.

It was commissioned by the Committee on the Laity of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and funded by the Lilly Endowment.

The Committee on the Laity's Subcommittee on Lay Ministry has incorporated findings from the study into a resource document on lay ecclesial ministry that the U.S. bishops are being asked to approve when they meet in Washington in mid-November. An executive summary of the study along with commentaries on it appears as a special insert in the fall issue of *Church*, a quarterly publication of the center.

The two previous studies were conducted in 1990 and 1997.

Diocesan planner

hall. For reservations and more information, call Lucille at (704) 537-2189.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — *Theology on Tap* will meet Nov. 8 at 6:30 p.m. at Pepperoni's Pizza in Park Road Shopping Center. Father Timothy Reid will discuss "Catholicism in our Daily Lives." Father Conrad Hoover will discuss "Catholicism & Other Faiths" Nov. 15 at 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact Catrina Conway at (704) 665-7374.

CHARLOTTE — A *Mass for Bereaved Parents and Grandparents* will be celebrated Nov. 6 at 2:30 p.m. at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. All are invited to bring a photo or memorabilia of the child. Parents who have lost a child to miscarriage or stillbirth are encouraged to attend. For more information, call (704) 364-5431.

CHARLOTTE — Janice Olive will facilitate a program for adults concerning "*The Death of a Parent*," Nov. 9, 6:30-8 p.m. at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. The loss of a parent as an adult is the single most common form of bereavement. This program is for those who have lost a parent or minister to the bereaved. For more information, call (704) 364-5431.

CHARLOTTE — A *Mass for Spouses of the Deceased* will be celebrated Nov. 13 at 2:30 p.m. at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. Join us to remember your deceased spouse in a special way. For more information, call (704) 364-5431.

CHARLOTTE — The *50+ Club* of St. John Neumann Church, 8451 Idlewild Rd., meets the second Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. with a program and lunch in the parish

GASTONIA VICARIATE

BELMONT — Queen of the Apostles Church, 503 North Main St., will provide an opportunity for people to express their support to our church family members that are serving in the military. After all Masses the weekends of Nov. 5-6 and Nov. 12-13, we will have *letter writing materials* for anyone that would like to participate. If you have family members in the military, please send a picture and mailing address to Dennis Teall-Fleming, QOA director of faith formation, to be included on the poster of family members. If you have any questions, please call Dennis at (704) 825-9600, ext. 26, or e-mail teallfleming@yahoo.com.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

HIGH POINT — Immaculate Heart of Mary School, 605 Barbee St., is hosting an *Open House* Nov. 17, 5:30-7:30 p.m., for prospective students for the 2006-07 school year. For more information, call Nancy Achter at (336) 887-2613 or visit www.ihm-school.com.

STONEVILLE — The Greensboro Council of Catholic Women will hold its annual *Mass of Remembrance* Nov. 17 at St. Francis Springs Prayer Center, 477 Grogan Rd. Mass at 10:30 a.m. will be followed by lunch. For more information, please contact Carmen Wood at (336) 545-9266.

GREENSBORO — All Irish-Catholic women are invited to participate in the *Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians*, a social, cultural and charitable group for an ongoing series of fun and informative activities. LAOH meets the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Kloster Center of St. Pius X Church, 2210 N.

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-mail: catholicnews@charlottdiocese.org

NOVEMBER 4, 2005
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 5

The *Catholic News & Herald*, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The *Catholic News & Herald* reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The *Catholic News & Herald*, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Vatican condemns statement against Israel, new Holy Land violence

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Vatican condemned a new round of violence in the Holy Land and said recent statements questioning Israel's right to exist were "unacceptable."

The Vatican statement was issued Oct. 28, two days after Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad denounced the policies of Israel and said the country should be "wiped off the map." His comments drew widespread criticism and calls by some for sanctions against Iran.

Without mentioning Iran by name, the Vatican statement said it firmly condemned "certain statements, particularly serious and unacceptable, in which Israel's right to exist is denied."

"The Holy See reaffirms on this occasion the right of both Israelis and Palestinians to live in peace and security, each in their own sovereign state," it said.

The Vatican expressed its condemnation of recent acts of violence in the Holy

Land "from whatever side they originate," including a Palestinian terrorist attack in Hadera Oct. 26 and an Israeli reprisal raid the next day.

A Palestinian militant group claimed responsibility for the attack in Hadera, which killed five Israeli troops; the group said the attack was in retaliation for Israel's killing of an Islamic militant. Israel in turn retaliated with a missile attack in Gaza that killed four militants and three bystanders.

The Vatican urged all leaders of the Middle East to "listen to the yearning for peace and justice that springs from their populations and avoid acts or choices that lead to division and death."

"They should commit themselves with courage and determination to creating the minimum conditions necessary for a resumption of dialogue, which is the only way that will assure a future of peace and prosperity to the children of that land," it said.

Elm St. Please join us for refreshments and to learn more about our group. Any questions can be directed to Mary Giff at (336) 855-7014.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

MOORESVILLE — One of the most important aspects of parenting is the ability to set healthy boundaries with teenagers. Shannon Wilson, family therapist, will present *Parents, Teens and Boundaries: How to Draw the Line* Nov. 12, 1-4 p.m., at St. Therese Church, 217 Brawley School Rd. This workshop will teach parents practical strategies for boundary setting to help them deal better with avoiding conflict, resolving problems and issues, and establishing a mutual foundation of love and respect. For more information, call Dave Conklin at (704) 664-7762, ext. 108.

SALISBURY — Sacred Heart Church, 128 N. Fulton St., celebrates a *Charismatic and Healing Mass* the first Sunday of each month at 4 p.m. Prayer and worship with prayer teams will be available at 3 p.m., and a potluck dinner will follow the Mass. Father John Putnam, pastor, will be the celebrant. For further information, call Bill Owens at (704) 639-9837.

MOORESVILLE — A *Support Group for Parents Who Have Lost a Child* of any age meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at St. Therese Church, 217 Brawley School Rd. We draw strength from others' experience of loss and grief. For more information, call Joy at (704) 664-3992.

MOORESVILLE — Seniors ages 55 and up are invited to St. Therese Church, 217 Brawley School Rd., the second Saturday of each month following the 5:30 Mass for *Senior Games Night*, featuring games and a potluck dinner. Call Barbara Daigler at (704) 662-9752 for details.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

WAYNESVILLE — The *Catholic Women's Circle* of St. John the Evangelist Church, 234 Church St., meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in

the church hall. For more information, call the church office at (828) 456-6707.

FRANKLIN — The *Women's Guild* of St. Francis of Assisi Church, 299 Maple St., meets the second Monday of each month at 1 p.m. in the Family Life Center. The meetings feature guest speakers and special events periodically. For more information, call Claire Barnable at (828) 369-1565.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

CLEMMONS — Msgr. Mauricio W. West will celebrate a *Healing Mass* at Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd., Nov. 7 at 7:30 p.m. Individual prayer for healing will follow Mass. For more information, contact the church office at (336) 778-0600.

WINSTON-SALEM — St. Benedict the Moor Church, 1625 East 12th St., has a 12:15 p.m. prayer service, *Veni Sanctus Spiritus*, the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. All are welcome to reflect on God and refresh the spirit in the middle of a day. For more information, call Sister Larretta Rivera-Williams at (336) 725-9200.

WINSTON-SALEM — The *Compassionate Care-Givers* meet every first, third and fifth Thursdays of each month at St. Benedict the Moor Church, 1625 East 12th St. This group provides affirmation, support and prayer for people who have cared for and are caring for loved ones living with Alzheimer's and any other chronic illnesses. For more information, call Sister Larretta Rivera-Williams at (336) 725-9200.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 15 days prior to the event date in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Pope tells Christians to think of 'death without fear'

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Christians can cultivate a fearless acceptance of death, recognizing that it is a necessary juncture leading from one's journey on earth to one's final destination in heaven, said Pope Benedict XVI.

Observing the Nov. 1 feast of All Saints and anticipating the Nov. 2 feast of All Souls, Pope Benedict said these days of offering prayers for departed loved ones can help Christians "think of the mystery of death without fear."

"New life, received through baptism, is not subject to the corruption and power of death," he said Nov. 1 before praying his midday Angelus.

For Christians, "death is a gateway from the earthly pilgrimage to the home of heaven, where the Father welcomes all his children of every nation, race, people and tongue," he said.

He called on Christians to include some time during the two feast days to "think about the mystery of death without fear and cultivate that constant

awareness that prepares us to face (death) with serenity."

Pope Benedict told thousands of visitors gathered in St. Peter's Square on the feast of All Saints, an Italian public holiday, that the day offers the opportunity "to experience the joy of being part of the large family of God's friends."

The communion of saints is "a family united by deep bonds of spiritual solidarity, which unite the deceased faithful to the world's pilgrims," he said.

This bond is "mysterious, but real" and is fostered "by prayer and participating in the sacrament of the Eucharist," the pope said.

The souls of all the faithful "overcome the barrier of death" and are united in the Eucharist, he said.

Pope Benedict said he would be spiritually united to all those visiting cemeteries Nov. 2, saying he would be "in prayer at the popes' tombs in the Vatican grotto" with "a special remembrance of the beloved John Paul II."

Halloween fun



COURTESY PHOTO

Caroline Hollins (left), a first-grader at Immaculate Heart of Mary School in High Point, shows off her costume beside sixth-grader Lauren Cushing during the school's annual Halloween carnival Oct. 31. Students are paired with their prayer partners during the event to share in the trick-or-treat fun.

DIOCESAN REQUIREMENTS FOR REPORTING MINISTRY-RELATED SEXUAL ABUSE OF A MINOR

1. Any individual having actual knowledge of or reasonable cause to suspect an incident of ministry-related sexual abuse is to immediately report the incident to the Chancery.
2. The Chancery will then report the incident to the proper civil authorities. The individual reporting the incident to the Chancery will be notified of the particulars regarding the Chancery's filing of the incident with civil authorities.
3. This reporting requirement is not intended to supersede the right of an individual to make a report to civil authority, but is to ensure proper, complete and timely reporting. Should an individual choose to make a report to civil authority, a report is still to be made to the Chancery.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Nov. 7 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
Immaculate Conception Church, Hendersonville

Nov. 8 — 11 a.m.
Presbyteral Council Meeting
Pastoral Center, Charlotte

Nov. 10 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. Vincent de Paul Church, Charlotte

Nov. 12 — 11 a.m.
Mass for Institution of Acolytes
Permanent diaconate candidates
St. Patrick Cathedral, Charlotte

Secular Carmelites welcome new members at annual retreat

DURHAM — The Order of Secular Discalced Carmelites is growing in the Diocese of Charlotte.

The order's Flower of Carmel Community in Asheville honored several of its members at Masses held during its annual retreat at the Avila Retreat Center in Durham Oct. 21-23.

Cynthia Blum, a parishioner of St. Barnabas Church in Arden, made her final promises to the order superiors and community gathered. She promised a life of evangelical perfection in the spirit of the Evangelical Counsels of chastity, poverty and obedience and to the Beatitudes for the rest of her life.

Blum's vows were the culmination of more than five years of spiritual discernment, formation and study of the order's saints and way of life.

After 10 months of discernment, Jim and Loretta Potts, parishioners of St. Barnabas Church, were received into the community to begin their five years of study and formation. They were clothed in large brown scapulars, the habit of the order.

Discalced Carmelite Father Theodore Centala of the Carmelite monastery in Brighton, Mass., celebrated

both Masses and officiated at both ceremonies.

Father Centala previously was the provincial delegate of the order's Washington province, which includes North Carolina.

The Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites is an order of lay people and diocesan priests who embrace a calling to strive for Christian perfection in the world according to the spirit and ideals of the Order of Discalced Carmelites.

Following in the way of St. Teresa of Avila and St. John of the Cross, Secular Carmelites endeavor to make their lives as grace-filled and fruitful as possible in every way for the whole church and the world.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on the Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites, visit www.ocdswashprov.org.

For more information on the Flower of Carmel Community, call Elizabeth Pantas, director of formation, at (828) 628-4621, or Ella Reid, president, at (828) 667-3903.

Observing faith and history



COURTESY PHOTO

Father Wilbur Thomas, pastor of the Basilica of St. Lawrence in Asheville, and members of Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Asheville 412 celebrate National Catholic Daughters Day at the basilica Oct. 16. The court, the first in North Carolina, also celebrates its 85th anniversary. During the event, a 50-year pin was given to Bernice Fowler, the oldest member of Court Asheville 412.

From its inception in 1903, Catholic Daughters of the Americas has grown and developed into the largest organization of Catholic women in the Americas, with representatives in Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Virgin Islands, Guam and Saipan. Under the patronage of the Blessed Mother, its members are united by their faith in Jesus Christ, in their devotion to the Catholic Church and the Holy See.

Catholic Daughters is open to Catholic lay and religious women, 18 years of age or older, who want to support the Catholic Church and participate in social and charitable activities.

Knights and ladies

Eight from Charlotte honored in Washington ceremonies

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Eight members of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, all from the Diocese of Charlotte, recently received distinction.

Cardinal William H. Keeler of Baltimore promoted Cleatus Tate, a parishioner of the Basilica of St. Lawrence in Asheville, to the rank of Knight Commander with Gold Star and Alice Cella, also of the Basilica of St. Lawrence and the order's regional representative, to the rank of Lady Commander during the order's annual investiture ceremonies in Washington, D.C., Oct. 14-15.

During a Mass Oct. 15, Cardinal Keeler invested into the order Peter Fredrick Asmer, Jr., a parishioner of St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte, and Rita Maria Jimenez Witt, a parishioner of St. Gabriel Church in Charlotte, with the titles of knight and lady, respectively.

Other members from the Diocese of

Charlotte were recognized during the ceremonies. Cardinal Keeler presented scrolls from Rome attesting to the previous promotion to knight commander and lady commander to Guillermo Calles and Helen Antoinette Calles (posthumously) of the Basilica of St. Lawrence.

Jane and Michael Balbirnie, parishioners of St. Matthew Church in Charlotte, and Phillip Eugene Witt, a parishioner of St. Gabriel Church, also were presented with scrolls authenticating their investiture into the papal order in November 2004.

The order is a philanthropic organization that works to promote and protect the Catholic faith in the Holy Land. There are 57 members of the order in the Diocese of Charlotte, including Bishop Peter J. Jugis and Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin.

Membership is considered one of the highest papal awards conferred upon clergy and laity alike.



COURTESY PHOTO

Cynthia Blum, Loretta Potts, Discalced Carmelite Father Theodore Centala and Jim Potts are seen in this photo from the Order of Secular Discalced Carmelites Flower of Carmel Community's annual retreat in Durham Oct. 21-23. During the retreat, Blum made final promises to the order and the Pottses began their five years of study and formation.



Let stairs be our problem... not yours!

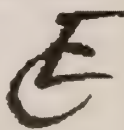
Ask about our Stairway lifts.

- Easily attached to steps (not walls)
- Folds out of the way
- Fits most stairways (straight & curved)
- Very affordable (rent or buy)
- We install

Chair & Equipment Rentals & Sales, Inc.

800 Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC • (800) 333-8431

Member of St. Thomas Aquinas



FROM THE COVER

Celebrating love and marriage

'MARRIAGE IS A SACRAMENT, A COVENANT,
A VOCATION, A WAY OF SALVATION.'

— BISHOP PETER J. JUGIS

MARRIAGE, from page 1

years of marriage this year. One couple, Harry and Martha Barnhardt of St. Joseph Church in Kannapolis, celebrated 64 years of marriage; another couple, Edwin and Kitty Shaver, also of St. Joseph Church, celebrated 60 years of marriage.

Bishop Jugis called the event a "marvelous celebration of God's faithfulness and grace."

"You are the living signs that mar-

riage and family life are alive and well," said Bishop Jugis. "The love and respect of the entire Catholic Church community are extended to you today in the solemn celebration of the anniversary of your union in the sacrament of matrimony."

Bishop Jugis said a lasting marriage demands love and loyalty, deep faith in God's grace, great hope that becomes a source of strength and refuge, and an ever-growing love for God and mankind.

"Christ invited you to build your marriages on a solid foundation, that being Christ himself, the foundation of the church," said the bishop.

"Because you accepted that invitation, we are able to celebrate your anniversaries here today," he said. "Without Christ, it would not be possible."

Christ showed mankind how to love, said Bishop Jugis.

"It is Christ's love that has taught us really how to love, with a love that is concerned for the well-being of the other," he said. "Without Christ, love becomes a self-centered love."

The true love of marriage is meant to be shared, said Bishop Jugis.

"The love which God has given you to share in marriage he means for you to share with others, so they too can know the love Christ meant for the world," he said.

Bishop Jugis encouraged the couples to attend Mass together.

"When you attend Mass, you return to the source and strength of your marriages — Christ's love," he said.

Capuchin Franciscan Father Ignatius Zampino, pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas Church, concelebrated the Mass. Deacon Mark Nash assisted, with Father Christopher Roux serving

as master of ceremonies.

After the bishop's homily, the couples faced each other as they renewed their marriage vows. Their promises were then sealed with a kiss.

"Marriage is a sacrament, a covenant, a vocation, a way of salvation," said Bishop Jugis. "I thank you for the privilege of sharing in your love and joy today."

Contact Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail kemurray@charlottediocese.org.

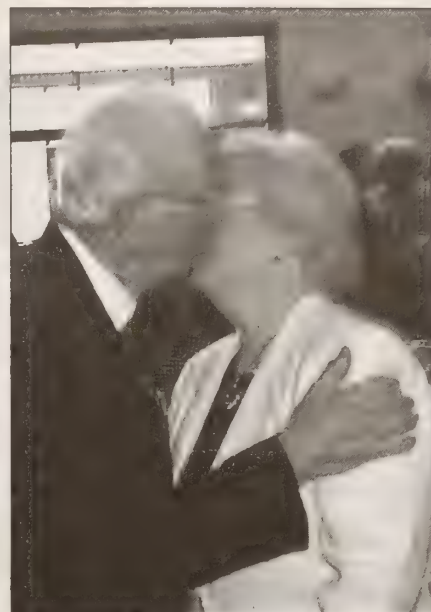


PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Anniversary couples share kisses during the annual diocesan wedding anniversary celebration held at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Charlotte Oct. 30.



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Anniversary couples renew their wedding vows during the annual diocesan wedding anniversary celebration held at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Charlotte Oct. 30.



**Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center**

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

**125,000 people will read
these words this week!**



Shouldn't they see **YOUR COMPANY'S** name here?

LOW ad rates - easy for small businesses and individuals, too!

Call (704) 370-3332 now!

—THE
CATHOLIC
NEWS & HERALD

We Love Blessed Sacrament Academy !!



Call now to guarantee your child's enrollment.
Space is LIMITED! 704-841-2292
Visit us on the web : www.blessedsacramentacademy.org

Located behind Windsor Square in Matthews, NC. Independent of Charlotte diocesan schools. Member of NARPS.

- ◆ A classical curriculum in the Catholic tradition
- ◆ Latin, French, Music & Art
- ◆ Grades K-8
- ◆ Excellent scores on standardized tests



Featuring Blue Diamond Exclusively



Malak Jewelers

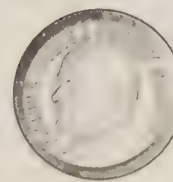
At the Arboretum (St. Matthew parishioners)

We extend to you the very finest in Jewelry and Service...
Largest Selection - Best Quality & Prices Guaranteed

Certified Loose Diamonds
Platinum, Gold, Fine Jewelry
Sterling silver and watches
Estate Jewelry - Buy & Sell

26 years of Integrity and Experience!

(704) 341-1188 www.malakjewelers.com
8042-800 Providence Rd., Charlotte



Now featuring special
sterling silver medallion
of Pope John Paul II -
complimentary with
purchases over \$50
(one per purchase)



Bishop Peter J. Jugis announces the following pastoral assignments:

Effective Aug. 22, 2005

Father Christopher M. Gober

Vocations director for the Diocese of Charlotte, while remaining pastor, St. Lucien Church, Spruce Pine, and St. Bernadette Church, Linville

Effective Oct. 12, 2005

Conventual Franciscan Father Juniper Alwell

Parochial vicar, Our Lady of Mercy Church, Winston-Salem

Effective Oct. 17, 2005

Father Duc H. Duong

From: Administrator, St. Benedict Church, Greensboro

To: Pastor, St. Benedict Church, Greensboro

Effective Nov. 1, 2005

Father James M. Byer

In residence at rectory of St. Joseph Church, Newton, with responsibilities as Administrator of Holy Trinity Mission, Taylorsville

Father Aloysius D'Silva, retired priest of diocese, dies at 69

HIGH POINT — Father Aloysius Joseph D'Silva, a retired priest of the Diocese of Charlotte, died in High Point on Wednesday, Oct. 26. Father D'Silva, 69, was a resident of Pennybyrn at Maryfield retirement center in High Point.

A funeral Mass was celebrated by Bishop Peter J. Jugis at Maryfield Chapel Oct. 31. In accord with Father D'Silva's wishes, he was cremated. Inurnment is at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church Cemetery in Mumbai, India.

"Father D'Silva's devotion to the Mass will always remain my most vivid memory of his priestly ministry," said Bishop Jugis.

"Even as his eyesight was failing him in recent years, he made sure that the Mass remained an important part of his life by having large-print copies prepared of the text of the Mass," he said. "In that way, he always stayed close to the Lord."

Father D'Silva was born in Mumbai March 20, 1936 and was ordained to the priesthood Oct. 18, 1961. He continued his studies and received a degree in psycho-pedagogy from Salesianum University in Rome, degrees in pastoral counseling from Iona College in New York and a degree in professional studies from New School for Social Research in New York.

Father D'Silva came to the Diocese of Charlotte in 1993 and served as pastor of St. Lucien Church in Spruce Pine and St. Bernadette Church in Linville. During



Father Aloysius D'Silva

his pastorate, an active faith formation program was developed at St. Lucien Church.

"I give of myself 200 percent because of the love of my ministry," said Father D'Silva in a 1999 interview with *The Catholic News & Herald*.

"I try to be available for the people; moreover, I feel very enthused and grateful to the good Lord for being able to do what I can," he said.

In 2002, Father D'Silva became chaplain of Pennybyrn at Maryfield, where he resided until his death.

Memorials to honor Father D'Silva may be directed to the Priests' Education Fund, Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, N.C. 28203.

DO ADS WORK? LISTEN TO THIS:

"We have been very pleased with the readers' response to our ad in *The Catholic News & Herald*. We advertise our caregiver services in a number of publications and none has produced the interest and response we've received from *The Catholic News & Herald*."

— Jill B. Stewart, Owner, **Visiting Angels**

THE
CATHOLIC
NEWS & HERALD

CALL TODAY for low rates to tell over 125,000 readers every week about YOUR company! 704-370-3332

ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO THE HARVEST?

Then he said to His disciples, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers for His harvest." (Mt 9:37)

I am praying that you will join me in responding to our Lord's request for more "laborers" in harvesting the abundant fruit to be found at Belmont Abbey College. Over 125 years ago the Benedictine Monks came south in response to God's call to begin His work in the vineyard of North Carolina.

He is calling you to place your hands upon the same bricks that were formed and put in place by these holy monks so long ago. I am looking for strong, dedicated, Catholic students to help realize our vision of excellence and virtue. Belmont Abbey is *your* Catholic College and God is calling you to the "harvest."

Dr. William K. Thierfelder
President



**BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE**

THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED



☐ I WANT TO HELP BUILD OUR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY. PLEASE SEND ME A STUDENT REFERRAL PACKAGE.

If you would like to help Belmont Abbey College by referring or becoming a new student, please fill out this form and send it to us or go online to BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu and click on Referral Package in the Quick Links. We will send you our complete referral/information package with detailed information about the Abbey and all it has to offer!

Your Name _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____
Email _____
Phone _____ No. of Packages Requested _____

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

100 BELMONT-MT. HOLLY ROAD
BELMONT, NC 28012-1802
BELMONTABBEYCOLLEGE.EDU

Vatican II's Christian-Jewish ties

TIES, from page 1

The pope made the remarks at a Sunday blessing Oct. 30 from his apartment window above St. Peter's Square, which was crowded with more than 50,000 visitors.

As the church prepares to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the close of Vatican II, the pope asked Catholics to look again at several of the landmark documents approved in the final weeks of the council.

Among them was "Nostra Aetate," the Declaration on the Relationship of the Church to Non-Christian Religions, which the pope said was extremely relevant today.

He said the document begins from the principle that "all men form but one community," and that the church has a duty to foster unity and charity

among peoples.

It goes on to say that the church "rejects nothing of what is true and holy in other religions," the pope said. At the same time, it makes clear that the church announces Christ to all people as "the way, the truth and the life" in which people find "the fullness of their religious life," he said.

Among other Vatican II documents, the pope said the Declaration on Christian Education has particular relevance today. It emphasizes the importance of an educational system that recognizes the primacy of man as a person, open to truth and goodness, he said.

All the documents of Vatican II deserve a new look, he said, because they "maintain their value and reveal a timeliness that, in some ways, has increased."

He asked Catholics to join him in praying to Mary to help all Christians "keep alive the spirit of the Second Vatican Council."

Vatican II trivia: Dates, documents and designated experts

BY CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — On Jan. 25, 1959, Pope John XXIII announced plans to convoke the Second Vatican Council. It was the 21st ecumenical council in church history.

During the council's four sessions, from 1962 to 1965, there were 147 reports and 2,212 speeches read, as well as 4,361 written interventions.

In 1962, there were 2,908 eligible council fathers. The average daily attendance of bishops was 2,200. There were 460 officially designated experts, including 235 diocesan priests, 45 Jesuits, 42

Dominicans and 15 Franciscans.

The council had 168 general meetings, plus 10 plenary sessions.

The first session ran Oct. 11-Dec. 8, 1962, and included 36 general meetings. Pope John presided.

The second session, Sept. 29-Dec. 4, 1963, included 43 general meetings. Pope Paul VI presided over that and subsequent sessions.

The third session, Sept. 14-Nov. 21, 1964, included 48 general meetings.

The fourth and final session, Sept. 14-Dec. 8, 1965, included 41 general meetings.



CNS FILE PHOTO

A group of prelates from around the world stand outside St. Peter's Basilica following the conclusion of the 1962 general session of the Second Vatican Council. Between 2,000 and 2,500 bishops attended each of the council's four sessions. Vatican II was the largest of the church's 21 ecumenical councils.

Only eight U.S. bishops still alive who attended Vatican II

BY JERRY FILTEAU
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Forty years after the final session of the Second Vatican Council, only eight U.S. bishops who participated in its deliberations and voted on its documents are still alive.

Two were named bishops by Pope Pius XII, four by Pope John XXIII and two by Pope Paul VI.

Retired Auxiliary Bishop Charles G. Maloney, 93, of Louisville, Ky., and retired Archbishop Philip M. Hannan of New Orleans, 92, are the only remaining U.S. bishops who were named by Pope Pius XII. They were ordained bishops in 1955 and 1956, respectively.

At the age of 95, retired Bishop Marion F. Forst of Dodge City, Kan., is the oldest living U.S. bishop. Pope John XXIII named him a bishop in 1960.

The other three named by Pope John are:

— Retired Bishop Charles A. Buswell of Pueblo, Colo., 92. He was

ordained a bishop in 1959.

— Retired Archbishop Raymond G. Hunthausen of Seattle, 84, who was ordained a bishop in 1962.

— Retired Maronite Archbishop Francis M. Zayek of St. Maron of Brooklyn, N.Y., 85. Born in Cuba, he was ordained a bishop in 1962 and was serving as an auxiliary bishop for Maronites in Brazil during the council years. He was made bishop of Maronites in the United States in 1971.

Two still-living U.S. bishops were named during the council years by Pope Paul VI and were able to attend part of the council.

Retired Auxiliary Bishop John J. Ward of Los Angeles, 85, was ordained a bishop in December 1963 and attended the council's 1964 and 1965 sessions.

Retired Bishop Loras J. Watters of Winona, Minn., 90, was ordained a bishop in August 1965 and attended the council's final session that fall.

Groce
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

1401 Patton Ave. 72 Long Shoals Road
Asheville, NC Arden, NC
(828) 252-3535 (828) 687-3530

Pre-arrangements and obituaries on-line at www.grocefuneralhome.com

**Assuring
Absolute
Integrity**

Asheville's Catholic Funeral Directors
Dale Groce • John Prock
Toll-free (888) 874-3535

The **Catholic** Company

Lake Norman Book Store
maryimmaculata.com



Now 2 COMPLETE Catholic stores for

- Unique gifts & cards
- Books, rosaries, medals
- Previously read book section (at Lake Norman)
- Video rentals
- Artwork

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

CAROLINA CATHOLIC
BOOKSHOPPE

Mon. thru Sat.
10 am - 6 pm

Tastefully Yours Catering
1401 S Church Street - Suite A • Charlotte, NC 28203
704.632.8840 • tastefullyyours.com
Located in Charlotte's Southend

Full Service Caterer

Holiday Parties
Receptions
Rehearsal Dinners
Engagement Parties
Bridal Showers
Spa Parties

Visit our cafe for a sampling
of the possibilities!

(wedding tastings by appointment only)



"An Ocean Song"

Magnificent Semi-Oceanfront House!

Available for 2006 Rentals Outer Banks, Corolla, North Carolina

NEW, 9 bedroom, 8.5 bath house with elevator, sleeps 24 people
Stunning ocean views. Private pool, hot tub, tiki bar, home theatre
room, recreation room w/pool table, game table, office and more!

House #448 Corolla Classic Vacations 1-866-453-9660

VATICAN II

Vatican II: Forty years later

COUNCIL, from page 1

renewed the priesthood and religious life, enhanced the role of lay Catholics, opened dialogue with other churches and non-Christians, and identified the church as the "people of God" attuned to the problems and hopes of the world.

Although the council defined no new dogma, Catholics who lived through the Vatican II era will never forget the changes — some of them abrupt — that visited their church communities in the mid-1960s.

Altars were turned around so that priests faced the people. The Mass in Latin gave way to Mass in the vernacular. Other sacraments were updated and simplified. Men and women religious adopted a more modern form of dress.

Not all the changes were immediate, however. Church leaders began a long and sometimes contentious process of revising nearly every area of pastoral life, from the teaching of religion to lay ministries.

"The council represented a Copernican revolution for the church, which challenged itself by asking how it could reopen a dialogue with the modern world," said Father Dario Vitali, who teaches church history at Rome's Gregorian University.

"Through the council, the church drew closer to contemporary men and women and made the Gospel meaningful to them," said Father Vitali. "If there had been no Vatican II, I think the church today would be a small minority, closed off in rites incomprehensible to the modern mentality."

Not everyone in the church sees the council as a positive thing. Some Catholics are still nostalgic for the old ways of worship, and at times some church officials — including several in Rome — have criticized the way Vatican II has been understood and implemented. In many cases, the ongoing debate reflects issues that were argued heatedly on the floor of the council.

History and direction

Dec. 8 marks the anniversary of the close of the council in 1965, and this fall Rome and the Vatican are hosting several commemorative encounters to reflect on how far the church has come over the last four decades.

Pope Benedict XVI, who participated in the council as a theological expert, is expected to speak about the importance of the council's documents. Although he has criticized some postconciliar changes, the pope has made it clear that Vatican II will be the "compass" of his papacy. The compass, of course, sets direction; it will be up to the new pope to provide the details.

The pope also has emphasized that implementation of the council is an ongoing task in the church, not just something that happened 40 years ago. One goal is to make sure Vatican II is not viewed as ancient history by young generations of Catholics.

"Younger Catholics may not be as intellectually aware of the council, but they are continually experiencing its effects," said Alberto Melloni, a church historian of the Vatican II period.



CNS PHOTO FROM THE PILOT

Before the liturgical changes of the Second Vatican Council, Catholics received the Eucharist by approaching and kneeling at the Communion rail. This photo was taken during Mass at the Paulist Center in Boston in 1955.

"Thanks to the council, young people have been taught to see the world not simply as a threat to Christian life, but as an opportunity to announce the Gospel," Melloni said.

Vatican II is sometimes described as a revolution, but it did not appear out of the blue. There had been 20 previous ecumenical councils in the church's history, including the First Vatican Council in 1869-70. Vatican I defined the dogmas of papal infallibility and the primacy of papal jurisdiction, but the council was suspended when war broke out in Europe, and it never resumed.

The theological ferment of the mid-20th century helped lay the groundwork for Vatican II. Pioneering theologians like Dominican Father Yves Congar and Jesuit Fathers John Courtney Murray and Henri de Lubac were trying to build bridges between Christianity's ancient truths and the contemporary world. All three were silenced in some fashion by the Vatican during the 1950s, but re-emerged to become important voices of the council.

Pope John XXIII surprised almost everyone when, after only three months as pontiff, he announced he was convening the council. The pope spoke of the need to update the church and promote Christian unity; above all, he said, he wanted to show the modern world that the church had been transformed and intellectually reinvigorated.

Pope John said the world was marked by spiritual poverty and needed the church's vitality. But, as he later told the council, the church wanted to offer the modern world the "medicine of mercy" and not severe condemnations.

Back to the sources

Preparation for the council took almost three years, and Pope John, already diagnosed with cancer when it began, presided over only the first of four annual autumn sessions in 1962. The invitation to Protestants, Orthodox and other non-Catholics to attend had already made Vatican II a historic event.

Pope Paul VI guided the completion of the council's work, presiding over the

other three sessions and directing the important follow-up work in areas of liturgy, ecumenism, religious life and evangelization.

Between 2,000 and 2,500 bishops attended each Vatican II session, and participants have said the debates ranged from free-wheeling to finely tuned, with verbal skirmishes not uncommon. To give just one example, when the first draft of the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church ("Lumen Gentium") was presented, it was roundly criticized as triumphal, clerical and legalistic; the document was adopted two years and many amendments later.

From the beginning, bishops recognized that their task was not just updating church practices but also a process of "ressourcement," or going back to the sources of the faith.

There was a sense among participants that they were indeed making history, said Bishop Frank Fernando of Chilaw, Sri Lanka, one of a handful of

still-active bishops to have participated in a session of the council.

"The debate was very systematic, with a great exchange of ideas. The documents would come back again and again with amendments, which the bishops would study. That's why these are very polished documents — it was not just a matter of bringing them in one day and passing them the next," Bishop Fernando said.

Major accomplishments

In the end, the council issued four constitutions: on the liturgy, the church's structure and nature, on the church in the modern world and on divine revelation.

It produced nine decrees: on the church and the media, ecumenism, Eastern Catholic churches, bishops, priestly formation, religious life, the laity, priestly ministry and missionary activity. It issued three declarations: on non-Christian religions, Christian education and religious freedom.

Most experts list the council's biggest achievement as a new way of understanding the church — as the "people of God" and not simply a hierarchical structure, and as a "sacrament" to the world with an active mission in all sectors of human society.

"Lumen Gentium" presented the church as a mystery and a communion of baptized believers moving toward heaven as one body that is holy, yet imperfect while on earth.

Although organized hierarchically, the church as a communion is a living body whose individual members are called to holiness and who each have specific roles, rights and responsibilities, the document said.

The Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World ("Gaudium et Spes") was written more for the average reader and was approved in 1965, during the council's last vote.

Bishop Fernando remembers the moment well, and he said he considers "Gaudium et Spes" the most important thing to come out of the council. He said many bishops thought the council had

See COUNCIL, next page

Providing Help. Creating Hope. Changing Lives.

Catholic Social Services The Diocese of Charlotte

Executive Director: Elizabeth Thurbee (704) 370-3227

Refugee Office: Cira Ponce (704) 370-6930

Justice & Peace: Joe Purello (704) 370-3225

Family Life: Gerard Carter (704) 370-3228

Charlotte Region: 1123 South Church Street, Charlotte, NC 28203
Area Director: Geri King (704) 370-6155

Western Region: 50 Orange Street, Asheville, NC 28801
Area Director: Debra Braese (828) 255-0146

Piedmont-Triad: 621 W. Second Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27108
Area Director: David Harold (336) 727-0705
Greensboro Satellite Office (336) 274-5577
High Point Satellite Office (336) 884-5858

For information on specific programs,
please call your local office.

1123 South Church Street, Charlotte, NC 28203
www.cssnc.org



COUNCIL, from previous page

spoken in previous documents primarily to experts and specialists and wanted this document to communicate a message to the whole world.

"Gaudium et Spes" called on the church to engage in dialogue with contemporary society and its problems, bringing church teaching and moral values to bear on a world too often torn by hatred, war and injustice. The document acknowledged that science and culture have things to teach the church, but also said the church has a mission to sanctify the world around it.

Many changes

In the years after its close, the renewal outlined by the council was refined and codified in a number of decrees, norms and changes in canon law. The church witnessed countless changes:

— The new Roman Missal was issued in 1970, with a new cycle of readings designed to offer a richer selection of Scripture. The liturgical calendar was simplified. The rites for sacraments were revised, emphasizing the communal aspects of their celebration. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults was revived and reformed.

As the changes took place, active liturgical participation increased dramatically in many local church communities.

— Lay ministries multiplied. Lay readers and lay ministers of Communion appeared during Mass. Laity were represented on parish councils and diocesan boards, and lay men and women, many

with theology degrees, replaced clerics in a number of administrative church positions.

— Throughout the church, there was a renewed attention to Scriptures, in liturgy and in individual spirituality.

— Eastern Catholic churches were encouraged to return to their own traditions, ending a period of Latinization and opening a new appreciation of variety within the universal church.

— Ecumenism flourished, in formal dialogue between Catholic officials and other Christian churches, and in prayer and fellowship encounters at the local level.

— After the council acknowledged the possibility of salvation for non-Christians, dialogue also began with other religions.

— Religious life changed dramatically, as religious orders adopted Vatican norms and rewrote their own constitutions, taking a new look at issues of authority, community and identity.

— The council restored the permanent diaconate as a ministry and allowed married men to be ordained deacons. Today, there are more than 29,000 permanent deacons around the world.

— The council's teaching that the pope and bishops together form a single collegial body led to a new appreciation for bishops and bishops' conferences. The Synod of Bishops was formed to meet regularly and advise the pope.

— Theology was revitalized, especially moral theology, which focused increasingly on biblical sources and the individual conscience, and less on church law or authority.

— The council underlined the church's solidarity with humanity



CNS PHOTO FROM THE PILOT

This photo taken in 1930 during the dedication of St. Gabriel Monastery in Brighton, Mass., shows the layout of a pre-Vatican II sanctuary. Before the changes set forth by the Second Vatican Council, the priest celebrated Mass facing the altar with his back to the congregation.

instead of its separation from the secular world, and this led to a mushrooming of social and charitable activities. Church leaders spoke frequently about the church's identification with the poor and suffering, and the pope became a strong human rights advocate.

At the same time, the church experienced some worrisome developments, including a dramatic drop in vocations and an increase in the number of priests and religious seeking laicization. Mass attendance fell in many places, many Catholics abandoned the sacrament of penance, and

dissent on certain teachings, such as birth control, was widespread.

All that has helped fuel a 40-year debate over the proper reading and realization of the council.

Pope Benedict has been a sometimes critical voice in this debate. But he always distinguished between the council and its implementation, saying that what hurt the church in the decade following Vatican II was "not the council but the refusal to accept it."

Contributing to this story was Cindy Wooden.

*Enjoy God's peace
and beauty in the
foothills!*

*Share the blessings
of this opportunity*

Janua Coeli

- Four riverfront homesites offered for sale, all with gated access and private drive
- In the Appalachian foothills, 1 hour west of Charlotte and 40 minutes from Asheville
- Designed by nature, home to abundant wildlife with majestic riverwalk
- Very large lots, 6 to 12 acres each all with access to community barn
- Frontage on Second Broad River, with beautiful forest land and nature trails all accessible by foot and/or horseback
- Deeded access to 40 acres of pasture and more than ½ mile of riverfront
- Our Lady of the River grotto and Stations of the Cross



A unique opportunity, this property of 110 acres will be used as a retreat ranch for children suffering from cancer, and their families. Held by the Padre Pio Land Trust, it is being developed by Michael and Robin Hunter, Parishioners of Immaculate Conception in Rutherfordton and trustees of Janua Coeli Cancer Foundation. If you are interested in an ideal spot for your vacation home, or have any questions regarding this property, please contact Mike or Robin at (828) 429-8544, (828) 286-1998, or online at www.janua-coeli-cancer-foundation.com

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Fantasy conquers reality's woes?

Professor assesses Tolkien's 'Catholic vision' in 'Rings' trilogy

BY GENE STOWE
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NOTRE DAME, Ind. — J.R.R. Tolkien's "The Lord of the Rings" trilogy offers a Catholic approach to — and prescription for — modern society's ills, a Baylor University professor told a crowd at the University of Notre Dame Oct. 25.

"Tolkien has been a writer of such immense popularity in our time because he gave us such a deepened Catholic vision and understanding of the world," said Ralph Wood, a professor of theology and literature at the Baptist university in Waco, Texas.

Wood gave the first lecture in the Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture's fourth annual Catholic culture series. Three other talks were scheduled for November on the series theme, "Valor, Fellowship and Sacrifice: Tolkien's Catholic Myth."

Tolkien's view is Catholic in both the general sense of "universal" — an unpopular idea in a world of identity politics and fragmented diversity — and in the Catholic sense of a deeply sacramental understanding of reality, Wood said.

Tolkien, whose mother suffered the rejection of her relatives when she became a Catholic in 1900, was intensely devoted to Catholic teaching and piety, but unlike his friend C.S. Lewis he focused on literature as art and not as a vehicle for evangelism, Wood said.

Tolkien described "The Lord of the Rings" as "a fundamentally religious and Catholic work; unconsciously at first, but consciously in the revision," Wood said.

He said some features, such as Boromir's confession to Aragorn, the Marian qualities of Galadriel, the awakening of the dead to purge their past sins and the description of elvish "waybread" that resembles Communion bread — "it does not satisfy the stomach but fortifies the will," seem explicitly Catholic.

But in a larger way, he said, Tolkien presents modern ideas hostile to the Catholic view as being on the side of evil, illustrated by the powers of the ring:

— Deathlessness leads to a stretched-out life that loses quality for the ring's holders, in contrast to the understanding that a good death is the



CNS PHOTO COURTESY NEW LINE CINEMA

J.R.R. Tolkien's epic adventure "The Lord of the Rings" was recently brought to the big screen.

crown of one's life.

Gollum, for example, has lived 500 years because of the ring: "It's made him live longer but not better," Wood said.

— Magical disappearance has to do with instant gratification in contrast to the understanding that worthwhile accomplishment comes from slow and embodied work in the real world.

"To disappear is to be invisible," Wood said. "Look what the Internet does to us. It allows us to be completely anonymous," feeling free to do things we would not ordinarily do.

— Coercion denies the understanding of human freedom that leaves relationships a matter of choice rather than enslavement.

"For Tolkien, coercion is the fundamental fact of the modern world," he said, listing drug addiction as well as totalitarian governments under the heading. "Every time we yield our will to that which is coercive, the window of freedom narrows," he said.

Tolkien's solution to those situations is Christian faith, hope and charity — faith that involves the trust of the fellowship of the ring, hope that makes a person willing to play a part in a larger story without seeing the end, and charity that offers mercy and pity to someone as undeserving as Gollum, Wood said.

Gollum plays a crucial role, he added. The phrase "the pity of Bilbo may rule the fate of many" appears in each book, Wood said. "Had Gollum been killed, the quest would have failed."

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: NOV. 13, 2005

Nov. 13, Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle A Readings:

- 1) Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31
Psalm 128:1-5
- 2) 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6
- 3) Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

Responsibility can be way to serve God

BY JEAN DENTON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Every time I visit my friend Venel in Lascabobas, Haiti, I discover another of his community or parish responsibilities. So far I know these: music minister, pastoral care minister, owner of a copy business, husband and father, music teacher, store owner, youth minister.

When I read this weekend's Scriptures, I understood how all these roles have fallen to this one gifted man — a man who found a wife he has loved and cared for as a prized pearl (first reading); who says, "I love playing the music for my God" (Gospel); who every day looks for enterprising ways to provide for the poorest of people in a poor country and who patiently offers Third-World adolescents formation in faith.

On a Sunday morning soon after we'd met, Venel introduced me to his wife and young daughters. As they turned to go, he grinned proudly: "Do you think my wife is good? She is beautiful, yes?"

Later he told me the story of how as a young man he built his house next to a family with several children. The eldest was a 16-year-old girl whom he liked very much. Over the years he helped teach her to read and write, and assisted her with family chores while guiding her in the process of growing up.

As she matured, his love for her deepened. When she reached an appropriate age, he asked to marry her, an "unfailing prize" to whom he had entrusted his heart.

Venel also loves music. He plays a number of instruments well. Occasionally after liturgy in Lascabobas, I would ask a guitarist, trumpeter or keyboardist how he learned to play. Invariably the answer was "Venel." He has built up a sizable group of musicians who lift worship by their delight in playing for God.

Venel's wife is the wife of Proverbs, sharing the task of caring for the children, household and small family store with her beloved husband. The joyous music pervading the community and church is the return on Venel's investing his gift of musicianship in many young people.

No wonder God has given him more responsibilities. As the master saw in the good and faithful servant of the Gospel parable, God sees in Venel one who recognizes the holiness — and the potential for God's purposes — of what he has been given. As he invests and tends these gifts, and every additional one he is given, he shares his Master's joy.

Questions:

What specific gift have you received and invested for God's purposes? What return have you seen on that investment?

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 6 - NOVEMBER 12

Sunday (Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time), Wisdom 6:12-16, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, Matthew 25:1-13; Monday, Wisdom 1:1-7, Luke 17:1-6; Tuesday, Wisdom 2:23-39, Luke 17:7-10; Wednesday (The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome), Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9, 12, 1 Corinthians 3:9-11, 16-17, John 2:13-22; Thursday (St. Leo the Great), Wisdom 7:22-8:1, Luke 17:20-25; Friday (St. Martin of Tours), Wisdom 13:1-9, Luke 17:26-37; Saturday (St. Josaphat), Wisdom 18:14-16; 19:6-9, Luke 18:1-8.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 13 - NOVEMBER 19

Sunday (Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time), Proverbs 31:10-12, 19-20, 30-31, 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6, Matthew 25:14-30; Monday, 1 Maccabees 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63, Luke 18:35-43; Tuesday (St. Albert the Great), 2 Maccabees 6:18-31, Luke 19:1-10; Wednesday (St. Gertrude, St. Margaret of Scotland), 2 Maccabees 7:1, 20-31, Luke 19:11-28; Thursday (St. Elizabeth of Hungary), 1 Maccabees 2:15-29, Luke 19:41-44; Friday (Sts. Peter and Paul, St. Rose Philippine Duchesne), 1 Maccabees 4:36-37, 52-59, 1 Chronicles 29:10-12, Luke 19:45-48; Saturday, 1 Maccabees 6:1-13, Luke 20:27-40.



Join our Oratorian Congregation to SERVE GOD AS PRIEST OR BROTHER

As priests and lay men, our community lives without vows and serves God's people numerous ways, including:

Parishes	Youth Camps	Nursing
Retreats	Campus Ministry	Hospital Chaplains

Find out more about serving God with us:

Fr. Ed McDevitt, CO The Oratory
P O Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586

Come eat, shop and have fun at

ST. LUKE CHRISTMAS CRAFT BAZAAR




Saturday, Nov. 19th 8 am until 2 pm

Handmade gifts and treasures featured by more than 50 artists and craftsmen!

AND St. Louis BBQ (11 am - 8 pm) eat-in or take-out - featuring grilled pork steaks, burgers, and brats!

13700 Lawyers Road, Charlotte

Info: (704)841-1372



Sleep like a baby again.

At Pennybyrn, peace of mind will be yours.

1315 Greensboro Road
High Point, NC 27260
www.maryfieldliving.org

Having a plan for the future feels good. So does a retirement lifestyle that lets you stay in control. Coming soon to the Triad, Pennybyrn at Maryfield will give you this peace of mind, freeing you to enjoy everything more. Even if you happen to be doing nothing at the time.

Call (336) 886-4103 or
toll-free (866) 627-9343.

Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor Servants of The Mother of God

PENNYBYRN
at MARYFIELD
A Continuing Care Retirement Community



Sky falling for 'Chicken Little'



CNS PHOTO FROM WALT DISNEY PICTURES

'Chicken Little' is a disappointing computer-animated film about a little chick who, after humiliating himself by sounding the alarm that the sky is falling, gets a chance to save face when his apocalyptic announcement later proves true. The movie's flat story lack charm or wit, undercutting warm themes of family bonds and believing in oneself. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-I — general patronage. The MPAA rating is G — general audiences.

TV EYE

If cable must carry broadcast stations, what must the stations carry?

BY MARK PATTISON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — One adage holds that you can have too much of a good thing. And, if this is true, you can definitely have too much of a bad thing.

This is just one angle to the ongoing debate in Congress about "multicast must-carry," the obligation of cable television systems to carry broadcast TV signals emanating within 35 miles of the borders of the cable service area.

Under this rule, cable systems must carry the signals of commercial network affiliates and public television stations. Part of why they do it is because viewers would put up a big stink if they didn't.

There have been brief feuds in some cities when a local network affiliate was off the cable system thanks to a game of financial "chicken" between the cable company and the owner of the local station.

There are fewer truly independent stations without a network affiliation, but they must also be carried if their antennae are within 35 miles of a cable franchise's service area. So, too, must low-power TV stations, some of which carry evangelical Christian programming around the clock.

If they're less than 35 miles from town, cable systems are likewise required to carry them.

Now comes the digital revolution. TV signals have been broadcast in an analog format since TV's beginning. The Federal Communications Commission has been pushing broadcasters to convert to a digital signal. Some have; most haven't.

It's the chicken-and-egg question all over again. Viewers won't watch digital TV unless they have a TV set that can pick up the signal; broadcasters don't want to invest the money to convert to digital until they know they'll have an audience.

Congress is considering a bill to force local stations to convert to digital by 2009. Some predict it will be the next big kick-start to the economy, especially considering our media-drenched society.

Broadcasters may have one incentive to make the switch: the possibility of

splitting the digital signal into as many as six channels with no apparent reduction in quality — well, at least, visual quality.

Should cable systems be required to carry each one of a broadcaster's six channels? If you take ABC, CBS, Fox, NBC, UPN, the WB and PBS, most major metropolitan areas would have 42 channels sewn up on their area cable systems.

Cable companies complain that being required to carry all those signals would be unfair and that their channel capacity is already spoken for. Of course, they've been offering "digital cable" and other premium services at premium rates.

Some evangelical groups tout the multicast must-carry rule for two reasons: Their own stations would have six channel spaces on a cable system, and forcing cable to carry more regulate-able over-the-air programming could limit the space for unregulated cable channels whose content they find morally objectionable.

The U.S. bishops have a more modest goal — requiring over-the-air stations to carry more public service programming.

Bishop Gerald F. Kicanas of Tucson, Ariz., in a letter to the Senate Communications Committee chairman, Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, cited "a significant number" of anecdotes from dioceses finding it increasingly difficult to place their programming on local stations.

In the end, if broadcasters want to force cable to carry their content, the public should be able to force broadcasters to carry some of its content. The airwaves, after all, still belong to the public.

And if the moral and aesthetic arguments aren't enough to sway you, consider that the various versions of the bill call for \$830 million-\$990 million — enough money for each noncable TV household to get a pair of \$40 coupons for a converter box to receive the new digital signals. That's a fraction of the expected cost.

Meanwhile, the government will be collecting about \$10 billion when it auctions parts of the present TV spectrum that will be unneeded following digital conversion.

BMHS student honored for fundraising efforts

Teenager dedicated to fighting multiple sclerosis

KERNERSVILLE — Krissy Dull, a sophomore at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville, was honored by the Multiple Sclerosis Society for her continued fundraising efforts.

But when the MS Society offered her a trip to Australia to the MS Tour to Tanglewood, a bike ride that raises funds for the MS Society, the 15-year-old declined the award and donated the trip's value to the society's 2010 research campaign.

The benevolent gesture by the Greensboro teenager was one of many contributions she has made to the organization in the seven years she has been involved.

Krissy started raising funds for the MS Society at age 8 when she rode her Barbie Bike with her dad in the Central North Carolina bike tour. She founded her own bike tour team, the Canterbury Team, comprised of students and parents, and raised \$50,000 in 2003 — Krissy herself contributing \$10,000 to the total through her aggressive personal campaign that included the sale of glass beads and hotdogs.

Krissy and her team dedicated their efforts in honor of a classmate whose mother has MS.

In 2004, to recognize Dull's efforts, the National MS Society named her its first Outstanding Youth Award winner. The award recognized her contribution of more than \$53,000 to the organization over the past several years by leading

teams in the tour, holding craft sales, leading letter writing campaigns and conducting afternoon kids' camps.

"The main thing is [raising] more money," said Krissy. "The more people we can recruit, the more money we can raise. I get good support from my dad and mom ... church and school."

Krissy plans to intern with the MS Society after she graduates from high school.

"It makes me sad to see people suffer," she said. "I've seen the advances we've made and it makes me happy to see us raise money and get closer to a cure."

"Krissy's efforts in the fight against MS continue to inspire and move everyone she touches," said Joyce Nelson, president and CEO of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

"Krissy not only demonstrates a deep passion to help others, but her unselfish attitude and entrepreneurial approach



COURTESY PHOTO

Krissy Dull, a sophomore at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville, was honored by the Multiple Sclerosis Society for her fundraising efforts.

make her one of the society's most valuable and admired volunteers," said Nelson. "Her generosity of spirit would be remarkable in an adult; it is unprecedented in a young woman of her age."

Principal Gelo welcomed with Jell-O

GREENSBORO — Gary Gelo, the new principal at Our Lady of Grace School in Greensboro, was recently given a "cool" welcome by parents and students at the school's first Parent

Teacher Organization meeting Sept. 20.

Gelo (pronounced "jello") and others in attendance were greeted with chilled trays of Jell-O gelatin dessert.

During the meeting, PTO officers discussed plans for the school year, and Gelo shared with parents a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the faculty's work to prepare for the SACS accreditation visit scheduled this month.

Gelo has worked the last several years as a consultant with Catholic schools across the country. Previously he was superintendent of Catholic schools in the Diocese of Charleston, S.C. and the Diocese of Shreveport, La.

He also served as principal of Blessed Sacrament School in Burlington, N.C. During his tenure at the school, it was the first Catholic school in North Carolina to be awarded the National School of Excellence Blue Ribbon Award from the U.S. Department of Education.

Gelo was also the founding principal of All Saints School in Charlotte.



COURTESY PHOTO

Principal Gary Gelo, principal at Our Lady of Grace School in Greensboro, and students enjoy Jell-O during the school's first Parent Teacher Organization meeting Sept. 20.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

The Archdiocese of Atlanta seeks an experienced principal to lead Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School, a SACS accredited college preparatory high school; co-educational, with 258 students and 35 faculty members. The School offers a challenging academic and co-curricular program to a diverse student body: 43% African American, 46% Caucasian and 11% other ethnic groups. Located in Fairburn, Georgia, 20 miles south of downtown Atlanta. Position requirements:

- Practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church;
- Educational Leadership Certification;
- Minimum of 3 years of successful Catholic secondary administrative experience;
- Excellent communication skills;
- Collaborative leadership style;
- Experience in fiscal management and institutional advancement;
- Commitment to teaching;
- Fair and consistent disciplinarian.



Negotiable and competitive salary; excellent benefits. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled. Send letter of interest, resume, university credentials, and names, addresses and telephone numbers of at least five references to:

Ruprecht and Associates
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811

Phone: 218-727-5150

E-mail: mruprcht@cpinternet.com

Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT

JOB OPPORTUNITIES: Call us or visit our Website at www.sherpallc.com for 100+ Charlotte-area job opportunities. Recruiting, Staffing and Consulting Services. Specializing in Accounting, Finance and IT. 704-374-0001

Additions, Handyman services, etc. All size jobs completed. (704) 684-0301 (T); (704) 719-0808 (cell) for free consultation.

FOR RENT

VACATION CABIN: Lake Lure. Mountain views! A great holiday get-away! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, fully furnished. Reasonable rates. Call 828-299-3714.

SERVICES

EMERALD HOME REMODELING: NC Licensed General Contractor. Kitchens, Baths,

Elementary School Principal Archdiocese of Atlanta

St. Mary's Catholic School, an accredited school with a rich 60-year history wrapped in a new \$6 million facility, is accepting applications for the position of elementary school principal. The school enjoys a highly engaged parent base, an active parish of 1000 families, and broad community recognition and support.

St. Mary's is located in Rome, Georgia, a beautiful, vibrant town, one hour northwest of Atlanta. One of the South's best kept secrets, Rome is an established community with three colleges, symphony, theatre, and a warm and inviting atmosphere.

Energetic, creative leaders who will take our school to the next level of excellence, please apply. Active Catholics with a master's degree in educational administration (or its equivalent) and at least three years of demonstrated experience in administration will be considered. Handsome salary and benefits.

Please submit letter of interest, resume, three letters of reference and university credentials to:

Fr. Jim Miceli
St. Mary's Catholic Church
911 N. Broad Street
Rome, GA 30161

Classified ads bring results! Over 125,000 readers! Over 49,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

Alito would be fifth Catholic on Supreme Court

SUPREME, from page 1

notify their husbands before having an abortion. That opinion came as a minority dissent in *Planned Parenthood vs. Casey*, a landmark case contesting Pennsylvania's 1989 Abortion Control Act.

The Supreme Court in 1992 upheld most of the Pennsylvania law but agreed with the appeals court majority in striking down the spousal notification provision. In the Supreme Court's ruling the late Chief Justice William Rehnquist quoted Alito in his dissent against striking down the spousal notification portion of the law.

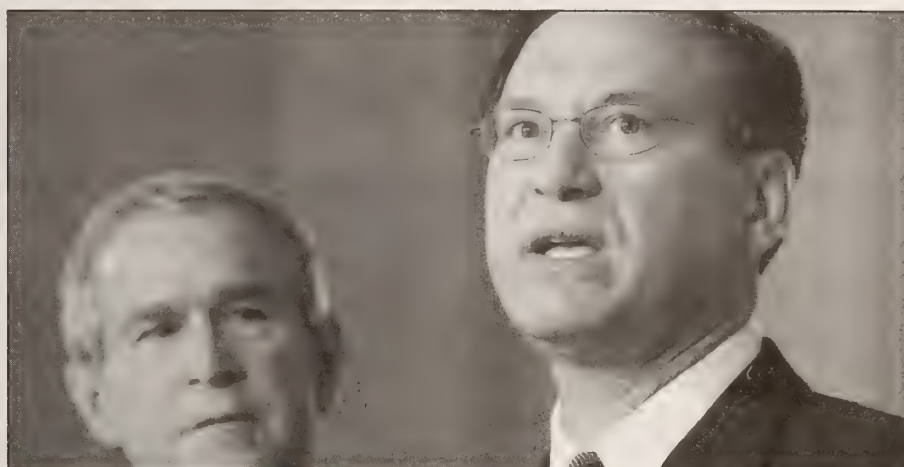
On the other hand, in 2000 Alito joined in a ruling striking down a New Jersey partial-birth abortion law as un-

constitutional. In his concurring opinion he said Supreme Court precedents required a health exception for the mother to make the law constitutional.

In a case of church-state interest, Alito wrote the majority opinion of the appellate court in *ACLU vs. Schundler*, upholding a New Jersey city's holiday display that included a Nativity scene and menorah, on the grounds that it also displayed secular symbols.

In another religion-related case, he ruled in 1999 that the Newark, N.J., police department could not bar Muslim police officers from wearing beards for religious reasons, since the city permitted other officers to wear beards for medical reasons.

If confirmed, Alito would be the 11th Catholic in U.S. history to sit on the Su-



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

U.S. appeals court Judge Samuel Alito Jr. speaks after President George W. Bush nominates him as a justice of the Supreme Court at the White House Oct. 31.

preme Court and would become the fifth Catholic justice on the current court, forming for the first time a majority of Catholics on the nine-member court.

Other Catholics currently on the nation's highest bench are recently appointed Chief Justice John Roberts and Justices Antonin Scalia, Anthony Kennedy and Clarence Thomas.

Past Catholics on the Supreme Court included two other chief justices, Roger Taney, 1836-64, and Edward White, a justice from 1894 to 1910 and chief justice, 1910-21. Other former Catholic justices were Joseph McKenna, Pierce Butler, Frank Murphy and William Brennan Jr.

Alito was named to take the place of Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, who last summer announced her plans to retire as soon as a successor is confirmed.

In his nomination speech Bush called Alito "one of the most accomplished and respected judges in America."

The nomination came just four days after White House counsel Harriet Miers, who had been nominated Oct. 3 to succeed O'Connor, withdrew her name under heavy fire from conservative groups who form the core of Bush's political support. They were concerned that she had no court track record to back administration claims that she would bring a conservative judicial philosophy to the bench.

Alito could face the opposite problem. Observers believe that if Demo-

cratic Senators judge him too conservative their shaky political agreement to avoid minority filibusters to block judicial appointments could break down.

The day before Alito's nomination Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, expressed fears of a filibuster by Democrats if they oppose a nominee's position on abortion. "The topic which dominates the discussion, as we all know, is a woman's right to choose," he said.

Alito was born April 1, 1950, in Trenton, N.J. His late father, Samuel Alito Sr., was an Italian immigrant. His mother, Rose, who turns 91 later this year, was a public school teacher.

After graduating from Princeton University, he attended Yale Law School, where he was editor of the *Yale Law Journal* and earned his law degree in 1976.

After a year clerking for U.S. 3rd Circuit Judge Leonard Garth, Alito spent four years as assistant U.S. attorney for the District of New Jersey. He went on to become assistant to the U.S. solicitor general in 1981, deputy assistant U.S. attorney general in 1985 and U.S. attorney for the District of New Jersey in 1987.

He was only 39 when he was appointed to the federal appeals court in 1990. Bush said that with 15 years on that court Alito "has more prior judicial experience than any Supreme Court nominee in more than 70 years."

A Sugarplum CHRISTMAS

Cakes and Cookies,
Toys and Gifts...

Christmas at your
finger tips.

New Ideas to
get you
on your way.



It's where Santa shops for new ideas, the grandest gifts, and his favorite cakes and cookies. It's where generations of mom and dads, grandmas and granddads, aunts and uncles, friends and family come to catch the Holiday spirit, gather inspiration, and find those perfect presents.



An Olde Towne for strolling, cozy Holiday designer rooms, dazzling decorations, sizzling strudel, fa-la-la fabulous choirs, trees trimmed to perfection, delightful dollhouses, tiny trains, Santa in his sleigh, and Christmas everywhere you look.



Shop over 500 holiday merchants.

It's time to go.....to the Southern Christmas Show!



November 10 - 20, 2005

Charlotte Merchandise Mart

Weekdays & Saturdays 10am to 9pm
Sundays 10am to 6pm

Adults: \$8.00 door/\$7.00 advance
Discount adult tickets available online!

Ages 6-12: \$3.00 • Under 6 free with paying adult • Group rates available!
For more information, call 800-849-0248

The Charlotte Observer
www.charlotte.com

www.SouthernChristmasShow.com

"Federal judges have the duty to interpret the Constitution and the laws faithfully and fairly, to protect the constitutional rights of all Americans, and to do these things with care and with restraint ..."

— Alito at the announcement of his nomination to the Supreme Court



SAMUEL ALITO JR.

AGE 55

Born April 1, 1950, in Trenton, N.J.

EXPERIENCE

1990-present 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals

EDUCATION

1975 JD, Yale Law School
1972 AB, Princeton University

1987-1989 U.S. attorney for the District of New Jersey

FAMILY

Married with two children

1985-1987 Deputy assistant U.S. attorney general

RELIGION

Catholic

1981-1985 Assistant to U.S. solicitor general

©2005 CNS

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Should celebrants receive Communion after everyone else?

Q. One priest in a parish we visit often prefers to give Communion to the people first, before he receives. After all the other congregation and ministers receive, he takes the body and blood of Christ himself.

His explanation, we are told, is that this procedure is proper since the host at a dinner always serves the guests first and himself or herself last. Something seems out of tune here. But maybe we're seeing a problem where there isn't any. (Iowa)

A. I too have sometimes witnessed this practice. In my judgment, and obviously in the judgment of the church through the ages, there are at least two serious concerns about it.

First, the "host" at the eucharistic sacrifice, the one who invites and welcomes and feeds us there, is not the priest celebrant but the same one who was host at the Last Supper, Jesus Christ himself. The eucharistic prayers, in fact the whole Liturgy of the Eucharist, often express this belief.

The banquet is his, accomplished by the power of his Spirit, just as the eternal banquet in the kingdom of God, which eucharistic Communion prefigures and anticipates, belongs to him.

In every consecration it is Jesus who says, "Take this and eat." It is he who forms those who are nourished by his body and blood into "an everlasting gift" to the heavenly Father (Eucharistic Prayer III). And it is his Spirit who gathers "all who share this one bread and one cup into the one body of Christ," making those who receive it "a living sacrifice of praise" (Eucharistic Prayer IV).

The liturgical tradition of the church bends over backward to be sure the fact is not missed. The origin, the focus and the climax of the Eucharist is the risen Lord himself.

Some odd things are said occasionally today about "whose" Mass it is we celebrate. The words we hear just before Communion help keep everyone's perspective on target: "Happy are those who are called to his supper."

Second, it is a distortion of Christian

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



liturgical history to call the congregation "guests" at Mass. The ordained priest is designated the presider at Mass, acting in the name of and in the person of Christ.

The ancient understanding of the church, however, repeated several times in the present General Instruction of the Roman Missal, is that the celebration of Mass is "the action of Christ and the people of God arrayed hierarchically," each one carrying out the role which pertains to him or her in the people of God (especially Nos. 5-18).

The first Eucharistic Prayer, the so-called Roman Canon, the only one in use for some centuries before Vatican Council II, makes clear several times that while the priest is doing the speaking, he is acting and speaking for all. "All of us gathered here before you ... offer you this sacrifice of praise."

As the Catechism of the Catholic Church notes, all the faithful "carry out this command of the Lord by celebrating the memorial of his sacrifice. In so doing, we offer to the Father what he has given us" (No. 1357).

Those present at Mass, therefore, are not guests of the priest. They are there and participate in the sacrifice because it is their right as baptized members of the body of Christ.

The ancient, and present, procedures of the church regarding Communion are founded on this truth.

A free brochure on ecumenism, including questions on intercommunion and other ways of sharing worship, is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 5515, Peoria, IL 61612.

Knowing what this darkness is all about

Often goodness comes from our response to evil

It is early Sunday morning, and a misty fog softens the silhouettes of trees newly freed of their summer leaves.

Winter's encroaching darkness moves steadily toward us in Anchorage. By December we will have only a little more than five hours of light; the rest will be blackness or the half-life of dusk.

Out the window from my desk I see a lamp shining through a bedroom window. My neighbor, who has two young children, battles multiple sclerosis. They have made accommodations to the car and the house, but I don't know how much longer she will be able to handle those stairs.

Her lamp shade is askew, tilted at an odd angle, as if to proclaim to the passerby the struggle being waged within those walls.

My son's friend has been staying with us over the weekend. His mother and father are away so that the mother may receive treatment for aggressive cancer. The friend and his sister — both high school seniors — stay at home during the week, checked on by relatives.

But on weekends, when, as his mother said, "the temptations are there," they stay with friends, and I have the pleasure of being the mom who gets to enforce curfew, reminding not one but two 17-year-old boys to call home and keep me posted on their evening whereabouts.

This friend is delightful — polite, upbeat, articulate. At dinner at a Chinese restaurant, the conversation turns toward college plans, and he tells us he looks forward next year to telling his parents about his college adventure since neither of them went to college. His sweet, youthful dreams juxtaposed against his mother's struggle make my throat tighten.

For the Journey

EFFIE CALDAROLA
CNS COLUMNIST



Once again this fall, I have begun an online retreat offered by Creighton University. Based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola, the retreat offers busy people a chance to share in the tremendous wealth of Ignatian spirituality.

Creighton's retreat starts in the fall and follows the church's liturgical year. This is perfect for me; as flowers die and darkness beckons, I find great inner longing for reflection. I want meaning, I want to know what this darkness is all about.

This week, the retreat asked us to reflect on the world's evil. Evil wasn't hard to notice. Although I am, personally, in the midst of a busy, happy time, all around me I see the falling away, the sickness, loneliness and sin that stalk us all on this journey.

The retreat's main message this week, however, wasn't about evil, but about God's response to it. We were to keep our eyes and hearts focused, in the background of our days, on the cross and the One who accepted it lovingly for us.

It reminds me, a farm girl at heart, that the grain of wheat which must fall to the ground to bear much fruit is most likely winter wheat, and to germinate it needs the cold, dark days of bleak mid-winter.

Letter to the Editor

Temple Beth El thanks its 'faithful friend'

Editor's note: The writer leads Temple Beth El in Charlotte.

Ben Sira teaches that the one who has found a faithful friend has found a treasure. Temple Beth El has found that faithful friend in Msgr. John McSweeney and members of St. Matthew Church.

For a fifth year, the church opened its doors this October to our congregation, Temple Beth El, so we could celebrate our Rosh Hashana morning service as an entire community. That's because we have grown too large for our

own sanctuary.

As we welcomed the New Year of 5766 ... we began a 10-day period of reflection — of taking stock of who we are, of the ways we need to grow and of the blessings that we have. Our strong interfaith relationship with St. Matthew Church, as symbolized by its incredible generosity, was one such blessing for which we thanked God.

— Rabbi Judith Schindler
Charlotte

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

Remembering the dead helps Christians reflect on own lives, says pope

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Remembering those who have died, Christians naturally reflect on their own lives and on how to ensure that they will enjoy happiness forever with God, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Addressing some 20,000 pilgrims and visitors at his weekly general audience Nov. 2, the feast of All Souls, the pope said the secret to eternal happiness is to love God, follow his commandments and give to the poor.

The pope's audience talk focused on Psalm 112 and its proclamation, "Happy the man who fears the Lord."

After reading his prepared text, the pope offered a spontaneous summary of his remarks: "On the day we commemorate all souls, we face the reality of death and, therefore, the question of how to live well.

"This psalm tells us the answer is: Happy the man who gives, the man who does not live life for himself, but the man who is merciful, good and just, who lives with love for God and his neighbors," the pope said.

"In this way, we will live well, and we do not have to fear death, because we have the happiness of those who fear God, a happiness that will last forever," he said.

In his prepared text, the pope said,

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



"those who model their earthly existence in accordance with the indications of the word of God will have the fullness of life."

Trusting in God, he said, gives hope and harmony to one's life, and observing the moral law "is a source of a profoundly peaceful conscience."

Citing the prophet Job, Pope Benedict said it is obvious that being just and upright does not guarantee one will not suffer in this life, but it does guarantee eternal happiness.

The fact is proven, he said, by the "many just people around the world who suffer greatly."

Yet fidelity to God's word is a sign and guarantee that a believer's trust will be rewarded, he said.

"The heart of this fidelity to the divine word consists in a fundamental choice of charity toward the poor and needy," the pope said. "The just one, responding to the constant call of the

prophets, takes the side of the emarginated and aids them with abundant help."

Addressing Polish pilgrims, the pope said that on the day when Catholics remember their dear ones who have died, "we also remember John Paul II. On the anniversary of his priestly ordination (Nov. 1, 1946) and his saint's day (the Nov. 4 feast of St. Charles Borromeo), we give thanks to God for the fruits of his life and for the ministry of this servant of God."

Pope Benedict ended his audience by urging the Italian government to adopt policies and tax laws to help families.

His remarks came in a greeting to the Italian Association of Large Families, a group formed by couples with at least five children. They are seeking a break in property taxes for large families and lobbying for a change to the system for determining garbage taxes — currently based on the size of the house or apartment and on the number of people living there.

The pope said the presence of 2,500 members of the association was an occasion to reaffirm the central role of the family in society, particularly for welcoming and serving human life.

"In today's social context, family groups with numerous children are a witness of faith, courage and optimism, because without children there is no future," he said.

Pope Benedict called for "adequate social and legislative interventions to safeguard and sustain the most numerous families, which are a richness and hope for the entire country."

Stewardship: A disciple's response

Guest Column

MSGR.
MAURICIO W. WEST
GUEST COLUMNIST

Many contribute in a variety of ways

The heart of the U.S. bishops' pastoral letter, "Stewardship: A Disciple's Response," reminds us that becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ calls for a response — to become good stewards of God's gifts.

If we truly recognize that everything we are, everything we will ever become, and everything we have is a gift from God, then we also recognize the need to cultivate those gifts out of gratitude and use them in service to God and others.

God calls each of us to participate in the building up of the Kingdom; each of us has been gifted by God with personal charisms needed to do whatever He asks of us. Every one of us has been called to a particular vocation in life — a unique way of following in the footsteps of Jesus.

Religious or lay, married or single — as Christians we are expected to be good stewards of our unique gifts. We cannot discern our vocations in isolation. It takes the support, help and encouragement of the community.

As a Christian community, on Nov. 13 we will celebrate our 17th annual Stewardship Awareness Sunday. It is an appropriate time to remember how God has gifted our parishes and missions here in the Diocese of Charlotte through the time, talent and treasure of thousands of people.

Some are serving through ordained ministry as priests and deacons. Others have answered the call to religious life as sisters and brothers. Still others are lay ministers serving their fellow parishioners as catechists, youth ministers, lectors, extraordinary ministers of holy Communion, ministers of welcome and hospitality, commission members, pastoral and finance council members, and in a variety of other parish ministries.

Our parishes are filled with people who devote a portion of their time to daily prayer for the needs of others, who contribute generously to support their parish and diocese. As I reflect on the Parable of the Talents on this Stewardship Awareness Sunday, I am grateful for the many good stewards of our diocese who have accepted their gifts gratefully from God, nurtured those gifts, and returned them to God with increase through service to the community.

I invite each of you to set aside some time to prayerfully consider their response to the questions "What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?" and "What am I called to do in response to that discipleship?"

Msgr. West is vicar general and chancellor for the Diocese of Charlotte.

Responding to challenges

The creation of a wise generation through the energy crisis

I spoke with a religious sister recently whose institution utilizes windmills to generate energy — much like the windmills I saw atop a Pennsylvania mountain recently when I traveled through by train.

Speaking with this nun, I came to realize that we don't really need to fear an energy crisis in the future. We could be in for an enormously exciting time in this regard.

I learned from her that the one windmill the sisters possess not only meets their energy demands, but often surpasses them. The excess energy is sold to the nearby electric plant, providing the sisters additional income.

This is but one of many hopeful energy signs of the times. During Solar Decathlon 2005 on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., I witnessed many others. The Solar Decathlon brings together university students who present their designs of energy-efficient, solar-powered homes in a competition.

Naturally, I learned at this exposition that it is much cheaper to save energy than to make it. Good insulation is key to making this happen.

In the race to conserve energy, researchers have discovered that structural insulated panels are one of the best

means for saving energy. These prefabricated panels typically are made of foam insulation sandwiched between sheets of oriented strand board or other building materials.

Compact fluorescent lamps are another energy saver. These energy-efficient lamps use less electricity, and their reduced electricity consumption (less wasted heat) also means that cooling loads are decreased during the summer months, thus reducing the electricity consumed by air conditioners.

Yet another energy saver is the low-emissivity window. Low-emissivity coatings for windows, invented in the 1980s, have revolutionized window technology.

Thin, transparent coatings of silver or tin oxide permit visible light to pass through, but also reflect infrared heat radiation back into the room. This reduces heat loss through the windows in winter.

The technology doesn't stop here. On the mall during the Solar Decathlon were a number of homes run entirely on solar energy. The heat generated by solar energy warms water, which then can be transferred to space-heating systems.

Ingenious ways of dealing with energy are more numerous than the stars.

The Human Side

FATHER
EUGENE HEMRICK
CNS COLUMNIST



Today, enormous amounts of money is being poured into energy research.

Francis Bacon once said that a prudent question is half of wisdom. Today, students and their professors, working feverishly in laboratories, are raising one question after another about how new ways of saving and generating cost-effective energy.

At times I wonder what will become of our young generation. No doubt there is much to worry about, given all that influences and/or challenges them in contemporary society.

But what I saw in Washington were young people whose imaginations were being stretched to the limit and who were responding to challenges in ways that suggest the birth of a wise generation.

St. Joseph Church serves growing, diverse Catholic community

ASHEBORO — The Catholic community of Asheboro attained parish status in 1948, although early traces of a Catholic presence date back more than a half-century earlier.

During the 1880s, two sergeants of the British Army and a female native of Ireland composed the first Catholic community in the Asheboro area. The servicemen, having completed their time of duty, settled in the area in search of gold-mining fortunes. The Irishwoman became a key figure in the establishment of a chapel.

For several years, visiting priests from neighboring communities celebrated Masses in the chapel, a former law office, in town. When the servicemen died and Mrs. Bartow, the third Catholic, moved away, the Catholic community in Asheboro ended for the next several decades.

Between the World War I years and the 1930s, local reports of itinerant priests visiting Asheboro by train suggest a Catholic citizenry, however scant, in the area. A railway car converted into a chapel carried the priests, who were said to have spent a week at a time ministering to Catholics and discussing the faith with others.

Beginning in April 1935, priests for High Point — among them Father Michael J. Begley, who would become the founding bishop of the Diocese of Charlotte — celebrated weekday Masses in Asheboro homes. Residents traveled to High Point or Greensboro for Sunday liturgies.

When gasoline rationing during World War II years began affecting travel opportunities, Asheboro Catholics gathered for Mass in the courtroom of the City Building.

In September 1947, the present church site was purchased. A chapel was set up in a house on the property, and Father Edward Sullivan, pastor of Holy Rosary Church (now Our Lady of the Rosary Church) in Lexington, served the Asheboro community. The congregation thereby became a mission of the Lexington church.

Father Sullivan celebrated the first Mass in the chapel on Christmas Eve in 1947. In March of the following year, the parish was established and Father



PHOTO BY GEORGE K. COBB

St. Joseph Church in Asheboro, a red brick church originally dedicated in September 1948, has seen many expansions and improvements to accommodate its growing parish.

Sullivan was appointed pastor. Bishop Joseph S. Waters of Raleigh dedicated the church under the patronage of St. Joseph in September 1948.

Masses continued to be celebrated in the chapel until 1954, when a red brick church was constructed next to the original structure. More improvements and expansions came in 1978 when a rectory was built and a second floor was added to the church. The parish was in the care of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales at the time.

During the early 1980s, St. Joseph Church ministered to about 22 Catholic families in Liberty, to the northeast. That

number increased with time, and the mission community was assimilated into the parish.

In the early 1990s, a new addition was added to the church that connected it to the rectory and, in response to the

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH
512 West Wainman Ave.
Asheboro, N.C. 27203-5342
(336) 629-0221

Vicariate: Greensboro
Pastor: Father Joseph Mack
Number of Households: 273



Father Joseph Mack

growing presence of a Spanish-speaking community, an outreach was begun and a Mass was offered in Spanish. Because of the continued expansion of the Spanish community, a second Mass was offered in Spanish and child, youth and adult educational programs also were conducted in Spanish.

Father Joseph Mack has served St. Joseph Church since 1993, ministering to almost 750 registered parishioners and to some 300 Hispanic Catholics in the area as well. The parish has an active Knights of Columbus council, Ladies Guild and Right to Life program.

"With this continued growth in terms of members, we face the positive challenge of continuing to grow as a community of faith called to bring the light of the Gospel where we are planted," said Father Mack.

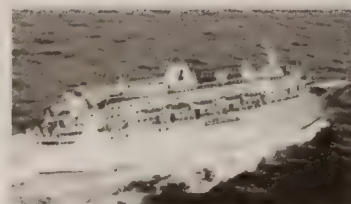
Give the unforgettable gift! Enrich your own spiritual life!

Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise —

"The Footsteps of Paul"

Greece and Turkey

May 11-21, 2006



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,849 for inside cabin (before 1/31/06) - includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

Istanbul — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace

Mykonos — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels

Patmos — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation

Kusadasi & Ephesus — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites

Rhodes — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith

Crete — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion

Santorini — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?

Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Charlotte 704-334-6421

Pineville 704-544-1412

Mint Hill 704-545-4864

Derita 704-596-3291

*New
Covenant
Bookstore*

**Books • Gifts
Religious Articles**

**(336) 760-1673
Tues-Fri: 10:30-5
Saturday: 10-1**

**Mary Jo Kahl, Owner
Parishioner - Our Lady of Mercy**

**304 Upton St.
Winston-Salem, NC 27103
www.newcovenantbookstore.com**



THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

Parish Profile

*Spirit of St. Francis
of Assisi flourishes
in Lenoir parish*

| PAGE 16

Following the footsteps of faith

*Pilgrims find
renewal, serenity at
Italy's holy places*

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — They came together from various walks of life, on different spiritual journeys, each hoping to come away with similar results.

It was difficult to be disappointed.

Fifty pilgrims from around the Diocese of Charlotte joined Bishop Peter J. Jugis on a 10-day pilgrimage to Italy Oct. 17-27.

From a basilica in the mountaintop town of Assisi to a papal audience at the Vatican, the pilgrims visited sites of eucharistic miracles, toured the homes of saints and experienced God's presence in places and ways many had never before imagined.

"The Lord is saying something to each one of us on this pilgrimage," said Bishop Jugis

See FOOTSTEPS, page 8



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Bishop Peter J. Jugis (left) studies the detailed ceiling in the Vatican Museum, part of a 10-day pilgrimage to Italy Oct. 17-27. Nearly 50 members of the Diocese of Charlotte participated in the trip.

Does a fetus feel pain?

HEARING TRIES TO SORT OUT
DIFFERING VIEWS

BY NANCY FRAZIER
O'BRIEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — In a House hearing room recently, much of the discussion focused on the meanings of the words "feels" and "pain."

Is pain "a subjective sensory and emotional experience that requires the presence of consciousness," as a recent article in the *Journal of American Medical Association* defined it?

Or does pain instead depend on certain physiological and behavioral responses to stimuli? Or does it have to do primarily with brain development?

Answers to those questions could make all the difference to women considering an abortion — and to their unborn children — if a measure pending in the

See PAIN, page 13

VATICAN II Council liturgical changes felt in, and beyond, the pews

BY MARK PATTISON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

*Editor's note: This is the
next part in an ongoing series.*

WASHINGTON — Nov. 29, 1964, probably does not stand out in American Catholics' minds as does Nov. 22, 1963 — the day President John F. Kennedy, the first, and so far only, Catholic president, was assassinated.

But that date, the First

See COUNCIL, page 7

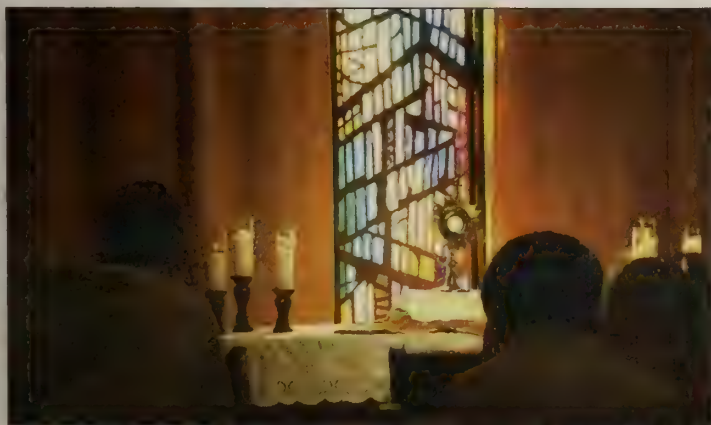


PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Members of the Holy Crusaders youth group kneel in eucharistic adoration during a 40-hour devotion at St. Joseph Church in Newton Nov. 4-6.

Holy Crusaders

*Youth group devoted to connecting people
with Jesus, Blessed Sacrament*

40-HOUR DEVOTION A SUCCESS,
SAY KIDS

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

NEWTON — Spending a weekend in prayerful adoration of the Blessed Sacrament?

For young members of St. Joseph Church, that sounds like a great thing.

The Holy Crusaders, a group of 11 Catholic boys ages 7-13, organized and participated in a 40-hour devotion of the Eucharist at the church Nov. 4-6. Their goal: to help bring people closer to Jesus and the Blessed Sacrament.

"We felt this devotion

See DEVOTION, page 4

'Attitude of gratitude'

*Parishioners find stewardship
in all ministries*

| PAGE 5

Culture Watch

*Souls for space aliens? Youths
discern media messages*

| PAGES 10-11

Perspectives

*Breaking poverty's cycle;
money doesn't equal happiness*

| PAGES 14-15

*****3-DIGIT 225
#420836# \$234 P2
UNC COLLECTION
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

IRON NUN



CNS PHOTO FROM TPS SPORTS

Sister Madonna Buder, a member of the Sisters for Christian Community who lives in Spokane, Wash., became the first 75-year-old woman to finish an Ironman distance race Aug. 28 in Penticton, British Columbia.

Nun sets another Ironman world record by completing Hawaiian course

KONA, Hawaii (CNS) — A 75-year-old nun who has made history for her participation in Ironman competitions around the world set another record in October at the Ford Ironman World Championships in Kona.

Sister Madonna Buder, a Sister of Christian Community from Spokane, Wash., set a world record as the first female athlete over age 75 to complete the event.

Her time at the finish line was 15 hours, 54 minutes and 16 seconds for the competition comprised of a 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike ride and 26.2-mile run.

"By the grace of God, we just squeaked through," Sister Madonna said after the race.

Fellow American Robert McKeague became the first 80-year-old to finish, with a time of approximately 16 hours. More than 2,000 athletes from around the world, including more than 600 from the U.S., competed.

Since she began competing as a triathlete in 1982, Sister Madonna has completed more than 300 races, undaunted by broken bones and bike crashes.

Earlier this year she won the

Ironman Canada in Penticton, British Columbia, for the 75-and-over age group. Her time was 16:46:30.

Sister Madonna's cheery disposition, unbounded determination and quick wit carry her through the tough circumstances that are typical of each Ironman competition. Cheers of "you go, girl" and "way to go, Sister" spur her along at each race.

Sound nutrition, wise training practices and mental preparedness all are the hallmarks of champion endurance athletes such as Sister Madonna.

Fellow Ironman world champion Mark Allen won the title six times and knows the role mental attitude plays on the Kona race course.

"Very few athletes are willing to incorporate a spiritual element and focus on their racing," he said. "But without that, how can you possibly deal with your humanness in the middle of all that Ironman asks you to do? That for sure is one of Sister Madonna's strengths."

From Allen's perspective, "getting rid of self-doubt, overcoming fear and learning to be quiet in the midst of the chaos called race day" are all keys to a positive outcome.

Support urged for anti-torture provision in appropriations bill

WASHINGTON (CNS) — U.S. law and policy about torture of prisoners "is more about who we are than who they are," an adviser to the U.S. bishops told congressional staffers Nov. 2.

In urging support for an anti-torture amendment to the appropriations bill for the Defense Department, Walt Grazer said reports of prisoner abuse by U.S. forces could seriously undermine the country's anti-terrorism efforts and compromise human dignity.

Grazer, an adviser on religious liberty and human rights for the U.S. bishops, said that through its various ministries the church witnesses both the anxieties and hopes of people who long for peace and security for their families, as well as the pain of those who have been tortured and mistreated under various regimes.

"Even great nations can risk their reputations and lose their soul through actions that violate fundamental moral principles," Grazer said.

The briefing was hosted by supporters of the amendment in the Senate version of the bill, which would prohibit the use of any interrogation practices other than those approved in the Army Field Manual on Intelligence Interrogation.

Grazer said respect for the human dignity of every person, whether ally or enemy, "must serve as the foundation of the pursuit of security, justice and peace. There can be no compromise ... to protect the basic human rights of any individual incarcerated for any reason."

The long U.S. history of leadership and support for human rights around the world also is at stake, he said.

The nation "must not and cannot embrace a dangerous morality that 'desperate times call for desperate measures' or 'the end justifies the means.'"

Grazer said "we can demonstrate that even in the face of terrorism we will not lose a respect for human life and our dignity, nor assail the dignity of others."

Diocesan planner

BOONE VICARIATE

NORTH WILKESBORO — A *Catholic Scripture Study* group meet Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m., at St. John Baptiste de La Salle Church, 275 CC Wright School Rd. Visit www.catholicscripturestudy.com for more information. Please call Rob Hicks at (336) 957-7193 for more information or if you plan to attend.

SPARTA — St. Frances of Rome Church, Hendrix and Highlands Rds., sponsors the *Oration of Divine Love Prayer Group* in the parish house the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 1 p.m. Call (336) 372-8846 for more information.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — *Theology on Tap* will meet Nov. 14 at 6:30 p.m. at Pepperoni's Pizza in Park Road Shopping Center. Father Conrad Hoover will discuss "Catholicism & Other Faiths." For more information, contact Catrina Conway at (704) 665-7374.

CHARLOTTE — *Christians in Career Transition*, a support group for those whose job status is causing them to seek employment. Sessions include interactive discussions on networking, resumes and interview skills. The group meets the first and third Monday of each month, 7-9 p.m. in room 132 of the New Life Center at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy. Please call Jack Rueckel at (704) 341-8449 for more information.

CHARLOTTE — *Pathfinders*, a peer-led support group for separated and divorced adults, offers education, support and fellowship through the divorce process. The group meets Tuesdays, 7:30-9 p.m. in St. Gabriel Church's

Ministry Building, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, call Nancy at (704) 752-0318.

CHARLOTTE — Mercy Sister Jeanne Marie Kienast, pastoral associate for St. Matthew Church, will speak to women on "The Virtue of Hope" Nov. 16 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd. For more information, call Peggy Pohlheber at (704) 588-7311.

CHARLOTTE — The *Young Adult Faith Reflection* group meets at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd., the first and third Mondays of each month. The group will read "The Faith Explained," 3rd edition, by Leo J. Trese and a chapter will be covered every meeting. For more information call Jordan at (704) 737-1964 or Ryan at (704) 377-1328.

CHARLOTTE — *Healing Hearts*, a support group for people coping with the death of a spouse, meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall of St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Rd. For more information, contact Sister Therese Galligan, facilitator, at (704) 362-5047, ext. 216.

CHARLOTTE — The *Ancient Order of Hibernians*, Sons of Erin Mecklenburg County Division, the oldest and largest order of Irish Catholic men, is seeking Irish Catholic men to join them for meetings, community activities and social events. Contact Tim Lawson at (704) 522-9728 or e-mail ncaoh@aol.com for more information including meeting times and location.

GASTONIA VICARIATE

BELMONT — Queen of the Apostles Church, 503 North Main St., will provide an opportunity for people to express their support to parishioners with family members serving in the military. After all Masses the weekend of Nov. 12-13, we will have *letter writing materials* for anyone that would like to participate. If you have family members in the military, please send a picture and mailing address to Dennis Teall-Fleming, QOA director of

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-mail: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

NOVEMBER 11, 2005
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 6

The *Catholic News & Herald*, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The *Catholic News & Herald* reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The *Catholic News & Herald*, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Vatican's U.N. rep says more effort needed for women, health, peace

NEW YORK (CNS) — While the recent U.N. summit on reaching the Millennium Development Goals' targets showed signs of progress, efforts concerning gender equality, health care and nuclear disarmament must be ratcheted up, said the Vatican's U.N. representative.

The summit's final document "is not wholly devoid of substance," said Archbishop Celestino Migliore, the representative. "There has been an important step toward halting extreme poverty, halting the spread of HIV/AIDS and providing universal education."

The archbishop said increased discussion of globalization also was a good sign, even though disagreement exists as to whether globalization has affected the world positively or negatively.

"The common opinion is that globalization is a phenomenon that should be made to serve the malady of human soci-

ety today, namely inequality. There is inequality at all levels," he said.

The archbishop pointed to International Labor Organization statistics showing women represent 60 percent of the world's working poor. In order to lower this percentage, he said, more attention must be paid to education and women's access to and control over resources and capital.

Emphasizing the Catholic Church's commitment to women's education, the archbishop said that Catholic-sponsored microfinance programs aimed at empowering women operate in several countries.

He also pointed to the nearly 200,000 Catholic primary and secondary schools and 1,000 universities and institutes of higher learning worldwide.

Two major millennium goals, lowering child and maternal mortality rates and combating HIV/AIDS and other dis-

eases, depend on more than an influx of cash, medicine and trained doctors and nurses, he said. Archbishop Migliore suggested that wealthy nations encourage health care workers from developing countries to remain in their homelands, where they can work to improve their own local systems.

International conference discusses infinity, limits of knowledge

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A dialogue between science and theology requires a careful definition of terms and respect for the limits of knowledge in each field, said participants in a Vatican-sponsored project.

Participants of the project, "Science, Technology and the Ontological Quest," held an international conference in Rome Nov. 9-11 bringing together scientists, mathematicians, philosophers and theologians to discuss infinity.

"Believers have an obligation to listen to what modern secular science has to offer, just as we ask that the wisdom of faith is taken into consideration as a voice of expertise on humanity," said Cardinal Paul Poupard, president of the Pontifical Council for Culture, which coordinates the project.

The two-year-old project provides education in science and technology at several of Rome's pontifical universities and sponsors public lectures and conferences by visiting scientists.

The cardinal said debate about the origin of the world is just one area where scientists and religious believers must clarify terms and recognize the limits of their own discipline.

People who support "creationism" as the only acceptable Christian explanation of the world's origins, he said, are "taking something never meant to be a scientific explanation and calling it science."

The creation story in the Book of Genesis, he said, was written "to explain that the world was created by God, not how it was created."

A theologian cannot pretend to use the Bible as irrefutable proof of the scientific process of the world's creation, just as scientists cannot use biology or physics as irrefutable proof that God was not involved in the process, he said.

Msgr. Gianfranco Basti, project director, said infinity was chosen as the conference's topic because "it is the only common argument of study in the mathematical, physical, human and theological sciences."

The conference, he said, looked at such questions as: "Is infinity in modern mathematics simply a formal tool without any referential value?" and "Are the infinity of human freedom and the infinity of God's freedom mutually exclusive, as some 20th-century philosophers claim?"

faith formation, to be included on the poster of family members. If you have any questions, please call Dennis at (704) 825-9600, ext. 26, or e-mail teallfleming@yahoo.com.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

STONEVILLE — The Greensboro Council of Catholic Women will hold its annual *Mass of Remembrance* Nov. 17 at St. Francis Springs Prayer Center, 477 Grogan Rd. Mass at 10:30 a.m. will be followed by lunch. For more information, please contact Carmen Wood at (336) 545-9266.

HIGH POINT — Immaculate Heart of Mary School, 605 Barbee St., is hosting an *Open House* Nov. 17, 5:30-7:30 p.m., for prospective students for the 2006-07 school year. For more information, call Nancy Achter at (336) 887-2613 or visit www.ihm-school.com.

GREENSBORO — The *Reemployment Support Group* of St. Paul the Apostle Church will meet Nov. 17, 7:30-9 p.m. in Room 8 of the Parish Life Center, 2715 Horse Pen Creek Rd. If you are currently out of work or looking to make a career change, join us for encouragement, support and informative topics to help you in your job search. For more information, call Colleen Assal at (336) 294-4696, ext. 226.

GUILFORD COUNTY — The *Ancient Order of Hibernians*, Guilford County Division, the oldest and largest order of Irish Catholic men, is looking for more Irish Catholic men to join them for meetings, educational seminars and social events. Contact Michael Slane at (336) 665-9264 for time and location.

HICKORY VICARIATE

HICKORY — Father Robert Ferris leads a *Lectionary Bible Study* at St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St., Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. This study prepares participants for the following Sunday's Mass by reading and studying the liturgical readings for the next week. For more information on this study, contact Kathy Succop at (828) 327-2341 or stalscoordinator@charter.net.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

SALISBURY — Are you tired of constantly struggling with your weight? Consider giving God a chance to touch your heart, your life and your eating. *Light Weigh* Bible study and video series meets at Sacred Heart Church, 128 Fulton St. Classes will meet Tuesdays through Jan. 3 in the Conference Room, 5:30-7 p.m. For more information, contact the church office at (704) 633-0591.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

WAYNESVILLE — *Adult Education Classes* are held the first three Wednesday evenings of each month beginning at 6:45 p.m. in the St. John the Evangelist Church Social Hall, 234 Church St. For more information, call Charles M. Luce at (828) 648-7369 or e-mail luce54@aol.com.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

WINSTON-SALEM — The *Healing Companions* is a grief support group for the bereaved that meets the first and third Thursdays of the month in conference room B at St. Leo the Great Church, 335 Springdale Ave. For further details, call Joanne Parcel at (336) 924-9478.

KERNERSVILLE — *Triad Pax Christi* meets the third Sunday of each month at 3:30 p.m. in the Child Development building of Holy Cross Church, 616 S. Cherry St. The emphasis is on peace education, prayer and action. For more information, call Gerard Berry at (336) 922-1941.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 15 days prior to the event date in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Nov. 13-17
USCCB General Meeting
Washington, DC

Nov. 19 — 10 a.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. Matthew Church, Charlotte

Nov. 20 — 2 p.m.
Mass for Heritage Society
St. Matthew Church, Charlotte

Nov. 27 — 4 p.m.
Dedication of new church
Holy Family Church, Clemmons

Greeting a prince



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

Prince Charles greets students outside Healy Hall at Georgetown University in Washington Nov. 3. The Prince of Wales attended a seminar on faith and social responsibility at the university during an official visit to the United States. Founded in 1789, the same year the U.S. Constitution took effect, Georgetown University is the nation's oldest Catholic and Jesuit university. Today, Georgetown is a major international research university.

FROM THE COVER

Youth group holds 40-hour devotion

DEVOTION, from page 1

would help do that," said Brendan Vickers, 13, Holy Crusaders' president and founder. "It's a good experience. It's quiet — you can really hear God and it gives you a lot of time to pray."

"Jesus spent time for us, so we can surely spend time for him, to talk and listen and to pray for our petitions," said Andrew Vickers, 12, Brendan's brother.

Spending time in eucharistic adoration, said Andrew, can help people "come closer to Jesus and understand his presence in the Sacrament."

"It's actually Jesus. You're there and he's there, present right in front of you," said Kevin Thorpe, 11, Holy Crusaders' treasurer. "If you pray to him, he can help you in many ways."

Brendan said he finds peace when he adores the Blessed Sacrament.

"It helps me see that Jesus really loves us. He gave his life for us," said Brendan.

The concept for the Holy Crusaders came to Brendan while learning about parliamentary procedures in English class. He was inspired last February to start his own organization, a "Catholic boys club" dedicated to bringing people to Jesus.

To join the club, boys have to have made their first Communion and must be willing to spend one hour a month in eucharistic adoration. The boys offer their holy hours for different intentions; so far, the Holy Crusaders have offered 28 hours for Bishop Peter J. Jugis.

"The group helps us learn about our faith; it's a fun way that we can do that and spend time with God and our friends," said Andrew.

"They (the boys) said they wanted to do two big eucharistic events this year," said Debbie Vickers, Brendan and Andrew's mother.

The first, she said, was participating in the eucharistic procession during the Diocese of Charlotte's first Eucharist Congress Sept. 23-24. The second was

the 40-hour devotion at the parish. Father James Collins, pastor, offered his full support.

"They stood outside the Masses to recruit volunteers. They made flyers. They hung the curtains in the chapel," said Debbie Vickers. "And all the boys prayed a novena before starting for their success."

The boys' efforts paid off.

"We got enough people for every hour, but many people who didn't sign up have come by to adore," said Brendan.

"They worked very hard. We've been overwhelmed with the amount of people who signed up as well as the walk-ins," said Meg Barrett, whose son, Kevin, 10, is a Holy Crusader.

Approximately 120 people participated in the 40-hour devotion, said Barrett.

"It proves people want this," she said. "In this busy age, they still want an hour of solitude with Jesus."

"God wanted this. You can see his hand in everything," said Debbie Vickers. "It all just fell into place."

Barrett said the Holy Crusaders, all of whom are altar servers, take "their faith seriously, and their parents have instilled that in them."

But when they are not bringing people closer to God, they are just "typical boys," she said. "They're out there playing soccer and doing 'boy things.'"

When contemplating his future, Brendan said he would like to become a priest, and that he is inspired by many of the priests in the diocese.

"I see how happy they are (in their ministry) and it encourages me," he said.

Danny Aberle, 13, had never before participated in a 40-hour devotion.

"It's been really interesting," he said. "It's made me feel closer to God, and I would definitely do it again."

Brendan said the Holy Crusaders may organize another 40-hour devotion and they already have plans to participate in next year's diocesan Eucharistic Congress.

Contact Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail kemurray@charlottediocese.org.



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Members of the Holy Crusaders youth group and parishioners spend time in eucharistic adoration during a 40-hour devotion at St. Joseph Church in Newton Nov. 4-6.



Delicious Menus for You and Your Guests

Tastefully Yours Catering
1410 S. Church Street - Suite A - Charlotte, NC 28204
704.632.8040 • tastefullycarolina.com
Located in Charlotte's Southend

Full Service Caterer

- Holiday Parties
- Receptions
- Rehearsal Dinners
- Engagement Parties
- Bridal Showers
- Spa Parties

Visit our cafe for a sampling of the possibilities!

*Wedding tastings by appointment only



Where driving to your meeting is half the fun and arriving there is a pleasure...

The Center is centrally located in the Piedmont of North Carolina. Located only an hour's drive from three major cities assures meeting planners and attendees a meeting that is more accessible than ever. Being accessible to the country and a peaceful setting is a meeting place only we can offer!

1551 Trinity Lane
Hickory, NC 28602

(828) 327-7441
Toll-free (888) 536-7441
info@catholicconference.org
www.catholicconference.org



Many Annuity Owners Lose Money. Will YOU?

Some annuity owners lose money because they didn't know what questions to ask when they bought, and their salesperson did not volunteer any information.

If you own an annuity or are considering taking advantage of their many benefits, my **FREE** report, "Using Guaranteed Annuities to Help You Survive Your Retirement," will tell you what questions to ask.

The report is **FREE** and shows you how to get more benefits from your existing assets and help preserve your annuity value.

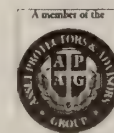
Call 800-800-4960, ext. 7405 (24 hours)

for your **FREE** report!

Dr. Richard Pucciarelli

Certified Senior Advisor

Member of Asset Protectors and Advisors Group



'Attitude of gratitude'

Parishioners find stewardship in all ministries

BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH
CORRESPONDENT

GREENSBORO — The parishioner told Pat Spivey that he was "doughnut minister" that day.

Spivey asked what he meant.

"I'm picking up the doughnuts," he said. "That's my ministry."

"That got me to thinking about [stewardship] more," Spivey, pastoral associate for administration, said. "I've been blessed with many things. I have three good kids, good young men. We need to give back."

Everything at St. Pius X Church in Greensboro is a ministry, from serving during liturgy to caring for the church grounds and gardens and working in the community.

"St. Pius X enjoys the reputation of being an active parish," Msgr. Anthony J. Marcaccio, pastor, said. "I think this translates as a parish with many ministries. These vibrant and diverse ministries are not our goal, but the result of our goal — communicating the saving message of Jesus Christ."

St. Pius X Church has about 1,200 registered households and more than 60 ministries. In addition to those connected with liturgy, ministries include various committees; the crop walk to raise money for food and other help for the poor; transporting residents of Fellowship Hall, a dependency treatment center, to and from Mass; supporting the church's sister parish in Manázo, Peru; and cooking and serving meals at Weaver House, a homeless shelter.

St. Pius X Church also participates four to five times a year with the Inter-faith Hospitality Ministry. Rotating with other Greensboro churches, St. Pius X Church opens rooms in its Kloster Center, the parish hall, to homeless families.

'It's all stewardship, no matter how you're giving back.'

While families stay at the center, parishioners prepare breakfast and dinner for them, tutor and play with the children, and provide transportation.

"It's all stewardship, no matter how you're giving back," said Patty Dunning, Stewardship Committee chair.

Several years ago, Spivey attended a conference led by Father William J. Bausch, author of several books.

"One of the things he said that most impressed me was that we who are in leadership in parishes are to be servant leaders," Spivey said. "It's easier to do it yourself, but it's important to get people involved. You don't have to be the chairman to be involved."

St. Pius X Church fosters parishioner involvement through such efforts as the annual ministry fair.

"We had a great response at our ministry fair this year," Dunning said. "Everybody wanted to get involved. (Among others who volunteered) the ministry of hospitality (ushers and greeters) signed up 20 new people."

"Msgr. (Marcaccio) is excellent with keeping stewardship in front of the parish," Spivey said.

"It is a blessing to pastor a community of faith so receptive to God's word," Msgr. Marcaccio said. "My promotion of stewardship is simply to share



COURTESY PHOTO

The Youth Stewardship Committee of St. Pius X Church in Greensboro has sponsored many projects over the past several years including Operation Christmas Child in November-December 2004. More than 80 shoeboxes were filled with small toys, school supplies, games, etc., and then wrapped by families to be distributed worldwide.

the Gospel and give concrete opportunities to live it."

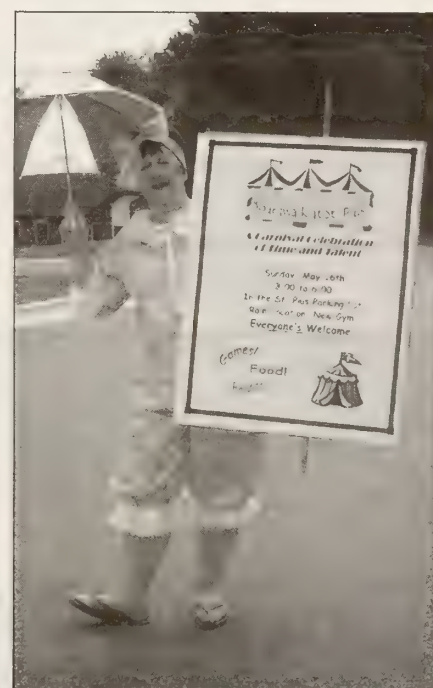
Stewardship of time, talent and treasure is highlighted in the parish's monthly newsletter. The weekly bulletin has a "stewardship corner."

Children learn about stewardship early. They have their own envelopes, one set for 5- to 8-year-olds, another for middle schoolers. They can put in monetary donations, and the envelopes include a place for them to write how they have contributed time and talent.

It can be anything. One girl said she could make people laugh.

"The other aspect that I always want to improve on is thanking people for what they do and what God does through them," Msgr. Marcaccio said. "This 'attitude of gratitude' makes for powerful liturgies and, in a similar way, a truly Eucharistic (thankful) people makes for good stewardship."

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail jnell@dnet.net.



COURTESY PHOTO

Liz Pendergrass, secretary at St. Pius X Church in Greensboro, helps to promote the parish's "Boardwalk at St. Pius X," which featured games, food and entertainment May 16, 2004. These could only be enjoyed by "purchasing" tickets with "Stewardship of Time."

Catholic Publications



You turn to them for news
about your faith....
Now they're turning to you
for help.



The Catholic Press Association has established the **Disaster/Emergency Publication Relief Fund** to assist Catholic publications devastated by recent Gulf Coast storms.

Contributions may be sent to:
Catholic Press Association
3555 Veterans Memorial Highway, Unit O
Ronkonkoma, N.Y. 11779
Or visit our website at www.catholicpress.org



**Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center**

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023

www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus



AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles
Licensed & Insured
FREE ESTIMATES
www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Breaking the cycle of poverty

CCHD collection aids local, national programs

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Rent. Food. Bus fare. New shoes for a 12-year-old son.

For most people, these represent the basic necessities of life. But for nearly 37 million Americans, each item is a choice: "Do I buy shoes or bread?" "Do I pay all the rent, or ride the bus to work?"

Many Americans living in poverty work full time, with an average income of \$8,858 a year. The U.S. Census Bureau defines poor families as those with incomes of less than \$14,680 for a family of three.

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) is the domestic anti-poverty, social justice program of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Its mission is to address the root causes of poverty through the promotion and support of community-controlled, self-help organizations and education.

"CCHD was a program originally designed to alleviate poverty," said Terri Jarina, program director for parish social ministry for Office of Justice and Peace, Catholic Social Services, in the Diocese of Charlotte.

"Over time, the U.S. bishops realized poverty is a bigger problem than originally thought, and their focus shifted to breaking the cycle of poverty" she said.

CCHD supports local groups involved in creating jobs, improving neigh-

borhoods, training adults for employment at a living wage, keeping schools safe and enriching for children, and raising leaders for the future.

This year's collection in the Diocese of Charlotte will be taken up during Masses the weekend of Nov. 19-20.

In 2004, the Diocese of Charlotte was the second-highest diocese in the nation for per-Catholic giving. Catholics in western North Carolina, on average, donated 86 cents each, for a total diocesan collection of \$163,974.

Approximately 75 percent of the collection will be distributed to the national CCHD office, while the balance will remain in the Diocese of Charlotte for local grants.

According to Jarina, the diocesan Office of Justice and Peace examines social action in addition to acts of charity, to learn why poverty happens and determine how to overcome it.

"CCHD looks at how money awarded through grants can help keep people from sliding back into poverty," said Jarina.

WANT MORE INFO?

The 2005 CCHD collection will be taken at Masses Nov. 19-20. Please read Terri Jarina's column on page 14.

CCHD grant applications will be available Dec. 1, 2005 from the Office of Justice and Peace. Applications must be postmarked by Feb. 15, 2006. Call Terri Jarina at (704) 370-3234 for more information.

Serving up compassion

(and cookies)



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Andrew Menzer, Christian Lee and Sara Berhane prepare to serve meals at the Uptown Men's Shelter in Charlotte Nov. 5. The teenagers, who cooked and served dinner to about 125 homeless men, are among 10 students in the confirmation class from St. John Neumann Church in Charlotte.

Confirmation candidates at St. John Neumann Church are required to perform about 30-40 hours in service projects. The students will also be volunteering at a nursing home and with the Special Olympics.


ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO THE HARVEST?

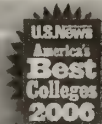
Then he said to His disciples, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers for His harvest." (Mt 9:37)

I am praying that you will join me in responding to our Lord's request for more "laborers" in harvesting the abundant fruit to be found at Belmont Abbey College. Over 125 years ago the Benedictine Monks came south in response to God's call to begin His work in the vineyard of North Carolina.

He is calling you to place your hands upon the same bricks that were formed and put in place by these holy monks so long ago. I am looking for strong, dedicated, Catholic students to help realize our vision of excellence and virtue. Belmont Abbey is your Catholic College and God is calling you to the "harvest."

Dr. William K. Thierfelder
President


BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE
THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED



☐ I WANT TO HELP BUILD OUR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY. PLEASE SEND ME A STUDENT REFERRAL PACKAGE.

If you would like to help Belmont Abbey College by referring or becoming a new student, please fill out this form and send it to us or go online to BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu and click on Referral Package in the Quick Links. We will send you our complete referral/information package with detailed information about the Abbey and all it has to offer!

Your Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

City _____

State _____

No. of Packages Requested _____

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

100 BELMONT MT. HOLLY ROAD

BELMONT, NC 28012-1802

BELMONTABBEYCOLLEGE.EDU

Vatican II's changes

COUNCIL, from page 1

Sunday of Advent, ushered in the first of a series of wide-ranging changes in the Mass. Instead of having his back to the people, the priest faced the people. And Mass was not just being "said," it was "celebrated" — and not all in Latin, but with parts of it in the vernacular.

It was just the first step toward the "full, conscious and active participation" by the laity in the church's liturgical life as mandated earlier that year by the Second Vatican Council's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy.

By 1970, the new Order of the Mass, which brought about further changes, was published.

There was not merely an "epistle" from the New Testament prior to the Gospel, but an Old Testament reading, as well as a responsorial psalm between Old and New Testament readings, with a three-year cycle of Sunday readings and a two-year cycle of weekday readings.

Receiving Communion

The fasting period before one was permitted to receive Communion, previously shortened in the 1950s from midnight to three hours (three for solid foods, one hour for liquids), was lessened further to one hour for all food intake.

Communicants no longer knelt down at a rail to take the host, but continued to stand. The U.S. bishops, with approval from the Vatican, permitted reception of the host in communicants' hands.

The 1969 General Instruction on the Roman Missal permitted Communion under "both species," meaning bread and wine. The bishops, again with Vatican approval, had allowed this in U.S. parishes under limited circumstances as early as 1965.

More Massgoers receive Communion now. There is a debate over whether that is the result of the relaxed fasting

rule, Catholics feeling they have a right to the Eucharist, or a lessened sense of sin that leads some people to receive Communion when they should not.

With no Latin liturgies, there also was no longer a distinction between "high Mass" and "low Mass."

Music and laity

Choirs started coming down from the choir loft in the rear of the church and sang alongside or in the sanctuary in full view of the assembly. The music changed, too.

In keeping with the tenor of the times, the "folk Mass" sprang up primarily with guitar-driven ensembles. Following on its heels were gospel Masses for black Catholics, polka Masses for Polish-American Catholics, and others singing in the mother tongue of their ethnic group.

A torrent of new music written and published since Vatican II resulted in a flood of "worship resources" in the pews, including missal aids and/or hymnals printed on newsprint, plus hymn books for various musical genres.

The sign of peace was inserted into the Mass between the Our Father and the Lamb of God. Once only exchanged between a bishop and his deacon, the custom was spread to the whole assembly.

With liturgical changes came many more roles for lay people. Beyond the surge in the number of choirs, the laity could be lectors — a role previously reserved for priesthood candidates — as well as liturgists and eucharistic ministers, today called extraordinary ministers of holy Communion.

Even ushers, who had passed around the offertory baskets and monitored the Communion lines for generations, were now being counted upon to be ministers of hospitality, giving a warm welcome to newcomers and longtime parishioners alike.

Changes and practices

The Saturday Mass itself was another



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Children bring up the gifts during Mass at the Eucharistic Congress in Charlotte Sept. 24. Liturgical changes mandated after Vatican II offered more roles for lay people in the church's liturgical life.

innovation. The 1967 Vatican document "Eucharisticum Mysterium" (Instruction on the Worship of the Eucharistic Mystery) declared that, in cases of "pastoral necessity," Sunday Masses could be celebrated on Saturday evenings.

The thinking was that those who could not fulfill their obligations on Sunday could attend on Saturday. Over time, the demographics of those attending Saturday Mass has changed, and the congregation is often older than that for Sunday Masses.

The "paraliturgy," a kind of prayer service, and the "holy hour," another devotional practice that sometimes included eucharistic devotion, took their places along side other practices such as rosary recitations, novenas and the Forty Hours devotion.

"In any place in the history of the church where we've emphasized participation, it has sometimes come at the cost of contemplation," said Msgr. James P. Moroney, executive director of the

bishops' Secretariat for Liturgy.

Another significant development was the communal penance service, often drawing hundreds into churches for Scripture readings, a homily, examination of conscience and prayers, followed by an opportunity for individual confession and absolution.

Source and summit

Forty years after the close of Vatican II, some of the most passionate debates among Catholics, from the laity to cardinals, still revolve around liturgical issues.

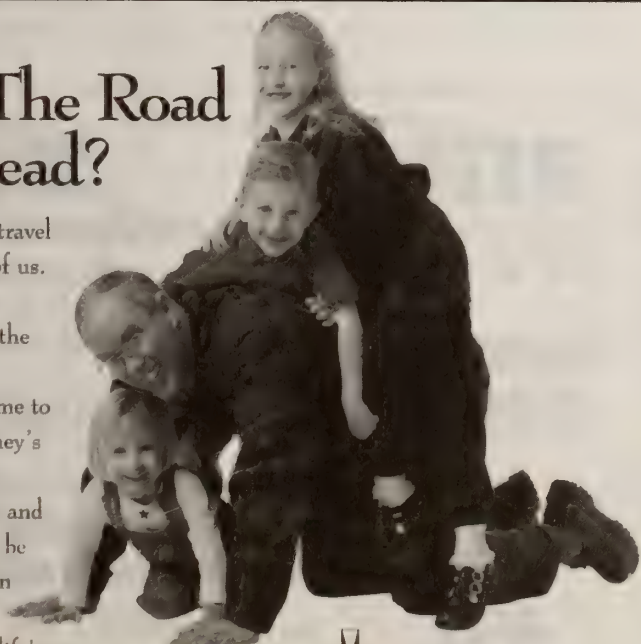
Vatican II proclaimed the Eucharist as "the source and the summit of Christian life," Msgr. Moroney said, so "it is absolutely right (that) the place for disputations and victories to be clear is at the source and at the summit."

The Eucharist, he added, is "the source of everything and the summit of everything, and it's going to be a place where everything we embrace and everything we disdain stands in crystal clarity."

What's The Road Like Ahead?

The road we have to travel is different for each of us. The only certainty is that we all must end the journey some day.

If you take the time to prepare for that journey's end now, your family, favorite parish, school and diocesan ministry will be supported. A will is an essential part of that overall plan for your life's journey.



The Foundation
of the
Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte

To receive the free booklet "Better Estate Planning" contact Judy Smith, Director of Planned Giving, 704-370-3320; 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203. jmsmith@charlottediocese.org.

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

We Build Friendships With Families



We know it isn't easy to invite someone into your home to provide homecare. You'll interview and select any caregiver who we refer to you.

At Visiting Angels, character matters in caregivers!

Up to 24 hour care. Hygiene assistance, meals, light housework, companionship.

Our caregivers are thoroughly screened.

704-549-4010

Visiting Angels

E-mail us at Jill.Stewart@VisitingAngels.com

PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Bishop Peter J. Jugis explains during Mass the eucharistic miracle of 1263 that transpired inside the Cathedral of Orvieto, Italy. The cathedral visit was part of a 10-day pilgrimage to Italy Oct. 17-27.

Pilgrims venture to Italy's holy places

FOOTSTEPS, from page 1

during his homily in a eucharistic adoration chapel at the Cathedral of Orvieto, where he celebrated the first daily Mass of the pilgrimage.

"We as a group should hope to return from this pilgrimage renewed, to better serve Jesus," said the bishop.

The Orvieto cathedral houses the bloodstained corporal (altar cloth) of the eucharistic miracle in 1263, when a priest who doubted his faith held a Eucharist that dripped blood during Mass. It was in response to this miracle that the

feast of Corpus Christi was instituted by Pope Urban IV in 1264.

"It is appropriate to begin Mass here where this eucharistic miracle took place, especially during the Year of the Eucharist," said Bishop Jugis.

Many pilgrims were awestruck at the massive cathedral with its façade that took more than 300 years to complete.

"It was gorgeous," said Deacon Carlos Medina, permanent deacon at St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte, who assisted with the Mass. "I did not want the Mass to end."

The pilgrims also visited Lanciano,

the home of another eucharistic miracle.

In the eighth century, a Basilian monk who doubted the presence of Christ in the consecrated bread and wine, found both elements changed to flesh and blood during a Mass. Scientific tests done in the latter half of the 20th century concluded that the flesh and blood are human in origin, the flesh consisting of muscular tissue of the heart.

The flesh and coagulated blood are now contained in the Lanciano's Sanctuary of the Eucharistic Miracle.

"I couldn't stop crying. The holy presence there touched my heart in the deepest way," said Soraya Narine, a parishioner of St. Therese Church in Mooresville. "I was set free."

"Seeing the eucharistic miracle brought home what the Eucharist really is," said Denise Glander, a parishioner of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Lenoir.

"When the eucharistic miracles happened, it was because there was a lack of faith in the people, and the Spirit stepped in to support their faith," said Margaret Simone, a parishioner of St. Paul the Apostle Church in Greensboro.

"Here we are, hundreds of years later, coming for the same thing — to support our faith," she said.

"The Eucharist is a sign of Christ's love," said Bishop Jugis. "The eucharistic miracles are signs that invite us to a deeper faith in God's grace ... to eternal life."

Footsteps of saints

The pilgrims spent two days in Assisi, home to the Basilica of St. Francis where the saint's remains are buried. The basilica is adorned with hundreds of frescoes depicting events in St. Francis' life and the crucifix from which Christ spoke to him.

"St. Francis of Assisi always had his sights on his hope of eternal life. God was his treasure; everything else was worthless," said Bishop Jugis during Mass in the basilica.

"He drew his inspiration from the poverty of Jesus on the cross, who was stripped of everything," said the bishop.

In Assisi the pilgrims also visited the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels, built in 1569 to protect the Portiuncula, the church given to St. Francis and his followers by Pope Innocent III. The basilica houses the rose bushes on which

Francis threw himself, the cave in which he prayed, and a statue of St. Francis on which live white doves rest.

"There was something higher guiding the doves," said Narine. "I wish more people could realize that."

Also visited was the Basilica of St. Clare, which houses her incorrupt body in a crystal casket. St. Clare, who used the Eucharist to help save Assisi during an invasion by Saracens in 1240, was a follower of St. Francis who formed the Poor Clares, the Franciscan's order of nuns.

Pam Riley, a parishioner of St. John the Evangelist Church in Waynesville, found Assisi "phenomenal."

"It brings home the tremendous sacrifices they (Sts. Francis and Clare) made," she said. "They came from such wealthy families and gave up all of that for God."

The pilgrims ventured to Mount St. Angelo's Grotto of St. Michael the Archangel, a cave or "celestial basilica" in which apparitions of St. Michael occurred in the fourth century.

"The simplicity of the cave was particularly moving," said Lisa Balzano, a parishioner of Our Lady of Grace Church in Greensboro.

"I'm experiencing a rejuvenation of my faith; it's hard not to when we are walking in the footsteps of the saints," she said.

Next was San Giovanni Rotondo, former home of St. Pio, commonly known as Padre Pio, a Capuchin monk and stigmatist who was canonized by Pope John Paul II in June 2002.

"St. Pio is a sign of God's holiness, a reflection of the sanctity and goodness of God the Father," said Bishop Jugis, "and a sign of our call to be holy and participate in the divine nature of God."

Pilgrims visited Padre Pio's cell, confessional and tomb housed in the Church of Santa Maria delle Grazie. During the visit, Bishop Jugis blessed the pilgrims with one of the saint's gloves and a crucifix he kept under his pillow.

"One of the highlights was attending Mass where Padre Pio celebrated his first Mass," said Jan Guess, a parishioner of Immaculate Conception Church in Hendersonville, which is staffed by Capuchin friars.

Padre Pio often spent up to 10 hours a day hearing confessions.

"Confession was a big part of his ministry," said Bishop Jugis. "The sacraments

BINGO

it's here!!!

St. Matthew K of C
BINGO at the new
South Charlotte Banquet Center
every Monday evening

Doors open: 6 pm
BINGO starts: 7 pm sharp!

Food and refreshments available
NON-SMOKING FACILITY
CASH ONLY - ATM AVAILABLE



9009 Bryant Farms Rd.

Directions: from 485- exit Rea Road (south). Right on Ballantyne. Past St. Matthew, turn left on Elm Lane (which turns into Bryant Farms Road). K of C Banquet Center is approximately 2 miles on the left.

The **Catholic** Company

Lake Norman Book Store
maryimmaculata.com



NOW 2 COMPLETE Catholic stores for

- Unique gifts & cards
- Books, rosaries, medals
- Previously read book section (at Lake Norman)
- Video rentals
- Artwork

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)

CAROLINA CATHOLIC
BOOKSHOPPE

Mon. thru Sat.
10 am - 6 pm

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205



PHOTOS BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Above left: Bishop Peter J. Jugis kisses Pope Benedict XVI's ring during the papal audience at the Vatican Oct. 26. The visit was part of a 10-day pilgrimage to Italy Oct. 17-27. Above right: Tour escort Liz Flanagan (second from right) leads pilgrims from the Diocese of Charlotte toward the Basilica of St. Francis in Assisi, Italy.

of the Eucharist and penance go hand in hand for the purification of the soul."

Foundations of faith

In Loreto, the pilgrims visited the Holy House of Nazareth, the traditional home of Jesus, Mary and Joseph now housed in a basilica. According to the original legend, the house was where the annunciation of Mary and incarnation of Jesus took place; it was transported by angels from Nazareth to Croatia in 1291, only to be moved three years later to Loreto.

"Seeing the house of Mary (in Loreto) ... seeing where she lived and touching the walls ... it made my faith more real," said Glander.

"A house built on a firm foundation will not collapse," said Bishop Jugis.

Jesus, he said, is "our house, our home. People, by their baptism, become

living stones in the living body of Christ, built upon the cornerstone of Jesus."

The pilgrims toured also St. Andrew's Cathedral in Amalfi. In Rome, they visited St. Paul Outside the Walls church; the catacombs of St. Calixtus; St. John Lateran Church, the cathedral church of the pope in which the altar holds the relics of Sts. Peter and Paul; and the Basilica of St. Mary Major, which houses relics of Jesus' manger from Bethlehem.

At the Vatican

In addition to touring the Vatican Museums, St. Peter's Basilica and the Sistine Chapel, the pilgrims attended Pope Benedict XVI's weekly general audience, at which they were publicly recognized by the pope.

"What impressed me the most was the people from all over the world, uni-

fied in faith," said Riley. "We all had one common reason to be there."

"The 50,000 people in attendance were a microcosm of the universality of the Catholic Church," said Bishop Jugis.

Pope Benedict's main audience focused on the hymn to Christ found in St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians. The pope said the canticle underlines the greatness of Christ's sacrifice and glory by contrasting his divinity with his willingness to become human and die on the cross.

"Jesus loves us," the pope said. "This word of tenderness is a great consolation

and comfort for us, but it is also a great responsibility to be lived day by day."

Pope Benedict greeted each of the attending bishops after the audience, including Bishop Jugis.

"I thanked him for the (recent) Synod of Bishops. He said it would be a tremendous blessing for the church," said the bishop.

The synod concluded Oct. 22 by approving 50 final propositions and publishing a message to the world.

Journey's end

A highlight of the pilgrimage for Bishop Jugis was celebrating daily Mass in the various churches and holy places.

"So many of the pilgrims were traveling to Italy and experiencing these holy places for the first time," said Bishop Jugis. "I was delighted to be a part of that with them."

"I've seen some of these holy places before, but seeing the awe and excitement of the pilgrims helped me to rediscover these places again for myself," he said.

Many of the pilgrims said their experiences were overwhelmingly positive.

"There are not enough words to describe how special and holy this pilgrimage has been, and how it has strengthened my faith," said Guess.

"I needed a renewal of the spirit, and I've been replenished," said Narine. "I feel like a lot of prayers have been answered."

"The pilgrims really gave themselves to the pilgrimage and that made it a spiritual journey," said Bishop Jugis.

WANT MORE INFO?

The next diocesan pilgrimage will be "The Footsteps of Paul" to Greece and Turkey in May 2006. For more information, see the ad on page 16.

SHEPHERDING HIS FLOCK

BISHOP JUGIS REFLECTS ON SECOND YEAR OF SERVICE

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY—EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — Two years have passed since Bishop Peter J. Jugis was ordained Oct. 24, 2003, to shepherd the growing and increasingly diverse Diocese of Charlotte.

To celebrate the second anniversary of his ordination as bishop, members of the diocesan pilgrimage to Italy celebrated with a special dinner for Bishop Jugis in Rome Oct. 24.

Coincidentally, Bishop Jugis had studied for the priesthood at the Pontifical North American College in Rome, and was ordained by Pope John Paul II in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican June 12, 1983.

"During my first two years as bishop, I've enjoyed going around to all the parishes and schools," said Bishop Jugis. "Canon law says a bishop has five years to visit all of his parishes. I think I'll accomplish it by next year."

Bishop Jugis has realized many accomplishments during the past year — numerous confirmations, dedication Masses and visits to Rome. He has encouraged eucharistic adoration as part of the Year of the Eucharist.

But a special highlight, said Bishop Jugis, was the

diocese's first Eucharistic Congress, held in Charlotte Sept. 23-24.

"When the idea for the congress presented itself, I said 'let's try that,'" said Bishop Jugis. "I think God has blessed us with that initiative. It was a marvelous opportunity to come together in faith."

"Bishop Jugis is the most spiritual, caring shepherd of his flock," said Mary Niekra, a parishioner of Sacred Heart Church in Salisbury and pilgrim to Italy.

"He is truly a very humble man. We are very honored," she said.

"We are delighted to celebrate with you this second anniversary of your ordination as bishop," said Father Christopher Roux, episcopal master of ceremonies, during the dinner.

As a token of their affection, the pilgrims presented Bishop Jugis with a briefcase and a crucifix, similar to one he had seen in a shop during the pilgrimage.

"This is a beautiful reminder of our eucharistic pilgrimage," said Bishop Jugis. "I'm delighted to be your bishop. I wouldn't want to be anywhere else."

Rachel's Vineyard Weekend Retreat for Post-Abortion Healing

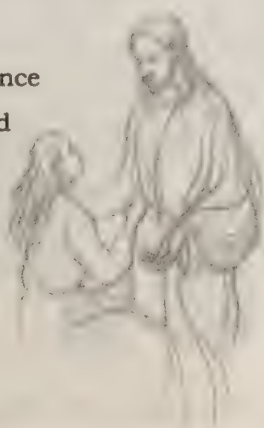
December 9-11

St. Francis Springs Prayer Center
Stoneville, NC (north of Greensboro)

sponsored by the Charlotte Diocese Respect Life Office, Catholic Social Services

Turn your pain into hope, learn to forgive yourself,
and find the unconditional love of Christ.

Open to both men and women, Catholic or non-Catholic, this retreat will give you a chance to be nurtured and supported by experienced retreat leaders. You will not be rushed or hurried but allowed time to reflect and be open to the gradual healing process.



For information and/or registration, please call 704-370-3229.

RATES
ARE
STILL AT
ALL-TIME
LOWS!

30-Year
Fixed: **5.625%**
3/1
ARM: **5%**

As mortgage brokers, we work with a variety of lenders to find the best loan and rates for your needs & goals!

**NEW WORLD
MORTGAGE**
www.newworldmortgage.com



Jayne McGonnell
Parishioner of
St. Thomas Aquinas
704.549.4600 x1028
877.402.4600 (tollfree)
704.516.9682 (cell)

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Do space aliens have souls?

Inquiring minds can check Jesuit's book

BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Galaxy-gazing scientists surely wonder about what kind of impact finding life or intelligent beings on another planet would have on the world.

But what sort of effect would it have on Catholic beliefs?

Would Christian theology be rocked to the core if science someday found a distant orb teeming with intelligent forms of alien life? Would the church send missionaries to spread the Gospel to aliens?

Could aliens even be baptized? Or would they have had their own version of Jesus and have already experienced his universal or galactic plan of salvation?

Curious Catholics need not be space buffs to want answers to these questions and others when they pick up a 48-page booklet by a Vatican astronomer.

Through the British-based Catholic Truth Society, U.S. Jesuit Brother Guy Consolmagno has penned his response to what he says are questions he gets from the public "all the time" when he gives talks on his work with the Vatican Observatory.

Titled "Intelligent Life in the Universe? Catholic Belief and the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligent Life," the pocket-sized booklet is the latest addition to the society's "Explanations Series," which explores Catholic teaching on current social and ethical issues.

Brother Consolmagno said the whole question of how Catholicism would hold up if some form of life were discovered on another planet has piqued people's curiosity "for centuries."

He said his aim with the booklet was to reassure Catholics "that you shouldn't be afraid of these questions" and that "no matter what we learn, it doesn't invalidate what we already know" and believe.

In other words, scientific study and discovery and religion enrich one another, not cancel out each other.

If new forms of life were to be discovered or highly advanced beings from outer space were to touch down on planet Earth, it would not mean "everything we believe in is wrong," rather, "we're going to find out that everything is truer in ways we couldn't even yet have imagined," he said.

The Book of Genesis describes two stories of creation, and science, too, has more than one version of how the cosmos may have come into being.

"However you picture the universe being created, says Genesis, the essential point is that ultimately it was a deliberate, loving act of a God who exists outside of space and time," Brother Consolmagno said.

"The Bible is divine science, a work about God. It does not intend to be physical science" and explain the making of planets and solar systems, he said.

Pope John Paul II once told scientists, "Truth does not contradict truth,"

meaning scientific truths will never eradicate religious truths and vice versa.

"When science fills in the details of how God did it, science helps get a flavor of how rich and beautiful and inventive God really is, more than even the writer of Genesis could ever have imagined," Brother Consolmagno said.

The limitless universe "might even include other planets with other beings created by that same loving God," he added. "There is nothing in Holy Scripture that could confirm or contradict the possibility of intelligent life elsewhere in the universe."

Brother Consolmagno said that, like scientists, people of faith should not be afraid of saying "I just don't know."

Human understanding "is always incomplete. It is crazy to underestimate God's ability to create in depths of ways that we will never completely understand. It is equally dangerous to think that we understand God completely," he said.

He said his booklet tries to show "the fun of thinking" about what it would mean if God had created more than life on Earth. Such speculation "is very worthwhile if it makes us reflect on things we do know and have taken for granted," he said.

He said asking such questions as "Would aliens have souls?" or "Does the salvation of Christ apply to them?" helps one "appreciate what it means for us to have a soul" and helps one better "recognize what the salvation of Christ means to us."

Brother Consolmagno said he tried to show that "the church is not afraid of science" and that Catholics, too, should be unafraid and confident in confronting all types of speculation.

The booklet's last chapter reveals where there are references to extraterrestrials in the Bible.

The booklet offers no "hard and fast answers" to extraterrestrial life, but is meant "to put a smile on your face" and, perhaps, make people think twice about who could be peeking at Earth from alien telescopes far, far away.

30 YEARS EXPERIENCE



ALICE & THE PYANO MAN

Henry C. Rozell III

2nd Generation

Piano Tuner/Technician

Piano Tuning, Repairs, Refinishing

Pianos Bought and Sold

FREE ESTIMATES

704-321-5843

Cell: 704-562-5394

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: NOV. 20, 2005

*Nov. 20, Our Lord
Jesus Christ the King*

Cycle A Readings:

1) Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17

Psalm 23:1-3, 5-6

2) 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28

3: Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

Wherever there is need, there is Christ

BY DAN LUBY
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

It could be an emperor mistaken for a beggar or a queen in disguise or a long lost relative returned to an unsuspecting home, like Odysseus at the end of his journey. However it's played out, the motif of the unrecognized king finds expression in all cultures, all times and places.

The experience of mistaken identity is a popular literary theme because it opens a window on the intentions of people's hearts. We recognize how true it is that people are on their best behavior when they know someone important is watching.

The Gospel for the Solemnity of Christ the King paints for us a dramatic scene of glory revealed and judgment bestowed. There are angels and trum-

pets, glorious thrones and all the peoples of the world assembled.

So why is there so much surprise in the reaction to Christ's judgment?

Because, beneath all this majesty lies the quiet but decisive truth that Christ is present to us in one another, but in a way that is hidden for now. The behavior on which his judgments are based is not measured against the public standard of how we treat powerful, well-known people, but how we treat the least.

Who among us is thirsty for a cool glass of water or a refreshing word of encouragement? Who are the ill-clad and unprotected in need of the warmth and protection of clothes and inclusion? Where are the strangers waiting to be welcomed into our conversations, our homes and our circles of power?

What are the illnesses and injuries of body, soul and spirit that long for the comfort of gentle hands and kind words? Who are the prisoners, separated from the human community by steel bars and mental handicaps, physical impairments and ignorance?

Wherever there is human need, that's where Christ is. The time to respond is now.

Questions:

Who are some of the people who have helped quench your thirst or made you welcome or freed you from bondage? What is one way you can help your parish community serve Christ in those in need?

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 13 - NOVEMBER 19

Sunday (Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time), Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31, 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6, Matthew 25:14-30; **Monday**, 1 Maccabees 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63, Luke 18:35-43; **Tuesday (St. Albert the Great)**, 2 Maccabees 6:18-31, Luke 19:1-10; **Wednesday (St. Gertrude, St. Margaret of Scotland)**, 2 Maccabees 7:1, 20-31, Luke 19:11-28; **Thursday (St. Elizabeth of Hungary)**, 1 Maccabees 2:15-29, Luke 19:41-44; **Friday (Sts. Peter and Paul, St. Rose Philippine Duchesne)**, 1 Maccabees 4:36-37, 52-59, 1 Chronicles 29:10-12, Luke 19:45-48; **Saturday**, 1 Maccabees 6:1-13, Luke 20:27-40.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 20 - NOVEMBER 26

Sunday (Christ the King), Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17, 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28, Matthew 25:31-46; **Monday (Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary)**, Daniel 1:1-6, 8-20, Luke 21:1-4; **Tuesday (St. Cecilia)**, Daniel 2:31-45, Daniel 3:57-61, Luke 21:5-11; **Wednesday (St. Clement, St. Columban, Bl. Miguel Pro)**, Daniel 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28, Daniel 3:62-67, Luke 21:12-19; **Thursday (Thanksgiving Day)**, Sirach 50:22-24, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9, Luke 17:11-19; **Friday (St. Catherine of Alexandria)**, Daniel 7:2-14, Daniel 3:75-81, Luke 21:29-33; **Saturday**, Daniel 7:15-27, Daniel 3:82-87, Luke 21:34-36.

Come eat, shop and have fun at

ST. LUKE CHRISTMAS CRAFT BAZAAR



Saturday, Nov. 19th 8 am until 2 pm

Handmade gifts and treasures featured by more than 50 artists and craftsmen!

AND St. Louis BBQ (11 am - 8 pm) eat-in or take-out - featuring grilled pork steaks, burgers, and brats!

13700 Lawyers Road, Charlotte

Info: (704)841-1372

Maryknoll, Christophers offer essay, poster contests for students

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Both Maryknoll and the Christophers are sponsoring contests designed to harness the creativity of students.

Maryknoll's student essay contest, open to students in grades six to 12, asks entrants to tell Pope Benedict XVI about the biggest concerns of youths around the world and how the church might help or tell him what they have learned from someone of another faith.

The Christophers' 16th annual poster contest asks students in grades nine to 12 to interpret the theme "You Can Make a Difference" in an original poster, which can feature paintings, photographs, pencil sketches and computer-generated artwork.

"The voice of young people, expressing their own reality and in their own words, can help adults understand

what decisions we need to make to create a better, safer and holier world," said Maryknoll Father Joseph R. Veneroso, publisher of Maryknoll magazine.

The deadline for the Maryknoll contest is Dec. 1. Entries in The Christophers' contest must be submitted by Jan. 20.

WANT TO ENTER?

Instructions and a cover sheet for the Maryknoll contest are available online at: www.maryknoll.org/essay. Complete rules and entry forms for the Christophers' contest are available by writing to: High School Poster Contest, The Christophers, 12 East 48th St., New York, NY 10017, by calling: (212) 759-4050, or online at: www.christophers.org/contests.html.

CHANGING CHANNELS

Young people asked to discern media's messages

BY PRISCILLA GREER
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ATLANTA — Teenage participants at the Oct. 27-29 National Catholic Youth Conference in Atlanta were urged to critically discern the countless messages targeting their age group from movies, TV shows, music and magazines.

Mike Patin, a frequent speaker at youth events who has been a youth minister and a high school teacher, told participants at the session on media and culture to "use moderation, self-control (and) better understanding" in what they watch, listen to and read.

Patin took on the current reality shows on television, saying that many of them are "far from realistic," and he also warned against spending too much time on the Internet as a substitute for personal contact.

He noted that some television shows in recent years have been "decent"; they include such shows as "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," "Joan of Arcadia" and "Alias," although of the three only one, "Alias," is still running.

He suggested that teens ask themselves if the programs they watch only allow them to disconnect and escape or to help build better relationships and inspire them. He also said they should always be mindful of what the advertisers are trying to sell them.

Another presenter, Anna Scally, a youth rally speaker and president of Cornerstone Media in Santa Rosa, Calif.,

spoke about the impact of music on today's youths.

She said that despite the often perceived negative influences of modern music she has found that today's popular music unites people and often has positive, affirming messages.

Scally said that about 15 percent of popular songs advocate casual sex, drugs and alcohol. Those songs should be intentionally avoided, she added.

When asked how much music they listen to, many participants at the session said they listen to up to four hours of music a day.

Scally said that since there is no shortage of romantic love songs some that are about unconditional love can be used to pray and contemplate God's love.

"God is speaking to you every day and if you listen to a bad song God may be calling you to hear a better message," said Scally. "Psalm 150 says praise the Lord with all instruments, let all creation sing praise. ... Were songs only meant to be inspired in those days or is Our Lord speaking to us every single day through our music, our church, our sacraments, through our friends who love us?"

Brittany Smith, one of the conference participants, said she appreciated how the speakers met teens at their level and did not just say the media was all bad.

"(While) some of us may not be able to stay on course, the majority of us can think for ourselves," she said. "We just need to be more careful in determining what is good and what is bad."

FEBRUARY 17 - MAY 29, 2006

The Dead Sea SCROLLS

2000 YEARS
IN THE JUDEAN DESERT
100 DAYS IN CHARLOTTE

Discovery Place presents the oldest surviving manuscripts of the Bible in a monumental exhibition that gives visitors the opportunity to experience the most remarkable archeological discovery of the 20th century.

Tickets on sale now: call 877.TIX.4DSS (877.849.4377) or order online at www.discoverscrolls.org. Tickets are also available from Ticketmaster at www.ticketmaster.com, charge-by-phone at 704.522.6500.



DISCOVERY PLACE

Presented By
THE LEON LEVINE FOUNDATION
SANDRA AND LEON LEVINE

Also Sponsored By
THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER
WSOC-TV Channel 9

In association with the Israel Antiquities Authority, The Dead Sea Scrolls Foundation and Pacific Science Center

Holland America Line Special from \$1699*

Father Walter Grabowski to Host
Catholic Group with Daily Mass on This

19-Day Panama Canal Cruise

Plan ahead and take advantage of this
Holland America Line "early bird" special.

Join your Spiritual Director Father Walter Grabowski, pastor of Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church in Eden, NY. This will be Father Walter's third cruise as YMT's chaplain. On October 23, 2006, you'll board the ms Ryndam in Los Angeles. Mexican Riviera ports include: Cabo San Lucas; Puerto Vallarta; & Puerto Santa Cruz Huatulco. Next there's Quetzal, Guatemala. Here you may tour the museums, or visit a jade factory or volcano. On November 1 you'll find yourself in Costa Rica. Next is the highlight, the daytime Panama Canal crossing where you will be raised and lowered by giant locks. You will slowly float through the lush jungle and cross the rugged continental divide via 45 miles of canals and the largest man-made lake in the world, Gatun Lake. Next visit Cartagena, Colombia; Costa Maya, Mexico; and Cozumel, Mexico, in the Caribbean Sea. You'll fly home from Tampa November 10. *Prices (per person, double occupancy) start at only \$1699 for inside staterooms; \$2049 for outside ocean view staterooms; and \$3099 for larger outside staterooms with private balcony. Add \$539 port/taxes/gov't fees/services. Add \$500 round trip airfare from Charlotte.

Deposits are now due. Cabins are selling out fast!

For information, reservations, & brochure call 7 days a week:

'YOUR MAN' TOURS

1-800-968-7626

Providing carefree vacations since 1967!

Elementary School Principal Archdiocese of Atlanta

St. Mary's Catholic School, an accredited school with a rich 60-year history wrapped in a new \$6 million facility, is accepting applications for the position of elementary school principal. The school enjoys a highly engaged parent base, an active parish of 1000 families, and broad community recognition and support.

St. Mary's is located in Rome, Georgia, a beautiful, vibrant town, one hour northwest of Atlanta. One of the South's best kept secrets, Rome is an established community with three colleges, symphony, theatre, and a warm and inviting atmosphere.

Energetic, creative leaders who will take our school to the next level of excellence, please apply. Active Catholics with a master's degree in educational administration (or its equivalent) and at least three years of demonstrated experience in administration will be considered. Handsome salary and benefits.

Please submit letter of interest, resume, three letters of reference and university credentials to:

Fr. Jim Miceli
St. Mary's Catholic Church
911 N. Broad Street
Rome, GA 30161

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

The Archdiocese of Atlanta seeks an experienced principal to lead Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School, a SACS accredited college preparatory high school; co-educational, with 258 students and 35 faculty members. The School offers a challenging academic and co-curricular program to a diverse student body: 43% African American, 46% Caucasian and 11% other ethnic groups. Located in Fairburn, Georgia, 20 miles south of downtown Atlanta. Position requirements:

- Practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church;
- Educational Leadership Certification;
- Minimum of 3 years of successful Catholic secondary administrative experience;
- Excellent communication skills;
- Collaborative leadership style;
- Experience in fiscal management and institutional advancement;
- Commitment to teaching;
- Fair and consistent disciplinarian.



Negotiable and competitive salary; excellent benefits. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled. Send letter of interest, resume, university credentials, and names, addresses and telephone numbers of at least five references to:

Ruprecht and Associates
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811

Phone: 218-727-5150

E-mail: mruprecht@cpinternet.com

Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT

JOB OPPORTUNITIES: Call us or visit our website at www.sherpallc.com for 100+ Charlotte-area job opportunities. Recruiting, Staffing and Consulting Services. Specializing in Accounting, Finance and IT. 704-374-0001

CAREGIVER: Employed single female; live-in; for female senior citizen. Responsibilities for evenings/nights only. Utilities included. Terri 704-888-6050

SERVICES

EMERALD HOME REMODELING: NC

Licensed General Contractor. Kitchens, Baths, Additions, Handyman services, etc. All size jobs completed. (704) 684-0301 (T); (704) 719-0808 (cell) for free consultation

PIANO TUNING & RESTORATION: Hi-Quality Used Pianos. **PIANO CRAFT** (336) 454-2000. Al Guccia, formerly of Steinway & Sons. IHM Parishioner.

FOR RENT

VACATION CABIN: Lake Lure. Mountain views! A great holiday get-away! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, fully furnished. Reasonable rates. Call 828-299-3714.

Classified ads bring results! Over 125,000 readers! Over 49,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottdiocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

United States Postal Service

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

1. Publication Title <u>The Catholic News & Herald</u>	2. Publication Number <u>907-393</u>	3. Filing Date <u>11/11/05</u>
4. Issue Frequency <u>Weekly except bi-weekly during June, July and August. No issue Christmas & Easter</u>	5. Number of Issues Published Annually <u>44</u>	6. Annual Subscription Price <u>\$15 for parish enrollees</u> <u>\$23 for all others</u>
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4) <u>1123 South Church Street, Charlotte, NC 28203-4003</u>		Contact Person <u>Kevin Murray</u> Telephone <u>704-370-3334</u>
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer) <u>PO Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237</u>		
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank)		
Publisher (Name and complete mailing address) <u>Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis</u> <u>Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte</u>		<u>1123 S. Church St.</u> <u>Charlotte, NC 28203</u>
Editor (Name and complete mailing address) <u>Kevin Edward Murray</u>		<u>PO Box 37267</u> <u>Charlotte, NC 28237</u>
10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)		
Full Name <u>Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte</u>		Complete Mailing Address <u>1123 South Church Street</u> <u>Charlotte, NC 28203</u>
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None		
Full Name		Complete Mailing Address
12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months		
<input type="checkbox"/> Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)		

PS Form 3526, October 1999

(See Instructions on Reverse)

1. Publication Title <u>The Catholic News & Herald</u>	14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below <u>11/11/05</u>
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)	<u>48,626</u>
(1) Paid/Requested Outside-County Mail Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 (Include advertiser's proof and exchange copies)	<u>48,626</u>
b. Paid and/or Requested Circulation	<u>48,626</u>
(2) Paid In-County Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 (Include advertiser's proof and exchange copies)	<u>0</u>
(3) Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Non-USPS Paid Distribution	<u>N/A</u>
(4) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS	<u>N/A</u>
c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation (Sum of 15b. (1), (2), (3), and (4))	<u>48,626</u>
d. Free Distribution by Mail (Samples, complimentary, and other free)	<u>0</u>
(1) Outside-County as Stated on Form 3541	<u>0</u>
(2) In-County as Stated on Form 3541	<u>0</u>
(3) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS	<u>0</u>
e. Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	<u>0</u>
f. Total Free Distribution (Sum of 15d. and 15e.)	<u>0</u>
g. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c. and 15f.)	<u>48,626</u>
h. Copies not Distributed	<u>0</u>
i. Total (Sum of 15g. and h.)	<u>48,626</u>
j. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation (15c. divided by 15g. times 100)	<u>100%</u>
16. Publication of Statement of Ownership <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publication required. Will be printed in the <u>Vol. 15, #1</u> issue of this publication. <input type="checkbox"/> Publication not required.	
17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner <u>Kevin E. Murray</u> Date <u>10/11/05</u>	

Instructions to Publishers

- Complete and file one copy of this form with your postmaster annually on or before October 1. Keep a copy of the completed form for your records.
- In cases where the stockholder or security holder is a trustee, include in items 10 and 11 the name of the person or corporation for whom the trustee is acting. Also include the names and addresses of individuals who own or hold 1 percent or more of the total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities of the publishing corporation. In item 11, if none, check the box. Use blank sheets if more space is required.
- Be sure to furnish all circulation information called for in item 15. Free circulation must be shown in items 15d, e, and f.
- Item 15h. Copies not Distributed, must include (1) newsstand copies originally stated on Form 3541, and returned to the publisher, (2) estimated returns from news agents, and (3) copies for office use, leftovers, spoiled, and all other copies not distributed.
- If the publication had Periodicals authorization as a general or requester publication, this Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation must be published; it must be printed in any issue in October or, if the publication is not published during October, the first issue printed after October.
- In item 16, indicate the date of the issue in which this Statement of Ownership will be published.
- Item 17 must be signed.
Failure to file or publish a statement of ownership may lead to suspension of Periodicals authorization.

PS Form 3526, October 1999 (Reverse)

FROM THE COVER

Hearing examines if fetuses feel pain

PAIN, from page 1

House becomes law.

The Unborn Child Pain Awareness Act of 2005, introduced in January by Rep. Chris Smith, R-N.J., got its first hearing Nov. 1 before the Subcommittee on the Constitution of the House Judiciary Committee.

The legislation would require medical professionals to inform women seeking abortions — if their unborn child has reached “a probable stage of development of 20 weeks after fertilization” — that there is “substantial evidence that the (abortion) will cause the unborn child pain, and that the mother has the option of having pain-reducing drugs administered directly to the child.”

Sen. Sam Brownback, R-Kan., has introduced a similar measure in the Senate.

“The topic of pain of the unborn,

including whether, how early and to what extent an unborn child feels pain, ignites heated debate,” said Rep. Steve Chabot, R-Ohio, subcommittee chairman and a co-sponsor of the bill.

“Yet 77 percent of the individuals surveyed in an April 2004 Zogby International poll favor a law requiring that women who are 20 weeks or more along in their pregnancy be given information about pain of the unborn before having an abortion,” he said.

Dr. Kanwaljeet Anand, professor of pediatrics, anesthesiology, neurobiology and developmental sciences at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, said the topic of fetal pain “deserves a scientific appraisal that is independent from the highly controversial and partisan issues surrounding abortion, women’s rights or philosophical projections about the beginning of human life.”

Anand disputed the findings of a review of earlier studies published in August in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, which concluded that fetal perception of pain is unlikely until 29 to 30 weeks after fertilization.

“The conclusions ... are flawed because they ignore a large body of research related to pain processing in the brain, present a faulty scientific rationale and use inconsistent methodology for their systematic review,” said Anand.

“Based on the available scientific evidence, we cannot dismiss the high likelihood of fetal pain perception before the third trimester of human gestation,” he said.

Teresa Collett, a law professor at the University of St. Thomas School of Law, said the conclusions of the August article also were contrary to that of the British Medical Association, which said in 1999 that “due consideration must be given to appropriate measures for minimizing the risk of pain” to the fetus, both in abortions and in therapeutic interventions.

“If there is a single issue in the abortion debate where common ground could be found, one would hope it might be on the issue of ensuring that women who obtain abortions at 20 weeks or later be informed of the possibility of fetal pain and their options to relieve that pain,” Collett added.

To a certain degree, that consensus already exists. When the bill was introduced in January, Nancy Keenan, president of NARAL Pro-Choice America, said her organization did not oppose the legislation.

But Arthur Caplan, chairman of the department of medical ethics at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine,

strongly objected to the proposed law, calling it “an unwise interference with the practice of medicine by Congress” that could have “enormous ramifications for the future practice of medicine.”

Caplan said that because the medical profession has not reached a consensus about when a fetus is capable of pain, legislation mandating that a “physician represent something as a fact which is not known to be true or agreed upon by the majority of medical and scientific experts as valid would not only be poor public policy, it would set a terrible precedent for other topics where Congress might choose to mandate disclosure about ‘facts’ for political or even ethical reasons which have no foundation in science or medicine.”

Offering the most hands-on testimony at the hearing was Dr. Jean Wright, executive director of Children’s Hospital and Women’s Institute at Memorial Health University Medical Center in Savannah, Ga., who traced the history of pediatric anesthesia since the early 1980s, when “little or no pain management” was offered to premature infants undergoing major surgery.

Today, however, “our understanding of the presence of pain and the need to clinically treat this pain in the premature infants leads us to understand the presence of pain and the need to treat pain in the unborn fetus of the same gestational age,” Wright said.

“We no longer can ignore the fact that maternal anesthesia treats the mother’s pain perception during these procedures, but leaves the unborn with no pain protection,” she said.



DIRECTOR OF PLANT & GROUNDS

The Sisters of Mercy of North Carolina are seeking qualified candidates for the position of Director of Plant and Grounds. Applicants must have at least a Bachelor Degree in Mechanical or Electrical Engineering, five years of management and technical experience preferably as a plant engineer, knowledge of construction and building codes, and familiarity with regulatory agency requirements. Please send resume, references and salary expectations to: Sisters of Mercy, Personnel Department, 101 Mercy Drive, Belmont, NC 28012-2898. Information may also be faxed to 704-829-5267.

*Enjoy God's peace
and beauty in the
foothills!*

*Share the blessings
of this opportunity*

- Four riverfront homesites offered for sale, all with gated access and private drive
- In the Appalachian foothills, 1 hour west of Charlotte and 40 minutes from Asheville
- Designed by nature, home to abundant wildlife with majestic riverwalk
- Very large lots, 6 to 12 acres each all with access to community barn
- Frontage on Second Broad River, with beautiful forest land and nature trails all accessible by foot and/or horseback
- Deeded access to 40 acres of pasture and more than ½ mile of riverfront
- Our Lady of the River grotto and Stations of the Cross



A unique opportunity, this property of 110 acres will be used as a retreat ranch for children suffering from cancer, and their families. Held by the Padre Pio Land Trust, it is being developed by Michael and Robin Hunter, Parishioners of Immaculate Conception in Ruthertfordton and trustees of Janua Coeli Cancer Foundation. If you are interested in an ideal spot for your vacation home, or have any questions regarding this property, please contact Mike or Robin at (828) 429-8544, (828) 286-1998, or online at www.januacoelicanerfoundation.com

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Where is Satan in the Bible?

Q. In my grade school days more than 50 years ago, the nuns told us the story of an angel named Lucifer, whose name means Light-bearer and who was very close to God; but this angel got the idea he was better than God.

Lucifer gathered a bunch of rogue angels about him and rebelled, so the story goes. They were banished to the nether regions, wherever that is, thus creating hell. I've read the Bible a good bit but don't recall seeing reference to such a confrontation.

Is there reference to this battle, apparently between the devil, or Satan, and God? Are angels fallible creatures, capable of making big mistakes like this one? (Illinois)

A. The New Testament contains numerous references to a Satan who is in conflict with Jesus and his followers, most notably perhaps in the stories of the temptation of Jesus in the desert at the beginning of his public life.

The major reference to the heavenly conflict you mention is in the book of Revelation (12:7-9), which speaks of a war between Michael and his angels and the ancient serpent (called the devil or Satan) and its angels. The serpent, or dragon, was cast down to earth, along with its angels.

Details about this Satan, however, are difficult to pin down in the Scriptures. The word itself is a Hebrew expression designating an accuser in a court of law, in other words an adversary.

In the book of Job, for example, he is a member of the heavenly court, one of God's advisers, who is obviously, however, no friend of human beings (Job 1:6-12). In other Old Testament Jewish traditions, Satan gradually takes on his more evil characteristics.

The name Lucifer is traced to a passage in the prophet Isaiah (Chapter 14), which speaks of a "shining star, son of the dawn" (in Hebrew "Helel ben Shahar"), who said "I will be like the most high." This passage occurs in an extended, taunting sarcasm against the pagan king of Babylon, enemy of the Jewish people.

According to the New Jerome Biblical Commentary and most Bible scholars

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



today, Isaiah is applying to the king the myth of a god named "shining star, son of the dawn," who "aspired to ascend the mountain of the gods and make himself equal to Elyon," to God.

Some fathers of the church saw in this passage a parallel to the battle described in Revelation and translated the name Helel ben Shahar directly into the Latin name Lucifer, which means, as you say, the bearer of the light of dawn, the morning star. Thus the beautiful name Lucifer became an unlikely Christian name for the devil or Satan.

For centuries Catholic teaching has been that some angels sinned against God in such a grave way that they lost their presence with God forever. Details are sparse. The only ones we have are from the few passages in the Gospels and other New Testament books I refer to above.

The personality of angels, from what we are able to theorize, would be such that their knowledge would be more immediate and encompassing than ours could be, their decisions more definitive. There would be no new later insights or wonder to bring them to repentance.

It's a most interesting subject, but that's about as far as we can go in our speculation about the fall of the angels and its consequences.

A free brochure on ecumenism, including questions on intercommunion and other ways of sharing worship, is available by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Father John Dietzen, P.O. Box 3315, Peoria, IL 61612.

Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address, or e-mail: jjdietzen@aol.com.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

World is 'intelligent project' that reflects divine origin, pope says

BY JOHN THAVIS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI said that far from being a product of chance the created world is an "intelligent project" that reflects a divine origin.

The pope made the remarks at a general audience at the Vatican Nov. 9, commenting about Psalm 136, which gives thanks for creation.

The pope quoted St. Basil the Great, who in the fourth century warned that some people, "fooled by the atheism that they carry inside them, imagine the universe deprived of direction and order, as if at the mercy of chance."

Speaking extemporaneously to the crowd in St. Peter's Square, the pope said St. Basil's words had "surprising relevance" today.

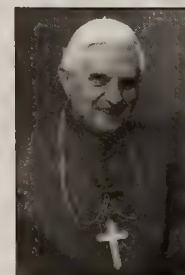
"How many people are there today who, fooled by atheism, think and try to demonstrate that it would be scientific to think that everything is without direction and order," he said.

"Through sacred Scripture, the Lord reawakens the reason that sleeps and tells us that in the beginning is the creative word, the creative reason, the reason that has created everything, that has created this intelligent project," he said.

The pope said it was important to understand that "the cosmos is also love." He said Psalm 136 correctly points to the created world as the place to find

The Pope Speaks

POPE BENEDICT XVI



visible signs of divine charity.

"The signs of God's love are seen in the marvels of creation and in the great gifts he has given to his people. The Fathers of the Church teach us to recognize in created things the greatness of God and his merciful love toward us," he said.

St. Basil, he said, was filled with wonder as he reflected upon the mystery of creation. The pope quoted the saint's description of God as "beauty greater than any that can be desired, the beginning of all beings, the source of life, the light of understanding, inaccessible wisdom."

The pope said the presence of God in creation was a "cosmic revelation" available to everyone, but he said one must have "clear eyes" to contemplate and understand this revelation, a process that is aided by prayer.

He said the reading of Psalm 136 also underlines that the creator addressed in prayer is "not a cold, distant God, but one who loves his creatures and suffers when they are unfaithful to him, when they reject his merciful fatherly affection."

Thanksgiving: Remembering times God smiled upon us

Those of us spared by hurricanes and earthquakes have much to be grateful for this Thanksgiving! And if we are enjoying good health, a secure job and a happy living situation, we have all the more reason to be grateful.

But is Thanksgiving really a time to reflect on how much better off we are than others? It should be a special time for reflecting on graces we've received from God.

Grace is the life that comes of an "I-thou" relationship with God — a taste of heaven on earth, you might say.

As horrific as recent disasters were, the goodness of people reaching out to help others was truly a memorable moment — a time when "we" experienced "Thy" goodness, O Lord.

Out of the goodness and generosity of their hearts, people gave like never before, and not just financial outpouring.

Families opened their homes to those who lost theirs. Schools made room for children whose schools were destroyed. Doctors and rescue workers left rushed to aid others. The military distributed food, rescued people and restored order.

In Latin, the word "care" is closely related to the word "cure." What we experienced this past year was truly Christ's care and healing among us. We found ourselves in an unforgettable time when humans performed like the human beings they are meant to be — reflections of their Creator.

The Human Side

FATHER EUGENE HEMRICK
CNS COLUMNIST



Recent disasters are reminders that as bad as things seem at times, the goodness of God far outweighs the evil he allows. In fact, we have to wonder if God doesn't seek every opportunity to draw goodness out of evil in order to raise us to new levels of human excellence.

Certainly, strangers coming together to support each other lets us ponder how often during 2005 we experienced such excellence in others and in ourselves.

Perhaps it was at a moment of unforeseen trouble when someone appeared to help. Perhaps it was an anonymous nurse at our bedside soothing our fears, or the courteous remark of a bus driver, or unexpected words of thanks.

Suddenly there was the grace of an I-Thou relationship — the "I" being touched by the goodness of "Thou."

Somewhere I once read that "a smile is gone in a flash but its memory lingers forever." Thanksgiving is a time to resurrect our memories of the times God smiled upon us.

Is this Heaven? No, it's Vegas

Money doesn't bring happiness; Jesus does

As North Carolina moves into the little league of gambling, with the state-sponsored lottery, I recently revisited the major leagues. My wife Deborah and I spent a few days in big, gaudy, naughty Las Vegas, the sun-baked desert town that was built on cheap drinks, media hype, headline entertainment and the brass ring promise of fabulous riches.

I've visited Vegas many times on business. Deborah had never been. Neither of us cares for gambling, but still we managed to lose \$10 on the slots. To me the city's well-known slogan, "What happens here, stays here," should be twisted to, "What is bet here, stays here."

Without gambling as an attraction for us, we spent a lot of time checking out the architecture and ambiance of the resorts that dot both downtown and "the strip." What, we wondered, is the soul of Vegas?

Even if you don't play the games, you can't avoid the smoky casinos. You have to pass through them to get to everything from a restroom to a restaurant to the theatres that house the spectacular shows and the hokey Elvis impersonators.

The casinos are the heart of the city. The gleeful sounds of the hopeful gamblers mix with the clanging sirens of the slots and an endless buzz of anticipation that the next pull, the next toss of the

Catholics & the Media

DAVID HAINS
GUEST COLUMNIST



dice, the next card is going to transform someone. Into what? A winner!

Everyone knows that Vegas is fake, but wow — what a phony! The faux "skyline" of the hotel/casino New York, New York is truly evocative of the great city. I haven't seen the Eiffel Tower, but the replica outside the Paris casino is pretty impressive, and ditto for the Renaissance ceiling paintings in the Venetian hotel. The fountains at the Bellagio will convince you that water can dance.

Churches? Those were hard to find, unless, of course, you count the wedding chapels.

This colossal playground of buildings, entertainment, food and "beautiful people" is an exotic, intoxicating mixture. As a sensual experience, Vegas has everything — or at least it has everything that man can create to attract, amuse, absorb and convince us that this is as good as it gets.

What gets you in to this heaven on earth? Money. You can bring it or you can win it. If you do, out rolls the red carpet and everyone is your friend.

But Vegas has a sad side, too. What large city doesn't? Do the assorted winos, hard-edged women and cycle-less biker types who sleep in the public parks have serious problems, or are they just down on their luck? After all, nearly everyone in Vegas is unlucky; the city was built on losers, not winners.

After hours of walking, our conclusion was not really a revelation. Las Vegas has no soul. But the essential question for every gambler who has ever said "Hit me!" is the same there as it is for people in Charlotte or Asheville or Winston-Salem. How do I win in this life?

The answer, the winning ticket, for everyone is to follow Jesus Christ. It may not bring earthly riches, but you won't have the feeling I heard expressed on a monorail ride between casinos.

A well-dressed man, who claimed to have won a great deal at a roulette table, was wondering, "Is this all there is?"

Vegas is a lot of fun, but for me the jackpot was in realizing that you don't have to go there to be a winner.

David Hains is director of communication for the Diocese of Charlotte. Contact him at dwhains@charlottediocese.org.

Keeping poverty in the headlines

Guest Column

TERRI JARINA
GUEST COLUMNIST



People living in poverty made the headlines for weeks following the devastation of hurricanes Katrina and Rita. In recent weeks those stories seem to have waned — poverty is no longer newsworthy.

But even when it does not make the headlines, poverty abounds. Nearly 37 million Americans, many working full time, are unable to provide the basic needs of their families. One in six children and one in 10 families are among the working poor. One million more Americans fall into poverty every year.

The "poverty line" set by the U.S. government for a family of four is \$18,810 to provide the basic necessities. In 2002-2003, North Carolina ranked 10th in our nation with a poverty rate of 14.2 percent.

That same year our state had the third greatest increase in poverty (1.6 percent).

As the body of Christ, Catholics believe that we share the griefs and anxieties of those who live in poverty. We also can share the joys and the hope that come from joining together to break the cycle of poverty.

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) supports thousands of projects that empower poor and low-income people to join together in order to solve their community problems. CCHD-funded groups in the Diocese of Charlotte organize for racial justice, focus on tolerance and cultural awareness, provide emergency and life-skill assistance, help homeless families secure permanent housing and empower low-income immigrant workers in advocacy efforts.

The CCHD collection will be taken up in parishes the weekend of Nov. 19-20.

In the last three years, your generosity has contributed to these and other projects to help break the cycle of poverty for many in our nation and in our diocese. CCHD-funded projects from Asheboro and Hamlet to Morganton and Boone unite individuals across racial and religious boundaries as they address the root causes of poverty where they exist.

For many, these projects provide their first opportunity to have a voice in how a project or organization is developed. Some even find that they have a voice in changing the social structures that mire them in poverty.

CCHD supports community-controlled, self-help organizations. CCHD also is committed to being a significant partner in the Gulf Coast rebuilding efforts. With your continued generous support we can look for headlines that announce a decrease in poverty.

Terri Jarina is a program director for the Office of Justice and Peace in the Diocese of Charlotte and diocesan director for CCHD.

Does God still love this person?

We are all part of the body of Christ

"I am deeply troubled," a reader recently wrote, "and need your help. I have spent my life trying to be a good Catholic: receiving the sacraments, giving to my church, showing acts of kindness. ... I love my church and believe in the Nicene Creed."

But, the reader said, "I see both sides on many issues — like birth control, married clergy, etc. ... When I read articles that suggest that Catholics who are not in full compliance with the teachings of the church should leave the church that they love, I become sad."

"Doesn't our Lord love us all, even though we try so hard to understand? I know there are millions like me. If you can provide any advice I would appreciate it."

Here is my reply:

Dear Brother in Christ: Yes, our Lord does love us all as we try to do the right thing, even unbelievers. Trust in his mercy. Don't even think about leaving, no matter what anyone says.

You are an important part of our community of faith. If you are troubled, find a good priest to talk with about your concerns.

Here is a little principle from moral

theology which has stood the test of time. I hope it helps you: Unity in necessary things, freedom in doubtful things and charity in all things.

In order for the church to remain true to Jesus Christ, she must remain faithful to his core teachings.

Doctrinal integrity is essential if the church is to be the same for people in every century. She can't change from century to century to satisfy the logical objections of each age. This requires constancy and clarity in matters of doctrine.

Unity in "necessary things" means that each of us must try to make the leap of faith even when to do so seems to go against logic. Many refuse to believe that God is love; they feel it doesn't make sense in the wake of a tsunami or Katrina.

But we are not rationalists who demand evidence before we believe. The leap of faith transcends logic because it is theological. It based on revelation, not human logic.

You say you accept the Creed. That means you believe that Jesus Christ is "true God and true man." Good for you; that is a leap of faith. You are part of the

Spirituality for Today

FATHER JOHN
CATOIR
CNS COLUMNIST



Catholic heritage.

Those who deny the Lord's divinity are called heretics. They are still members of the people of God, but are not Catholics in the strict sense.

However, in moral matters a Catholic has a right and a duty to follow his or her conscience. No, the human conscience does not replace the church's magisterium in these matters, it merely tries to apply the teaching to one's particular circumstances.

And we must make the effort to form our consciences well.

But you are still part of the body of Christ. The church is a port in the storm of life for you and for everyone in need of healing and forgiveness. And does God still love you? I am certain of it.

Spirit of St. Francis of Assisi flourishes in Lenoir parish

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH

328-B Woodsway Lane NW
Lenoir, N.C. 28645
(828) 754-5281

Vicariate: Hickory

Pastor: Father Matthew Leonard

Permanent Deacon: Deacon
Ronald Caplette

Number of Households: 202



Father Matthew Leonard

LENOIR — Franciscan friars arrived in Caldwell County in 1932. Through their pastorate, a number of western North Carolina Catholic communities were ministered to, among them the congregation that came to be known as St. Francis of Assisi Church in Lenoir.

Bishop William J. Hafey of Raleigh invited the Franciscan Fathers of the New York province to provide missionary resources to the western half of the Diocese of Raleigh. (The Diocese of Charlotte was not founded until 1972.) Property in central Lenoir was purchased in December 1932, and the house that resided on it became St. Francis Friary.

In January 1933, three Franciscan missionaries gathered in the friary chapel with a four-member congregation to celebrate the first Mass in Caldwell County. Later that month, Bishop Hafey assigned



PHOTO BY GEORGE COBB

St. Francis of Assisi Church in Lenoir has served Caldwell County Catholics since 1932, first under the care of Franciscan missionaries, and later under diocesan priests.

the Franciscans to ministerial work in Statesville.

In Lenoir, the friary chapel soon became too small to accommodate the growing congregation. The present church property was purchased in the mid-1930s, and ground was broken in May 1936. Bishop Hafey dedicated the structure five months later, placing it under the patronage of St. Francis of Assisi.

Following parish growth in the 1950s, diocesan priests assumed pastoral responsibility in Lenoir, thereby ending the Franciscan ministry that had ex-

isted for three decades in the area.

The parish is active in a several ministerial outreach programs. The Lenoir Soup Kitchen, founded decades ago at St. Francis of Assisi Church, now exists

as an independent service to the community. A number of St. Francis parishioners volunteer at the soup kitchen as well as at the Yokefellow Christian Service Center and Habitat for Humanity.

A variety of parish organizations and programs provide parishioners of various age groups with service and social opportunities. Ecumenism is also a highlight of parish life, as St. Francis of Assisi Church joins with local Episcopal and Lutheran churches in Advent services and summer vacation Bible school sessions for children and adults.

On Oct. 27, 2000, then-Bishop William G. Curlin dedicated a new church, designed by Alan Stewart, an architect and a St. Francis of Assisi parishioner.

Stewart took great care to preserve many of the original church's design elements in the new structure. The original church's crucifix, Stations of the Cross, statues, stained glass windows and other artifacts found a home in the new church, designed to be more accommodating to parishioners with disabilities and to allow more accessibility in liturgical celebrations.

Like so many parishes in the Diocese of Charlotte, St. Francis of Assisi Church has seen its community grow through the influx of Hispanics into the area. Father Matthew Leonard, pastor, celebrates Mass each Sunday in Spanish. The parish also has an active Hispanic ministry.

Each year on Oct. 3, members of the Fraternity of Brother Francis gather to celebrate the Transitus (the death) of St. Francis of Assisi.

Like the patron of their church, St. Francis of Assisi parishioners dedicate themselves to serving God and their community through liturgical celebrations, caring for the needy, evangelization and preservation of the environment.

Staff Writer Karen A. Evans contributed to this story.

Fabulous Christmas Gifts!

Featuring Colored Diamonds Exclusively



Malak Jewelers

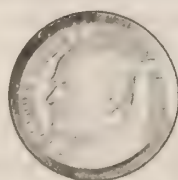
At the Arboretum (St. Matthew parishioners)

We extend to you the very finest in Jewelry and Service...
Largest Selection - Best Quality & Prices Guaranteed

Certified Loose Diamonds
Platinum, Gold, Fine Jewelry
Sterling Silver and Watches
Estate Jewelry - Buy & Sell

26 years of Integrity and Experience!

(704) 341-1188 www.malakjewelers.com
8042-800 Providence Rd., Charlotte



Now featuring special
sterling silver medallion
of Pope John Paul II -
complimentary with
purchases over \$50
(one per purchase)

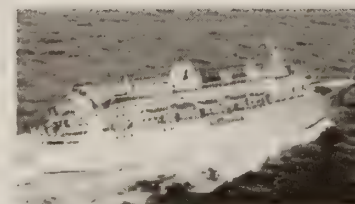
Give the unforgettable gift! Enrich your own spiritual life!

Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise —

"The Footsteps of Paul"

Greece and Turkey — May 11-21, 2006

Space is limited—register now!



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,849 for inside cabin (before 1/31/06) - includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

Istanbul — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace

Mykonos — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels

Patmos — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation

Kusadasi & Ephesus — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites

Rhodes — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith

Crete — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion

Santorini — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?

Roman Catholic
Diocese of Charlotte



Established Jan. 12, 1972
by Pope Paul VI

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

Hope eternal

Playground memorializes
couple's baby who died of
SIDS

| PAGE 16

NOVEMBER 18, 2005

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 15 No 7

The heart of the church

*Bishop Jugis
dedicates new
adoration chapel*

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

KANNAPOLIS — Although the Year of the Eucharist officially ended in October, dedication to the Eucharist continues to grow throughout western North Carolina.

Bishop Peter J. Jugis dedicated the Pope John Paul II Adoration Chapel at St. Joseph Church in Kannapolis Nov. 6.

"I myself spend time each day in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament," said Bishop Jugis in his homily before dedicating the small

See ADORATION, page 6



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Bishop Peter J. Jugis holds a monstrance containing the Blessed Sacrament during a ceremony dedicating the Pope John Paul II Adoration Chapel at St. Joseph Church in Kannapolis Nov. 6.

Building a 'Culture of Life'

NEW STATEMENT CALLS FOR
REJECTION OF 'ILLUSION' OF
DEATH PENALTY

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — A new statement on the death penalty that calls on society to "reject the tragic illusion that we can demonstrate respect for life by taking life," was approved by the U.S. Catholic bishops Nov. 15 in a nearly unanimous vote.

The statement, "A Culture of Life and the Penalty of Death," builds upon the 1980

See USCCB, page 12

SEEMS LIKE A MIRACLE: A SAINT IN THE FAMILY

Triad Catholic reflects on recently canonized relative

BY JUSTIN CATANOSO
SPECIAL TO
THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

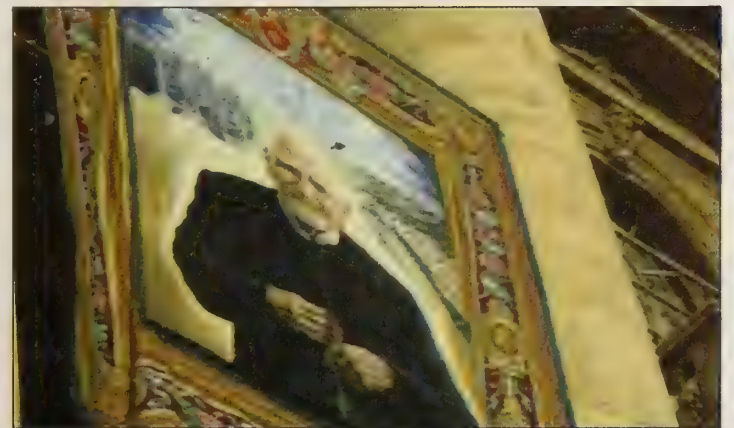
GREENSBORO — October 23 was a day long-awaited by the Catanoso family — in America and in southern Italy.

On that day at the Vatican, with more than 200,000 people crowded into St. Peter's Square and the world watching

live on television, Pope Benedict XVI performed his first canonization, elevating five Catholic heroes to sainthood.

One of those venerated was Padre Gaetano Catanoso, a humble mission priest from Reggio di Calabria, Italy, who

See SAINT, page 7



COURTESY PHOTO

An enormous banner portraying St. Gaetano Catanoso hangs outside St. Peter's Basilica during the canonization Mass for him and four other new saints in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican Oct. 23.

Joy and faith

Seniors gather for spiritual
well-being

| PAGE 5

Culture Watch

Guide for Catholic funerals;
ABC TV film on pope

| PAGES 10-11

Perspectives

Essence of Thanksgiving:
what a theologian is

| PAGES 14-15

#BXNPDVQ.....3-DIGIT 275
#420836#
NC COLLECTION
UNC
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001

S234 P2

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

IF SHE CAN MAKE IT THERE ...



CNS PHOTO BY WILLIAM FARRINGTON

Sister Janet Kinney, a Sister of St. Joseph, runs in Brooklyn, N.Y., Nov. 5 in preparation for the New York City Marathon Nov. 6. The first-time marathoner ran the distance race to raise funds for Providence House, a transitional home program for women and children.

Nun runs New York Marathon to support program for women, children

BROOKLYN, N.Y. (CNS) — For Sister of St. Joseph Janet Kinney, running the New York City Marathon and directing Providence House, a transitional home program for women and children, have a lot in common.

It was the similarities that pushed Sister Kinney to consider pursuing her first marathon Nov. 6. One of 36,000 athletes in the New York event, she finished with a time of 5 hours, 7 minutes and 29 seconds.

"When I realized that the marathon is 26.2 miles long and that Providence House will be 26.2 years old in November, the coincidence was just too much to pass up. I said I really have to run it," she said.

After making the decision to run it, she began training five to six days a week, covering up to 40 miles a week, as well as doing some cross-training, such as aerobic exercises.

"I get up about 5 a.m. so I can get in my miles before morning prayer with the sisters here at Providence House," she said.

Not one to miss a chance to help others, Sister Kinney ran to collect funds for Providence House, which currently

takes in about 160 formerly incarcerated women and their children in transitional homes and apartment programs.

A letter went out to her supporters asking them to sponsor her by giving \$1 or \$2 per mile; her Providence House co-workers turned out to cheer on their director.

Sister Kinney said the hospitality always shown to runners by New York City on the day of the marathon reminded her of the hospitality offered at Providence House.

"I find similarities between the spirit of the marathon and the core values of hospitality, compassion and hope that distinguish Providence House," she said.

"At any hour of the day or night, the women and children who are sheltered at our residences are welcomed with open hearts and unconditional love by the sisters and lay staff," she said. "They are not only offered an immediate safe haven, but a home they can call their own — something too many of our residents have never known in their lives."

She also emphasized that the hope that keeps Providence House alive is the same hope that keeps marathoners striving to do better year after year.

Congressional leaders urge Bush to highlight rights in China

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Members of Congress and an independent agency urged President George W. Bush to put human rights and religious freedom at the top of his agenda during his Nov. 19-21 visit to Beijing to meet with Chinese President Hu Jintao.

"I urge the president to speak out boldly and not privately" about the Chinese government's repressive human rights violations, Rep. Frank Wolf, R-Va., said during a press conference at the Capitol Nov. 9. "Economic freedom has not resulted in religious freedom."

The entire underground church in China, including Protestants and Catholics, suffers because of systematic repression by the Chinese government, said Rep. Christopher Smith, R-N.J.

During a question-and-answer session, Smith, a Catholic, urged Bush to impose sanctions and penalties, if necessary, to get China to change its policy on religious freedom. Smith said he was

"calling on the president to enter into that kind of dialogue."

At the press conference, representatives of the independent U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom released a letter to Bush and a policy report that included recommendations for the United States. The letter said Chinese Catholics and Protestants not registered with one of the five patriotic or government-approved religious associations are "particularly vulnerable" to religious persecution.

For example, two underground Catholic priests were detained Oct. 27 after celebrating Mass to mark the end of the Year of the Eucharist.

In a report released Nov. 8 by the State Department, China received the lowest ranking concerning religious freedom for the seventh year in a row. Myanmar, Cuba and North Korea joined China in the classification of "totalitarian or authoritarian actions to control religious beliefs or practice."

Diocesan planner

ASHEVILLE VICARIATE

ASHEVILLE — The *St. Martin de Porres Dominican Laity Chapter* meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the rectory building at the Basilica of St. Lawrence, 97 Haywood St. Inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Beverly Reid at (423) 633-4744 or bebereid@adelphia.net.

BOONE VICARIATE

SPRUCE PINE — A *Rosary of Intercession for Priests* is recited each Friday at St. Lucien Church, 695 Summit St., before the 9 a.m. Mass. Prayers are offered for bishops, priests and deacons, and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. For more information, call the church office at (828) 765-2224.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — *Priests for Life* Father Denis Wilde will lead people in prayer Dec. 3 at 9 a.m. in front of the Family Reproductive Health Clinic, 700 E. Hebron Rd. Father Wilde also will celebrate all Masses Dec. 3-4 at St. James the Great Church, 139 Manor Ave., SW. in Concord. For more information, contact Susan Chaney, St. James Respect Life Ministry, at (704) 720-0772 or e-mail sujo94@aol.com. To learn more about Priests for Life, visit their Web site at www.priestsforlife.org.

CHARLOTTE — *TGIF on Wednesday* is a support group for separated or divorced women and men. All are welcome to join us for encouragement and discussion with others

making similar journeys at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. in the New Life Center, Room 114. If you have any questions, call Bonnie Motuz at (704) 543-8998.

CHARLOTTE — A *Support Group for Caregivers of a Family Member with Memory Loss* meet the last Monday of each month, 10-11:30 a.m., at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, contact Suzanne Bach at (704) 376-4135.

CHARLOTTE — The *Ancient Order of Hibernians*, Sons of Erin Mecklenburg County Division, the oldest and largest order of Irish Catholic men, is seeking Irish Catholic men to join them for meetings, community activities and social events. Contact Tim Lawson at (704) 522-9728 or e-mail ncaoh@aol.com for more information including meeting times and location.

CHARLOTTE — *New Creation Monastery* invites you to a day of silence and solitude in the presence of Almighty God. The monastery offers private spiritual retreats for lay people. Write to Father John Vianney Hoover at New Creation Monastery, 11517 Spreading Oak Ln. Charlotte, NC 28226, stating why you want to go on retreat and when. For more information, call (704) 541-5026.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians of Guilford County will join with the Men's AOH Dec. 1 at 7:30 p.m. for a *Christmas Wine and Cheese Social* at St. Pius X Church, 2210 North Elm St. Please bring a baby gift for Room at the Inn. On Dec. 17, the LAOH will have a Christmas Tea at 3 p.m. at the O. Henry Hotel, 624 Green Valley Rd. Please call Marilyn Conte for information at (336) 632-1340.

GREENSBORO — *The Greensboro Council of*

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-mail: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

NOVEMBER 18, 2005
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 7

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Pope encourages quick completion of English Mass translation

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI expressed his hope that a new English translation of the Mass prayers would be completed soon.

Writing to members of the Vox Clara Committee, a Vatican-appointed commission of English-speaking bishops, the pope said the new translation from Latin will allow the English-speaking faithful around the world to "benefit from the use of liturgical texts accurately rendered."

Seven of the 12 bishops on the Vox Clara Committee met Nov. 8-10 at the Vatican. The committee was established in 2001 to help the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments evaluate English translations of liturgical texts submitted to the Vatican for approval.

The pope said he was confident that with Vox Clara's assistance "the translation of the 'Missale Romanum' (the Roman Missal) into English will succeed in

transmitting the treasures of the faith and the liturgical tradition in the specific context of a devout and reverent eucharistic celebration."

Pope John Paul II promulgated the Latin edition of the Roman Missal in 2002.

The International Commission on English in the Liturgy, a body established by English-speaking bishops' conferences, is translating the Latin text into English. After a national bishops' conference votes to adopt a text, it is forwarded to the Vatican for approval by the worship and sacraments congregation.

A Nov. 10 press release from Vox Clara said the members were informed by ICEL that a "projected schedule" had been drawn up that called for ICEL to complete its translation of the Roman Missal in sections over "the next 23 months."

Catholic Women will host a Christmas Tea Dec. 7, 2:30-4:30 p.m., at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 2780 Horse Pen Creek Rd. For more information, please call Carmen Wood at (336) 545-9266.

GREENSBORO — If you have a special need for prayers, or would like to offer your time in prayer for others' needs, please call the *Prayer Chain* at Our Lady of Grace Church. The Prayer Chain is a sizable group committed to praying for your needs and the needs of your family and friends on a daily basis. To request a prayer or to participate in the Prayer Chain, call the church office at (336) 274-6520, ext. 10 and leave your name, address and phone number.

HICKORY VICARIATE

NEWTON — The *Little Flowers Catholic Girls' Group* is for all Catholic girls ages five and up. The group meets the fourth Monday of each month at St. Joseph Church, 720 West 13th St., at 4 p.m. in the Holy Family Hall. For more details, call Debbie Vickers at (828) 495-2039.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

CONCORD — The *National Night of Prayer* will take place Dec. 8 at 9 p.m.-1 a.m. at St. James the Great Church, 139 Manor Ave., S.W., in unity of prayer with thousands across the country highlighting eucharistic adoration and silent prayer followed by recitation of the rosary and prayerful song and music. For more information contact Lisa Metz, St. James Respect Life Ministry at (704) 785-9566 or email sjmetz7@msn.com.

SALISBURY — *Elizabeth Ministry* is a peer ministry comprised of Sacred Heart Church parishioners who have lost babies before or shortly after birth. Confidential peer ministry, information and spiritual materials are offered at no cost or obligation to anyone who has experienced miscarriage, stillbirth or the death of a newborn. For details, call Renee Washington at (704) 637-0472 or Sharon Burges at (704) 633-0591.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

MURPHY — St. William Church, 765 Andrews Rd., will host a *Homecoming for Inactive Catho-*

lics. This informal get-together will be held in the church commons Dec. 4 at 2:30 p.m. For more information, call (828) 837-2000, e-mail stwilliam@tri-county.main.us.nc.us or visit www.st-william.net.

SYLVA — Knights of Columbus Council 9722 will sponsor an *American Red Cross Blood Drive* at St. Mary Church, 22 Bartlett St., Dec. 16 1-5 p.m. For more information, call Allen or Anne Thurston at (828) 586-0432 or (828) 507-0594.

FRANKLIN — *Respect Life* meets the first Wednesday of every month after the 5:30 p.m. Mass in the Family Life Center at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 299 Maple St. All those interested in promoting the sanctity of human life are invited to attend. For more information, contact Julie Tastinger at (828) 349-9813 or jatastinger@aol.com.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

WINSTON-SALEM — *Spend Advent with Mary*. Join us for four weeks with Mary as guide, model and companion during the Advent season. The retreat meets at Portiuncula Franciscan Spiritual Center, 211 W. Third St., Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14 and 21, 7-8:30 p.m. For additional information, call Sister Kathy Ganiel at (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

WINSTON-SALEM — St. Benedict the Moor Church, 1625 East 12th St., has a 12:15 p.m. prayer service, *Veni Sanctus Spiritus*, the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. All are welcome to reflect on God and refresh the spirit in the middle of a day. For more information call Sister Larretta Rivera-Williams at (336) 725-9200.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 15 days prior to the event date in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Nov. 19 — 10 a.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. Matthew Church, Charlotte

Nov. 20 — 2 p.m.
Mass for Heritage Society
St. Matthew Church, Charlotte

Pope urges Iraqis to persevere for peace, not lose hope

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI called on the people of Iraq, especially its Chaldean Catholic community, to not give up hope and to persevere in their efforts for peace and reconciliation.

The pope offered "a word of fervent encouragement" to the Chaldean faithful "and to all citizens of Iraq" during a private audience with Chaldean Patriarch Emmanuel-Karim Delly of Baghdad, Iraq, and a group of Chaldean bishops.

The pope coupled his expression of solidarity with his "assurances of my prayers that your beloved country, even (in its) present difficult situation, may know to not lose heart and to follow the path toward reconciliation and peace," he said.

He asked the patriarch and his brother bishops to remain dedicated to their pastoral duties "and to your ministry of hope for the whole Iraqi nation."

The pope's meeting with the Chaldean leaders came at the end of their Nov. 8-12 extraordinary synod of bishops held in Rome.

Patriarch Delly said "the tragic situation that is spreading across our

martyred country" forced the bishops to hold the synod in Rome instead of where it is traditionally held, in Iraq.

The patriarch thanked the pope "for his paternal concern shown toward" the Chaldean community.

The Chaldean church is an Eastern Catholic church whose members enjoy the same dignity, rights and obligations as members of the Latin rite.

Patriarch Delly told the pope that during their synod the bishops considered "an update of our eucharistic liturgy of Addai and Mari" as well as the rights of the lay faithful in the Chaldean church.

The Anaphora of Addai and Mari is an ancient eucharistic prayer that is just one of the eucharistic prayers of the Chaldean liturgy.

The Vatican approved the liturgical changes, but it is now up to the Chaldean bishops to "determine their own liturgy with a vote in a synod," he said.

The Nov. 12 meeting with Iraqi Chaldeans was just one of a number of private audiences the pope held recently with leaders from Iraq.

Honoring veterans



COURTESY PHOTO

Students at St. Michael School in Gastonia gather around the school's flagpole to honor veterans on Veterans' Day, Nov. 11. Principal Joseph Puceta explained the day's importance to the students and middle school students led prayers, some for family and friends serving in Iraq. All the students then said the Pledge of Allegiance and sang "God Bless America."

FEMA gave bishops 'run around' on disaster aid, says archbishop

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Church officials got the "run around" from the Federal Emergency Management Agency when they wanted to know what federal plans were for helping the regions devastated by Hurricane Katrina, said the head of the bishops' hurricane relief task force.

The criticism of FEMA came from Archbishop Joseph A. Fiorenza of Galveston-Houston, named earlier this year to head the task force coordinating

church aid to the regions devastated by hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Bishops' conference officials had several conference calls with the White House before Jim Towey, head of the White House Office for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, was appointed as a liaison to the bishops, but still "the answers we were getting were not clear," said Archbishop Fiorenza Nov. 15.

With distinction

Knights earn fourth-degrees at ceremony

BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY
CORRESPONDENT

DURHAM — Knights of Columbus from both the dioceses of Charlotte and Raleigh were exemplified at a recent ceremony.

During the record-breaking fourth-degree exemplification ceremony in Durham Oct. 29, more than 200 knights — including six priests, one deacon and one religious brother — became “sir knights” by earning their fourth-degree statuses.

The organization also celebrated its 100th-year anniversary of exemplification in North Carolina.

Knights from the Diocese of Charlotte included: Jesuit Father Joseph Kappes, parochial vicar at St. Therese of Lisieux Church in Mooresville, of Michael J. Sabella Assembly No. 2417 in Denver; and Deacon Gerald Potkay, permanent deacon at Holy Infant Church in Reidsville, of the Abbot Vincent G. Taylor Assembly No. 779 in Greensboro.

Mass was celebrated by Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin of Charlotte, state chaplain of the Knights of Columbus.



PHOTO BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY

Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin passes by Knights of Columbus during the organization's fourth-degree exemplification ceremony in Durham Oct. 29. Bishop Curlin is the state chaplain to the Knights of Columbus in North Carolina.

The Knights of Columbus, an international service organization founded in 1882 in New Haven, Conn., has more than 1.5 million members worldwide. The Knights emphasize charity in each council's local community.

Candidates instituted as acolytes



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Sixteen candidates for the permanent diaconate pray during the Mass for Institution of Acolytes at St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte Nov. 12.

After six-and-a-half years of diaconate training, the acolytes will be ordained as permanent deacons in June 2006. Their training has included three-and-a-half years of formation preparation, six months of spiritual direction and completion of the two-year lay ministry program.

“My brothers, you are being instituted in an official ministry of the (Catholic) Church,” said Bishop Peter J. Jugis in his homily. “Strive to live the example of love that is revealed in the Lord's sacrifice on the altar.”

A deacon is an ordained minister in the Catholic Church and is one of the three forms of the sacrament of Holy Orders, the origins of which can be found in the Acts of the Apostles. Once ordained, permanent deacons may perform many of the sacramental ministries of the church except consecration of the Eucharist, anointing of the sick and reconciliation.

*Enjoy God's peace
and beauty in the
foothills!*

*Share the blessings
of this opportunity*

- Four riverfront homesites offered for sale, all with gated access and private drive
- In the Appalachian foothills, 1 hour west of Charlotte and 40 minutes from Asheville
- Designed by nature, home to abundant wildlife with majestic riverwalk
- Very large lots, 6 to 12 acres each, all with access to community barn
- Frontage on Second Broad River, with beautiful forest land and nature trails all accessible by foot and/or horseback
- Deeded access to 40 acres of pasture and more than ½ mile of riverfront
- Our Lady of the River grotto and Stations of the Cross

Janua Coeli



A unique opportunity, this property of 110 acres will be used as a retreat ranch for children suffering from cancer, and their families. Held by the Padre Pio Land Trust, it is being developed by Michael and Robin Hunter, Parishioners of Immaculate Conception in Rutherfordton and trustees of Janua Coeli Cancer Foundation. If you are interested in an ideal spot for your vacation home, or have any questions regarding this property, please contact Mike or Robin at (828) 429-8544, (828) 286-1998, or online at www.januacoelicanccancerfoundation.com

Joy and faith

Seniors gather for physical, spiritual well-being

BY CAROLE MCGROTTY
CORRESPONDENT

ASHEVILLE — Like Bob Hope on a Christmas tour for the Armed Forces, Benedictine Father Kieran Neilson fired off one joke or anecdote after another, leaving his audience breathless from laughter.

"It's wonderful to be able to laugh," said Father Neilson, chaplain of Belmont Abbey College in Belmont. "Only a Southerner knows that the word 'funny' can be used as a noun, verb or adverb."

Father Neilson was the keynote speaker at the Senior Fall Day of Reflection, which brought together senior citizens from several parishes to St. Eugene Church in Asheville Oct. 27.

The diocese's Elder Ministry sponsored the annual event, which was held also at St. Mark Church in Huntersville Oct. 13 with keynote speaker Msgr. Anthony Marcaccio, pastor of St. Pius X Church in Greensboro, and at the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory Oct. 20 with speaker Father Ed Sheridan, pastor of St. Gabriel Church in Charlotte.

Elder Ministry, a part of Catholic Social Services' Family Life Office, provides leadership and guidance to parishes and older adults within the diocese to enhance their well-being and to promote the development of programs for their benefit.

Each year, Elder Ministry serves more than 600 senior Catholics in the

'You need to appreciate the blessings God has given and use them to the best of your abilities, and you will be happy.'

diocese through annual events such as the Senior Fall Day of Reflection and Spring Fling, said Sandra Breakfield, director of Elder Ministry.

This year, more than 300 seniors attended the three Fall Day of Reflection sessions, she said.

"With the help of many hard-working volunteers, Elder Ministry provides programs that enrich the physical, psychological and spiritual well-being of senior adults throughout the Diocese of Charlotte," said Breakfield.

Jerry Bergeron, pastoral associate at St. Eugene Church, was instrumental in bringing the Fall Day of Reflection to the Asheville area this year.

Father Neilson's topic, "There is Joy



PHOTO BY CAROLE MCGROTTY

Participants laugh as Benedictine Father Kieran Neilson inserts jokes into his topic on growing older joyfully during the Senior Fall Day of Reflection held at St. Eugene Church in Asheville Oct. 27.

in Growing Older," encouraged participants to be happy, but, he said, suffering is also a part of life.

There are millions of people less fortunate in the world, said Father Neilson.

"You need to appreciate the blessings God has given and use them to the best of your abilities, and you will be happy," he told the participants.

Father Neilson, who recently celebrated his 50th anniversary as a monk, offered the participants five ways to find happiness: "Free your heart from hatred, free your mind from worries, live simply, give more, expect less."

He also said that Jesus told us to take care of today and let tomorrow take care of itself. Problems can't be solved by worrying about them, said Father Neilson.

"If you can say that what you are doing now is not helping with your situation, you are uselessly worrying," said Father Neilson. "If faced with something you know will happen, you try to prepare. Anxiety is destructive, passive and does nothing to solve a problem."

Father Neilson suggested that seniors, if worried or anxious, try meditating on God's sacrifice on the cross.

"To handle troubles today, trust in

God," he said. "It will work."

Father Neilson said that people often try to judge the effectiveness of their prayers, and that our more difficult times of prayer are often the most effective.

"What God asks is that we persevere and be constant in our prayer," said Father Neilson. "Prayer is the conscious awareness of the presence of God."

Father Neilson's message and sense of humor were a big hit with many of the participants.

"One of the best things about it is that I can't remember ever having had such a good time," said Flora Snipes, a parishioner of St. Eugene Church. "I learned about our faith amidst a lot of laughter. You remember it when you laugh about it."

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information about the diocese's Elder Ministry, visit www.cssnc.org/familylife.html.

To attend the 2006 Spring Fling events in Hickory April 20 or in Huntersville April 27, contact Sandra Breakfield at (704) 370-3220 or e-mail sbreakfield@charlottediocese.org.



Delicious Menus for You and Your Guests

Tastefully Yours Catering
1801 S. Church Street, Suite A • Charlotte, NC 28203
(704) 632-8040 • tastefullyyours.com
Located in Charlotte's Southend

Full Service Caterer

Holiday Parties
Receptions
Rehearsal Dinners
Engagement Parties
Bridal Showers
Spa Parties

Visit our cafe for a sampling of the possibilities!

(Wedding tastings by appointment only)

BINGO
it's here!!!

Doors open: 6 pm
BINGO starts: 7 pm sharp!

Food and refreshments available
NON-SMOKING FACILITY
CASH ONLY - ATM AVAILABLE

9009 Bryant Farms Rd.

Directions: from 485- exit Rea Road (south). Right on Ballantyne. Past St. Matthew, turn left on Elm Lane (which turns into Bryant Farms Road). K of C Banquet Center is approximately 2 miles on the left.



St. Matthew K of C
BINGO at the new
South Charlotte Banquet Center
every Monday evening

The **Catholic** Company

Lake Norman Book Store
maryimmaculata.com

CAROLINA CATHOLIC BOOKSHOPPE

Mon. thru Sat.
10 am - 6 pm



Now 2 COMPLETE Catholic stores for

- Unique gifts & cards
- Video rentals
- Books, rosaries, medals
- Artwork
- Previously read book section
(at Lake Norman)

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

New adoration chapel dedicated in Kannapolis

ADORATION, from page 1

chapel. "It is the real presence of Christ which makes the difference, adding a richness to the prayer as opposed to praying elsewhere."

Led by Redemptorist Father Alvaro A. Riquelme, administrator of St. Joseph Church, the chapel was installed to enhance adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for the Year of the Eucharist.

In October 2004, Pope John Paul II launched a worldwide Year of the Eucharist to promote understanding of and devotion to the Eucharist.

Father Riquelme felt the parish needed a small, intimate chapel for adoration. Over the course of seven months, just such a chapel was built within the main church.

"We want to be known as a 'eucharistic church,'" said Father Riquelme.

"The love of Jesus remains at the very heart of the Church's life," said Bishop Jugis. "Eucharistic worship gives life to all the ministries of the parish ...

(and) to our Christian life in our homes and in our places of work."

Jorge Nuñez, a parishioner of St. Joseph Church, painted the murals for the chapel. On the front wall, Byzantine-style murals portray Jesus Christ, Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. Alphonsus Liguori. A portrait of Pope John Paul II is on the right-side wall.

"Our vocation as disciples of Christ is to love," Bishop Jugis told the congregation. "In the eucharistic sacrifice, Jesus has forever placed love at the heart of the Church."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

WANT TO GO?

St. Joseph Church, 108 Saint Joseph St. in Kannapolis, offers eucharistic adoration Fridays, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

For a list of parishes offering eucharistic adoration in the Diocese of Charlotte, visit www.charlottediocese.org/eucharisticadoration.html

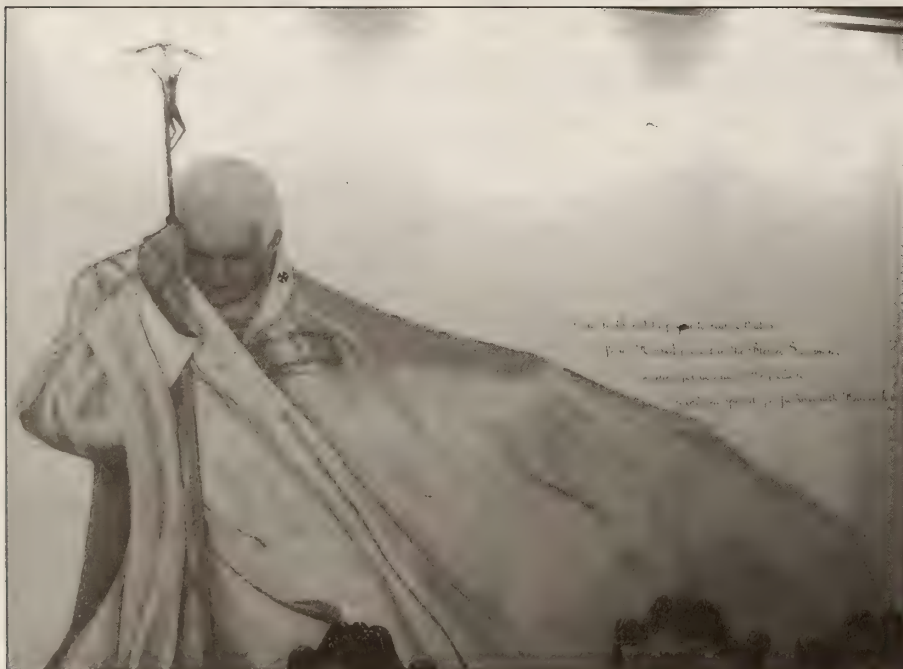


PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

A mural featuring Pope John Paul II graces the right-side wall of the Pope John Paul II Adoration Chapel at St. Joseph Church in Kannapolis. The quote, written by the late pope, reads, "Your faith will help you to realize that is Jesus Himself present in the Blessed Sacrament, waiting for you and calling you to spend one special specific hour with Him each week."

ATTENTION READERS!

HAVE A CHRISTMAS STORY TO SHARE?

Have you experienced a Christmas miracle, or have you had a special Christmas experience? If so, would you be willing to share it with the readers of *The Catholic News & Herald*?

Please contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans at (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

Chapel blessing



COURTESY PHOTO

Father Ray Williams, pastor of St. Mary, Mother of God Church in Sylva, blesses the newly renovated chapel at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee with its new name, the Chapel of the Annunciation. The chapel is open daily, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Father Williams offers Sunday Mass there weekly for the campus community.

Holland America Line Special from \$1699*

Father Walter Grabowski to Host Catholic Group with Daily Mass on This

19-Day Panama Canal Cruise

Plan ahead and take advantage of this Holland America Line "early bird" special.

Join your Spiritual Director Father Walter Grabowski, pastor of Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church in Eden, NY. This will be Father Walter's third cruise as YMT's chaplain. On October 23, 2006, you'll board the ms Ryndam in Los Angeles. Mexican Riviera ports include: Cabo San Lucas; Puerto Vallarta; & Puerto Santa Cruz Huatulco. Next there's Quetzal, Guatemala. Here you may tour the museums, or visit a jade factory or volcano. On November 1 you'll find yourself in Costa Rica. Next is the highlight, the daytime Panama Canal crossing where you will be raised and lowered by giant locks. You will slowly float through the lush jungle and cross the rugged continental divide via 45 miles of canals and the largest man-made lake in the world, Gatun Lake. Next visit Cartagena, Colombia; Costa Maya, Mexico; and Cozumel, Mexico, in the Caribbean Sea. You'll fly home from Tampa November 10. *Prices (per person, double occupancy) start at only \$1699 for inside staterooms; \$2049 for outside ocean view staterooms; and \$3099 for larger outside staterooms with private balcony. Add \$539 port/taxes/gov't. fees/services. Add \$500 round trip airfare from Charlotte.

Deposits are now due. Cabins are selling out fast!

For information, reservations, & brochure call 7 days a week:

'YOUR MAN' TOURS 1-800-968-7626

Providing carefree vacations since 1967!

LIVING THE FAITH

Local Catholic reflects on canonized relative

SAINT, from page 1

spent a lifetime in devotion to the poor and elderly. Gaetano was our cousin. Our cousin the saint.

That morning, on a day so bright and gorgeous it seemed stage-managed by a higher power, I stood with my wife and daughters, my parents, my brother and sister, my two nieces and more than four dozen aunts, uncles and cousins to witness this extraordinary event.

A huge banner portraying Gaetano hung between the tall pillars of St. Peter's Basilica. The family resemblance is uncanny, sending chills through many of us. And when the pope stood beneath those banners of the saints to start the ceremony, flanked by scores of robed cardinals, bishops and a choir whose angelic voices filled the square, it was a moment as rich and memorable as any we've ever shared as a family.

For three-and-a-half hours, Pope Benedict XVI led a solemn and mystical celebration where not a single word of English was spoken. He praised the lives of the new saints, calling them role models for Catholics around the world. He accepted gifts from the advocates of the saints, who had come from Sicily, Ukraine, Poland and Chile. And he smiled often at the sheer emotion bursting from the vast international crowd.

"Today I have the joy of presiding for the first time over a canonization rite," the new pope said in Italian.

Some of us could understand a few words being spoken by Pope Benedict. But the one that came through most clearly, that elicited cheers from tight pockets of people throughout the square, was simply "Catanoso."

"To hear the pope say our family name again and again, and to know that we're connected to the man being sainted. Well, it's the experience of a lifetime," said Anthony Catanoso, my

cousin from New Jersey.

Family ties

So who exactly was St. Gaetano Catanoso? And what led Pope John Paul II, in one of his last acts before his death earlier this year, to approve him for sainthood?

Gaetano was a cousin of my grandfather, Carmelo Catanoso. They were born a few years apart in the late 1800s in Chorio di San Lorenzo, a town in Reggio di Calabria province in southern Italy, but they chose radically different paths.

While my grandfather decided to leave behind the poverty of his region for a new life in America, his cousin stayed behind to ease the pain of so much suffering all around him.

Gaetano became a priest in 1902. He was noted for his great humility and devotion to the church. He made a special point to hike into remote mountain villages to bring the Gospel and hope to the poor and isolated.

In 1934, he founded an order of nuns, the Daughters of St. Veronica, Missionaries of the Holy Face, to serve with him to further his outreach.

In weathering a devastating earthquake and two World Wars, Gaetano was said to see the face of Christ in all who suffered, especially orphans, children, the elderly and the poor. For a time, he ran a prison ministry and a hospital ministry.

Near the end of his life, he raised funds to build a simple but beautiful church in Reggio di Calabria, with a motherhouse for the Veronican Sisters. Their mission has since spread to South Africa and the Philippines.

When Gaetano died in 1963, the nuns were so convinced of his saintliness that they immediately began the process of Catholic veneration with the Vatican. In the years that passed, the church attributed two healing miracles to the late priest.

But becoming a saint also requires having "lived a life of heroic virtue," according to Vatican rules. Pope John Paul II, eager to promote Catholic role models around the world through canonizations, recognized those virtues in our cousin.

What it means

In all, more than 5,000 people traveled from Calabria to Rome on Oct. 23 to cheer for St. Gaetano Catanoso; more than 100 were Catanoso relatives from Reggio, a city located six hours south in the toe of Italy's boot.

"It is a great challenge to us, his holiness," Veronican Sister Lourdes Carpio told me. "We cannot remain quiet. We cannot keep this in our motherhouse. We have to do everything we can so that his lessons to us might be known to the world."

In my family, the impact is more subtle, more personal.

Nearly a year ago, I lost a brother to cancer. During his ordeal, my family asked Gaetano, who was no remote religious figure, to intercede for us. For my parents to be in St. Peter's Square that morning with their remaining children



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the Catanoso family stand in St. Peter's Square during the canonization Mass for St. Gaetano Catanoso Oct. 23. Justin Catanoso (second from right) is the grandson of St. Catanoso's cousin. Also pictured are Justin Catanoso's wife, Laurelyn Dossett (far right), and their daughters, Rosalie, Emilia and Sophia Catanoso.

and my late brother's wife and daughters went a long way toward healing the loss we all still feel.

Other family members were touched in different ways. One cousin could not make the trip. When the canonization started, her sister called via cell phone from the square and left the line open so they could share the experience together, in tears.

My Aunt Leona Catanoso Betz, who is rarely at a loss for words, was overwhelmed: "It's a miracle that it even happened. We have been blessed with something we never thought in our dear lives would come to us."

But perhaps my cousin Anthony said it best: "St. Gaetano gave us this precious experience and made me realize that it's not just about a name. Being a Catanoso is about being fortunate enough to have the unconditional love of family — to have ties that only continue to strengthen over time."

"The memories from this experience and the tales of our cousin, St. Gaetano, will be shared with future Catanos for generations," he said.

Justin Catanoso is the executive editor of the Triad Business Journal.

St. Gaetano Catanoso revived devotions, founded order

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Christ's suffering out of love for humanity led St. Gaetano Catanoso to a devotion to the "holy face of Christ," a devotion seen in the religious order he founded, in his commitment to eucharistic adoration and in works of charity.

The Italian diocesan priest, who lived 1879-1963, was one of five men in the first group of saints proclaimed by Pope Benedict XVI.

At the Oct. 23 canonization ceremony, the pope said that daily Mass and frequent eucharistic adoration "were the soul" of the priesthood for St. Gaetano.

"With zealous and untiring pastoral charity, he dedicated himself to preaching, catechesis, the ministry of confessions, to the poor, the sick and the care of priestly vocations," the pope said.

He added that the priest's "spirit of charity, humility and sacrifice" was transmitted to the Daughters of St. Veronica, Missionaries of the Holy Face, the religious order he founded in 1934.

Catanoso entered the minor seminary at the age of 10 and was ordained to the priesthood in 1902. Among the many campaigns he conducted later in life was the "Institution for Poor Clerics," a campaign to raise scholarship money for poor boys who felt they had a vocation to the priesthood, but whose families could not afford the seminary tuition.

In 1904 he was assigned to a rural parish and served there for almost 17 years, promoting devotion to the Holy Face, including establishing a confraternity committed to prayer and charity.

The rural areas of Reggio di Calabria were extremely poor, had a high rate of illiteracy and were breeding grounds for crime, so St. Gaetano opened an evening school for children who had to work at home or on the farm during the day.

Later transferred to a large parish in the provincial capital, the priest revived eucharistic and Marian devotions and promoted devotion to the Holy Face. He organized other priests to conduct missions with him in the city's parishes, to hear confessions for hours at a time and to minister to people who had been the victims of organized crime.

The future saint opened a makeshift orphanage in 1943 and — with the help of donations from Calabrian immigrants in the United States — opened a new facility in 1948. The building now houses a residence for the elderly.

As he grew ill and became blind, St. Gaetano lived in a small room at the Veronican Sisters' headquarters, welcoming visitors, listening to their troubles and hearing their confessions.

He died at the age of 84 and was beatified in 1997 by Pope John Paul II.



**Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center**

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

Since Vatican II, today's parishes staffed by more laity

COUNCIL, from page 1

volunteering with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Preparing couples for marriage, planning the liturgy, keeping track of finances, running classes for converts and performing all types of pastoral ministry such as sick calls were strictly the job of "Father."

Major functions not handled by priests — teaching at the parish school, religion classes and other education-related roles — were the responsibility of "Sister."

The post-Vatican II shift toward lay people being in charge of most of those functions started slowly but in the last few years has expanded dramatically.

Father Eugene Lauer, director of the National Pastoral Life Center in New York, said it was not until the early 1990s that it became common for parishes to employ lay people for roles traditionally held by priests, but now laity in those jobs outnumber priests in parish ministry.

He said about 31,000 lay people work in professional pastoral capacities at two-thirds of U.S. parishes. That figure does not include teachers and administrators at Catholic schools, and parish support staff such as secretaries, janitors and bookkeepers. Father Lauer said about 28,000 priests work primarily in parishes.

"That's a dramatic change from 15 or 20 years ago," he told Catholic News Service.

As recently as 1990, there were only 22,000 lay people working as liturgists, youth ministers, social concerns directors, adult education coordinators or in other professional pastoral positions. Before Vatican II, less than 1 percent of such jobs nationwide would have been filled by lay people, Father Lauer said.

"It was almost an unknown

'In some parishes and dioceses, there's a great deal of laity involvement.'

phenomenon," he said.

Decreasing religious

Nuns and religious brothers technically are also defined as laity, but their numbers since Vatican II are even more dramatically reduced than the number of priests.

A study for the National Pastoral Life Center published in the most recent issue of Church magazine showed that since 1990 the number of women religious in parish ministry has declined from 41 percent to 16 percent.

According to the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University, since 1965 the number of religious women in the United States has dropped from 180,000 to 69,000. The number of religious brothers has decreased from 12,000 to about 5,000. The total of 59,000 priests in the country in 1965 has dropped to about 43,000.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Catholic population has grown from 46 million in 17,700 parishes to 68 million in 18,900 parishes.

Filling parish needs

Lay people now make pastoral visits to the sick; they plan liturgies, run the music groups, schedule the lectors and extraordinary ministers of holy Communion — who also are lay people — and run education programs for adults, engaged couples and children who attend public schools.



PHOTO BY GEORGE K. COBB

Father James Solari, pastor of St. Michael Church in Gastonia, discusses issues with his parish pastoral council Nov. 15. In recent years, more parishes are hiring and relying on lay people for parish ministry and to help with other church duties once held by priests and religious.

William D'Antonio, visiting professor at the Lifecycle Institute at The Catholic University of America in Washington, said although the documents of Vatican II opened the door to lay involvement in nearly all areas of parish ministry, those changes haven't been adopted uniformly.

"In some parishes and dioceses, there's a great deal of laity involvement," D'Antonio said.

But in some places "there's still an awful lot of authority at the top that can prevent the people who make up the church 'at the bottom' from becoming involved," he said.

Father Lauer said larger parishes with more money are understandably more likely to have lay people as their pastoral staff, but there also are some regional differences that may relate to the

number of available priests.

For instance, he said, parishes in the New York Archdiocese are less likely to have lay people in professional parish ministry than are parishes in the Archdiocese of Chicago. But for various reasons, such as the number of large church organizations and colleges there, New York has a higher ratio of priests who fill some of those staffing needs.

Parishes in the Midwest and the West, where large parishes are perhaps more common, are more likely than those in the East and South to have lay professional staff.

"It has a lot to do with whether parishes can afford them," he said.

See COUNCIL, next page

Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Charlotte 704-334-6421

Pineville 704-544-1412

Mint Hill 704-545-4864

Derita 704-596-3291

AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles
Licensed & Insured
FREE ESTIMATES
www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185

We Love Blessed Sacrament Academy !!



Call now to guarantee your child's enrollment.
Space is LIMITED! 704-841-2292

Visit us on the web : www.blessedsacramentacademy.org

Located behind Windsor Square in Matthews, NC. Independent of Charlotte diocesan schools. Member of NACIS.

- ◆ A classical curriculum in the Catholic tradition
- ◆ Latin, French, Music & Art
- ◆ Grades K-8
- ◆ Excellent scores on standardized tests



DO ADS WORK? LISTEN TO THIS:

"We have been very pleased with the readers' response to our ad in The Catholic News & Herald. We advertise our caregiver services in a number of publications and none has produced the interest and response we've received from The Catholic News & Herald."

— Jill B. Stewart, Owner, Visiting Angels

THE
CATHOLIC
NEWS & HERALD

CALL TODAY for low rates to tell over 125,000 readers every week about YOUR company! 704-370-3332

More parish minister roles filled by women

COUNCIL, from previous page

Serious involvement

Forty-one percent of lay parish ministers have master's degrees in their areas of work, the pastoral life center study found. Salaries average about \$38,000 a year. While that might seem to be on the low side for people with graduate degrees, Father Lauer said the study found two-thirds of parish ministers consider their salaries adequate.

With women making up 80 percent of parish lay staff, that job is often a second family income, he noted, making a market-rate salary less important for many people.

More telling is that more than 85 percent of parish lay ministers describe their work as meaningful and satisfying, Father Lauer said. And more than 95 percent said they see themselves working in the church indefinitely or at least for the next few years.

Not only are lay people more involved in ministry at parishes, the people in the pews see a strong role for the laity in their church and they are prepared to run parishes with fewer priests.

A recent survey conducted by the

Lifecycle Institute for the National Catholic Reporter found 89 percent of U.S. Catholics say the laity should have the right to participate in decisions about how parish income is spent. Seventy-two percent of those surveyed said lay Catholics should be able to participate in choosing priests for their parishes.

Eighty-three percent said they should be included in decisions about when parishes must be closed.

As the number of priests ministering to U.S. Catholics decreases, a majority of those polled for the Lifecycle Institute said they would find it at least somewhat acceptable to bring in priests from other countries or to share priests with other parishes.

Among other options a majority of people said they found somewhat or very acceptable are having a lay parish administrator and visiting priests; merging nearby parishes into one; and sometimes having a Communion service instead of Mass.

Majorities said they would not be willing to accept having Mass less often than once a week or closing their parish altogether.

WANT MORE INFO?

See Tony Magliano's column on the laity in the Catholic Church on page 14.

Pope says text on divine revelation one of mainstays of Vatican II

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Pope Benedict XVI praised the Second Vatican Council's document on divine revelation, a text he helped draft, as being "one of the supporting columns" of the council's entire work.

The Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation, "Dei Verbum," was approved by the council Nov. 18, 1965.

"This document dealt with revelation and its transmission, with the inspiration and interpretation of sacred Scripture and with its fundamental importance in the life of the church," the pope said Nov. 6 during his midday Angelus address.

As a young theologian and expert at the council, the then-Father Joseph Ratzinger worked closely with the document's drafters, particularly in explaining how Scripture and tradition relate to each other and how they relate to the magisterium, the church's teaching authority.

The pope told visitors in St. Peter's Square that God's revelation, brought to completion in Jesus Christ, was entrusted to the church so that it would be handed on intact to future generations.

God's revelation, he said, is contained in the Old and New Testaments and in the tradition of the church; a "pro-

gressive understanding" of that revelation continues "in the church with the assistance of the Holy Spirit."

The magisterium guarantees an authentic understanding of revelation, he said.

The council's document affirmed that the church is guided by the Gospel and it led to a rediscovery of the importance of the Scriptures in the life of every Christian, he said.

The impact of the document, the pope said, can be seen especially in post-Vatican II preaching, religious education, theology, spirituality and ecumenical relations.

"Among the many fruits of this biblical springtime, I would like to mention the spread of the ancient practice of 'lectio divina,' or 'spiritual reading' of the sacred Scriptures," he said.

With a mind and heart open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, those who practice spiritual reading select a Bible passage, read it several times and give themselves time to meditate on it, the pope said.

Pope Benedict prayed that like the Blessed Virgin Mary, the church would be a humble servant of God's word "and proclaim it always with firm trust so that 'by hearing the message of salvation the whole world may believe, by believing it may hope, and by hoping it may love.'"


ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO THE HARVEST?

Then he said to His disciples, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers for His harvest." (Mt 9:37)

I am praying that you will join me in responding to our Lord's request for more "laborers" in harvesting the abundant fruit to be found at Belmont Abbey College. Over 125 years ago the Benedictine Monks came south in response to God's call to begin His work in the vineyard of North Carolina.

He is calling you to place your hands upon the same bricks that were formed and put in place by these holy monks so long ago. I am looking for strong, dedicated, Catholic students to help realize our vision of excellence and virtue. Belmont Abbey is your Catholic College and God is calling you to the "harvest."

Dr. William K. Thierfelder
President


**BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE**
THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED



☐ I WANT TO HELP BUILD OUR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY. PLEASE SEND ME A STUDENT REFERRAL PACKAGE.

If you would like to help Belmont Abbey College by referring or becoming a new student, please fill out this form and send it to us or go online to BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu and click on Referral Package in the Quick Links. We will send you our complete referral/information package with detailed information about the Abbey and all it has to offer!

Your Name _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____
Email _____
Phone _____ No. of Packages Requested _____

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
100 BELMONT-MT. HOLLY ROAD
BELMONT, NC 28012-1802
BELMONTABBEYCOLLEGE.EDU

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Hands-on guide offers help in planning Catholic funerals

BY JEAN M. SCHILDZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ST. LOUIS — "A Catholic Funeral," published this fall by Liguori Publications, is an informative, practical guide that can help people plan a funeral that will make the church and the family and friends of the deceased proud.

The 64-page booklet was penned by longtime *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* reporter and author Patricia Rice and edited by Paul Pennick, former managing editor of the *St. Louis Review*, newspaper of the St. Louis Archdiocese.

"A Catholic Funeral" was culled from a much broader work on Catholic funerals Rice wrote that Liguori has yet to publish. Rice conducted hundreds of interviews with clergy and laity across the country to collect material for the book and hands-on guide.

The material also reflects Rice's years as a journalist who has covered funerals large and small of all faiths.

Her own experiences with making funeral preparations for loved ones also helped shape what she wrote, said Rice in an interview with the *Review*.

"I have seen that the funeral can be the beginning of real healing and real strength and belief in the Resurrection," she said.

Rice noted that Catholics, in particular, "do beautiful funerals. It's all there for us to use; it's just a shame when they aren't perfectly wonderful."

The short chapters in "A Catholic Funeral" examine immediate concerns: finding a priest, helping with the homily, choosing a funeral home or alternative, the funeral vigil, Scripture readings, sacred music, prayer petitions, lay participants, cortege, burial and committal service, funeral notices and obituaries, tributes and planning ahead.

The workbook also contains an

appendix with worksheets that outline a step-by-step process for planning in advance and at the time of death.

The material can be read quickly, so it enables those who may have only a limited time to plan to still make appropriate decisions.

The guide, said Rice, helps individuals reflect on their mortality, "to realize the finality of life and what really is important to you."

It also may help the dying to talk with their caregivers more freely about their impending death, express their final wishes, if desired, and talk about other issues they may have on their minds, Rice said.

The booklet suggests families planning a loved one's funeral gather together for a few hours, if at all possible, to select meaningful Scriptures, music and prayer petitions. It also identifies the many areas where family members can take part in a funeral Mass.

Examples include serving as a reader or pallbearer or being in the offertory procession.

It gives those who are dying and others who are planning their funerals in advance an opportunity to choose details that are important to them.

People Rice interviewed "were so grateful ... that they had something — a beautiful reading, even if they only knew a favorite hymn — that they could make this funeral really have some reflection on the life" of the deceased.

Most clergy told her they also "were thrilled when family has something to say" about funeral arrangements.

The booklet reminds readers that "a Catholic funeral Mass is about sending off our loved one to God, the journey all Christians prepare for all their lives."

Poem penned by U.S. Founding Father discovered in English school

LONDON (CNS) — A poem written by one of the U.S. Founding Fathers has been discovered in the archives of a Catholic high school in England.

Charles Carroll of Carrollton, one of the signers of the 1776 Declaration of Independence, wrote the poem in Latin in 1754 when he was a student in his final year of high school in Saint-Omer, France.

It was found in the archives of Stonyhurst College in Clitheroe, England.

"This is a significant discovery," said Jan Graffius, curator of the school's collections. "This previously unknown composition is bound to be of immense interest to American scholars."

The poem was composed to be read to an unnamed visiting dignitary to the Jesuit high school in Saint-Omer, and it bears Carroll's signature.

It is being translated by a group of seven 17- and 18-year-old Latin students at Stonyhurst and their classics teacher.

Jonathan Hewat, Stonyhurst spokesman, said the final translation of the poem was expected by Christmas, and that Carroll had "recreated in poetic form" the martyrdom of St. Cecilia, patron saint of music.

The poem, he said, includes a dialogue between St. Cecilia and Almachius, the Roman prefect who ordered her to repudiate her faith.

Hewat said the poem ends with St. Cecilia proclaiming that she is willing to die for her beliefs.

Whitehead also discovered in the Stonyhurst archives a book he believed was defaced by Carroll in 1751. He also scrawled his signature on the first page.

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: NOV. 27, 2005

Nov. 27, First Sunday of Advent

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7
Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19
- 2) 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
- 3) Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

Advent a reminder of whose child we are

BY SHARON K. PERKINS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Song lyrics always have had the ability to lodge in my brain — especially the ones that connect life experience and religious truth. Back in my high school years when "Jesus Music" was in its pioneer days, I would crank up my albums and cassette tapes and sing along with oft-repeated favorites like this one:

So remember that you're one of the children

You have a name wherever you are
Please remember, just remember
Remember whose child you are.

("After the Flood, Before the Fire," Steve and Annie Chapman, Lion and Lamb Records, 1975)

That catchy refrain so captivated me that to this day when I drop my 16-year-old son at school or send him off to a party I remind him playfully, "Remember whose child you are!"

Of course, I've already made him

aware of that phrase's double meaning. Despite the equally playful, eye-rolling response I usually get, his father and I hope that the values we have taught him throughout his childhood will bear fruit.

More important, it's a reminder that on Oct. 1, 1989, this now lanky young man was claimed for Christ at his baptism and that as God's child he has certain privileges and obligations.

In a curious twist, the readings for this first Sunday of Advent begin with a plea from Israel for the Lord to "remember whose Father he is" (my paraphrase). The implication, so indicative of the Advent season, is that by reminding God of his special relationship with us, we remind ourselves as well.

The remembrance of this relationship, with its attendant privileges and responsibilities, takes on a tone of urgency in the Gospel. Jesus' parable of the servants who allow themselves to fall asleep during their master's absence is a not-so-subtle warning against the complacency that allows us to think and act as if we are unaccountable to anyone but ourselves.

Sooner or later, in one form or another, the wakeup call comes; the master comes home, and we remember that our privileged position in God's household, our fellowship with Jesus Christ, has profound implications for every aspect of our lives.

As a time of preparation for the Christmas season and the coming of the Lord, who became one of us, Advent brings many messages of hope, expectation and even joy. It also presents a challenge to each and every one to "remember whose child you are."

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 20 - NOVEMBER 26

Sunday (Christ the King), Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17, 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28, Matthew 25:31-46; **Monday (Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary)**, Daniel 1:1-6, 8-20, Luke 21:1-4; **Tuesday (St. Cecilia)**, Daniel 2:31-45, Daniel 3:57-61, Luke 21:5-11; **Wednesday (St. Clement, St. Columban, Bl. Miguel Pro)**, Daniel 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28, Daniel 3:62-67, Luke 21:12-19; **Thursday (Thanksgiving Day)**, Sirach 50:22-24, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9, Luke 17:11-19; **Friday (St. Catherine of Alexandria)**, Daniel 7:2-14, Daniel 3:75-81, Luke 21:29-33; **Saturday**, Daniel 7:15-27, Daniel 3:82-87, Luke 21:34-36.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 27 - DECEMBER 3

Sunday (First Sunday of Advent), Isaiah 63:16-17, 19; 64:2-7, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9, Mark 13:33-37; **Monday (Advent Weekday)**, Isaiah 2:1-5, Matthew 8:5-11; **Tuesday (Advent Weekday)**, Isaiah 11:1-10, Luke 10:21-24; **Wednesday (St. Andrew)**, Romans 10:9-18, Matthew 4:18-22; **Thursday (Advent Weekday)**, Isaiah 26:1-6, Matthew 7:21, 24-27; **Friday (Advent Weekday)**, Isaiah 29:17-24, Matthew 9:27-31; **Saturday (St. Francis Xavier)**, Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26, Matthew 9:35-10:1, 6-8.

Groce
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

1401 Patton Ave. 72 Long Shoals Road
Asheville, NC Arden, NC
(828) 252-3535 (828) 687-3530

Pre-arrangements and obituaries on-line at www.grocefuneralhome.com

**Assuring
Absolute
Integrity**

Asheville's Catholic Funeral Directors
Dale Groce • John Prock

Toll-free (888) 874-3535

Portraying a pope

ABC film focuses on pontiff's 'human point of view,' says producer

BY MARK PATTISON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — An upcoming ABC movie on the life of Pope John Paul II is going to focus on the "human point of view" of the pontiff, setting it apart from a competing movie about the pope planned by CBS, according to Italian television veteran Lorenzo Minoli, producer of ABC's film.

"Have No Fear: The Life of Pope John Paul II" will air 8-10 p.m. EST Thursday, Dec. 1, on ABC, which announced its air date after CBS had committed to Dec. 4 and 7 as the dates for its own two-night papal miniseries.

Six years ago in Hollywood, CBS president Les Moonves uttered a now-classic line of hubris about CBS' and

NBC's separate TV-movie projects, at that time about the life of Christ.

"Our Jesus is better than their Jesus," he said.

The CBS version was produced by Minoli. Now that his deal this time is with ABC, would Minoli dare say that "our pope is better than their pope"?

The short answer: No.

"There is nothing good in bashing others. I think that one thing I'm sure of is that our movie's different from theirs," Minoli told Catholic News Service in a telephone interview from New York, where he was seeing the completed project for the first time.

"I don't want to say my movie is better than the other movie. I want to say my movie's different. The reason is the



CNS PHOTO FROM ABC

Thomas Kretschmann stars in a scene from the movie "Have No Fear: The Life of Pope John Paul II," which will air 8-10 p.m. EST Thursday, Dec. 1, on ABC. Producer Lorenzo Minoli says the film focuses on the pontiff's "human point of view."

point of view, the human point of view of this incredible man," Minoli said.

"We focused on some of what I believe are the essential messages that he gave us," he added. "This pope, very much, had no fear."

Throughout "Have No Fear," the pope (Thomas Kretschmann) shows courage and resolve not only as pontiff, but as a cardinal, bishop, priest and student in his native Poland.

In the film a scene of Pope John Paul skirmishing with Polish communists is shown prior to file footage of the Berlin Wall coming down, signaling an end to the communist domination of Eastern Europe. But the pope also expresses his disappointment to Poland's bishops about the heightened materialism and lowered moral values of his homeland after communism.

Minoli said he wanted the audience to understand that "the pope got rid of the communists" but also to have them see that not everything was fine, Minoli said. "He was speaking against ... the material world. And I think that was very important to him."

"Have No Fear" also dramatizes the pope's last public appearance March 30 when he made a surprise appearance at his studio window to bless thousands of pilgrims gathered below in St. Peter's Square. It shows Pope John Paul trying to speak to the crowd using a microphone, but the few syllables he uttered were incomprehensible. He died April 2.

Minoli said the pope was trying to say at that point, "Have no fear of your being frail, of your weaknesses and of

dying," and he was showing that to young witnesses. I think it was an incredible message."

"Have No Fear" has already been sold to TV networks in 40 countries, Minoli said, but the U.S. audience will be the first to see it.

Being up against the top-rated "Survivor" does not bother Minoli in the slightest.

"Listen, when we had 'Jesus,' we were prime time. We were against a show that nobody could beat ... 'Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?', and both nights we beat the 'Millionaire,'" he said.

"Now we're against a titan here, and I put my fate in the hands of God. What can I do? And I really believe that this movie is very powerful, a very strong movie and it deserves to be seen," he said.

But if it has to be described as a network competition, then to Minoli it's a friendly competition.

"I have to say I am very pleased that at the end of the day we have competition between two Italian companies, basically, about the pope, and we have two movies about the pope for the American audience," he said.

"The pope will be very happy to know that we are bombarding the American audience with movies about his life. And there is a third movie coming out about him. This is the ultimate success," he said.

The third movie Minoli mentioned, "A Man Who Became Pope," aired in August on the Hallmark Channel. The made-for-TV film may get a Golden Globe nomination.

FEBRUARY 17 - MAY 29, 2006

The Dead Sea SCROLLS

2000 YEARS
IN THE JUDEAN DESERT
100 DAYS IN CHARLOTTE

Discovery Place presents the oldest surviving manuscripts of the Bible in a monumental exhibition that gives visitors the opportunity to experience the most remarkable archeological discovery of the 20th century.

Tickets on sale now: call 877.TIX.4DSS (877.849.4377) or order online at www.discoverscrolls.org. Tickets are also available from Ticketmaster at www.ticketmaster.com. Charge-by-phone at 704.522.6500.



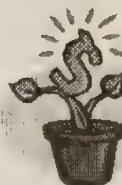
DISCOVERY PLACE

Presented By
THE LEON LEVINE FOUNDATION
SANDRA AND LEON LEVINE

Also Sponsored By
THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER
WSOC-TV Channel 9

In association with the Israel Antiquities Authority, The Dead Sea Scrolls Foundation and Pacific Science Center

125,000 people will read these words this week!



Shouldn't they see YOUR COMPANY'S name here?

LOW ad rates - easy for small businesses and individuals, too!

Call (704) 370-3332 now!

THE CATHOLIC
NEWS & HERALD

Bishops call for abolition of death penalty

USCCB, from page 1

statement by the bishops that called for the abolition of capital punishment.

As Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio of Brooklyn, N.Y., chairman of the Committee on Domestic Policy, explained as he presented it for a vote, "While this statement represents a major step forward for us as a body of bishops, it does not represent new teaching."

Instead, it uses recent teaching included in the "Catechism of the Catholic Church," the Social Doctrine Compendium and Pope John Paul II's encyclical, "Evangelium Vitae" ("The Gospel of Life"), to express the bishops' commitment to "restrict, restrain and bring an end to the use of this ultimate penalty because it is deeply flawed and often unfair, and because we have other, better ways to protect society which are more respectful of human life and dignity," he said.

Bishop DiMarzio said the death pen-

alty "arouses deep passions and diverse views," and that the church's teachings on it "can be oversimplified, misused or ignored."

He noted that the new statement is the product of three different committees and staff offices and incorporates the perspectives of the bishops' pro-life, doctrine and domestic policy committees.

He noted that during a workshop two days before, bishops heard from people with personal experience of the death penalty — the survivor of murder victims, the brother of a convicted killer and someone wrongfully sentenced to death. Those people "turned their loss and suffering into a compelling witness for life, all life," Bishop DiMarzio said.

Similar stories can be heard around the country, in families "for whom violent crime and the death penalty are not issues or causes, but sources of deep pain and heartbreak," he continued. "We must reach out to them, to support and comfort, to care and stand with them. The death penalty offers a false path to healing and wholeness."

The statement opens by referencing the bishops' 1980 statement and saying they are renewing their call to end the death penalty now "to seize a new moment and new momentum."

The United States should stop using the death penalty for four reasons, it says:

— Other ways exist to punish criminals and protect society.

— The application of capital punishment is "deeply flawed and can be irreversibly wrong, is prone to errors and is biased by factors such as race, the quality of legal representation and where the crime was committed."

— State-sanctioned killing diminishes all people.

— The penalty of execution undermines respect for human life and dignity.

"We renew our common conviction that it is time for our nation to abandon the illusion that we can protect life by taking life," it says. "We encourage re-

flection and call for common action in the Catholic community and among all men and women of good will to end the use of the death penalty in our land. Ending the death penalty would be one important step away from a culture of death toward building a culture of life."

"While we do not equate the situation of (people) convicted of terrible crimes with the moral claims of innocent unborn children or the vulnerable elderly and the disabled, we are convinced that working together to end the use of the death penalty is an integral and important part of resisting the culture of death and building a true culture of life," it says.

The statement makes note of a shift over the last 25 years to growing public distrust for how the death penalty is applied and decreasing support for its use. It also said the goal of the statement is "not just to proclaim a position, but to persuade Catholics and others to join us in working to end the use of the death penalty."



DIRECTOR OF PLANT & GROUNDS

The Sisters of Mercy of North Carolina are seeking qualified candidates for the position of Director of Plant and Grounds. Applicants must have at least a Bachelor Degree in Mechanical or Electrical Engineering, five years of management and technical experience preferably as a plant engineer, knowledge of construction and building codes, and familiarity with regulatory agency requirements. Please send resume, references and salary expectations to: Sisters of Mercy, Personnel Department, 101 Mercy Drive, Belmont, NC 28012-2898. Information may also be faxed to 704-829-5267.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

The Archdiocese of Atlanta seeks an experienced principal to lead Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School, a SACS accredited college preparatory high school; co-educational, with 258 students and 35 faculty members. The School offers a challenging academic and co-curricular program to a diverse student body: 43% African American, 46% Caucasian and 11% other ethnic groups. Located in Fairburn, Georgia, 20 miles south of downtown Atlanta. Position requirements:

- Practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church;
- Educational Leadership Certification;
- Minimum of 3 years of successful Catholic secondary administrative experience;
- Excellent communication skills;
- Collaborative leadership style;
- Experience in fiscal management and institutional advancement;
- Commitment to teaching;
- Fair and consistent disciplinarian.



Negotiable and competitive salary; excellent benefits. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled. Send letter of interest, resume, university credentials, and names, addresses and telephone numbers of at least five references to:

Ruprecht and Associates
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811

Phone: 218-727-5150

E-mail: mruprecht@cpinternet.com

Elementary School Principal Archdiocese of Atlanta

St. Mary's Catholic School, an accredited school with a rich 60-year history wrapped in a new \$6 million facility, is accepting applications for the position of elementary school principal. The school enjoys a highly engaged parent base, an active parish of 1000 families, and broad community recognition and support.

St. Mary's is located in Rome, Georgia, a beautiful, vibrant town, one hour northwest of Atlanta. One of the South's best kept secrets, Rome is an established community with three colleges, symphony, theatre, and a warm and inviting atmosphere.

Energetic, creative leaders who will take our school to the next level of excellence, please apply. Active Catholics with a master's degree in educational administration (or its equivalent) and at least three years of demonstrated experience in administration will be considered. Handsome salary and benefits.

Please submit letter of interest, resume, three letters of reference and university credentials to:

Fr. Jim Miceli
St. Mary's Catholic Church
911 N. Broad Street
Rome, GA 30161

Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT

JOB OPPORTUNITIES: Call us or visit our website at www.sherpallc.com for 100+ Charlotte-area job opportunities. Recruiting, Staffing and Consulting Services. Specializing in Accounting, Finance and IT. 704-374-0001

CAREGIVER: Employed single female; live-in; for female senior citizen. Responsibilities for evenings/nights only. Utilities included. Terri 704-888-6050

SERVICES

COUNSELING SERVICES: Individuals. Couples. Family. Lucille Moses, BSN, M.Ed.

North Carolina Licensed Professional Counselor. 1802 East 5th Street, Charlotte, NC. 704-366-6507 or 704-942-4334.

EMERALD HOME REMODELING: NC Licensed General Contractor. Kitchens, Baths, Additions, Handyman services, etc. All size jobs completed. (704) 684-0301(T); (704) 719-0808(cell) for free consultation

PIANO TUNING & RESTORATION: Hi-Quality Used Pianos. PIANO CRAFT (336) 454-2000. Al Guecia, formerly of Steinway & Sons. IHM Parishioner.

FOR RENT

VACATION CABIN: Lake Lure. Mountain views! A great holiday get-away! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, fully furnished. Reasonable rates. Call 828-299-3714.

Classified ads bring results! Over 125,000 readers! Over 49,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

IN OUR SCHOOLS

The saints came marching in

Third-graders dress as, admire saints

BY CAROLE MCGROTTY
CORRESPONDENT

ASHEVILLE — In his homily, Father John Schneider, pastor of St. Eugene Church in Asheville, said that the feast of All Saints was “really a fun day.”

It was exactly that for the students of Asheville Catholic School.

The third-graders dressed as their favorite saints for an all-school assembly in the gymnasium, followed by Mass at St. Eugene Church on the feast of All Saints Nov. 1.

After processing into the gym to “When the Saints Go Marching In,” each third-grader described the saint he or she represented. Fellow students had three guesses to identify the saint. St. Agatha, St. Gregory and St. Barnabas were a few of the saints that stumped the audience.

“I really liked my saint. It was fun to dress like her. She had a funny hat,” said Alexis Womble, who dressed like St. Catherine Laboure. “She was a nun and cared for the poor for 40 years.”

Third-grade teacher Donna Smith said her students researched and wrote essays about their chosen saints during the summer. Recently, they shortened their essays and rehearsed for the presentations.

The third-graders had a variety of reasons for choosing and admiring their saints.

Sika Lemauviel, who dressed as St. Barbara, said her saint, the patron of firefighters and protection from bombs and lightning, was beheaded because she converted to Christianity.

As part of her costume, Ashley Bruce wore a crown with candles to represent St. Lucy.



PHOTO BY CAROLE MCGROTTY

Father John Schneider, pastor of St. Eugene Church, looks on as third-graders from Asheville Catholic School come for Mass dressed as saints on All Saints Day Nov. 1.

“She had a hard life. She wanted to be God’s bride,” said Ashley, but said the saint’s eyesight was taken by a prospective husband. “But God gave her back her eyesight.”

As St. Barnabas, Dylan Tinbal said he liked the fact that his saint was a good friend of St. Paul. Christopher Knollman was impressed that his saint, St. Francis de Sales, escaped being eaten by wolves by climbing a tree.

Father Schneider told the students they were a part of the communion of saints, and urged them to “work on being holy people so that you may one day be part of that number in heaven.”

The feast of All Saints was instituted to honor all the saints known and unknown and, according to Pope Urban IV, to supply any deficiencies in the faithful’s celebration of saints’ feasts during the year.

It was Pope Gregory IV who, in 835, ordered the feast of All Saints to be universally observed on Nov. 1.

Sleep like a baby again.

At Pennybyrn, peace of mind will be yours.

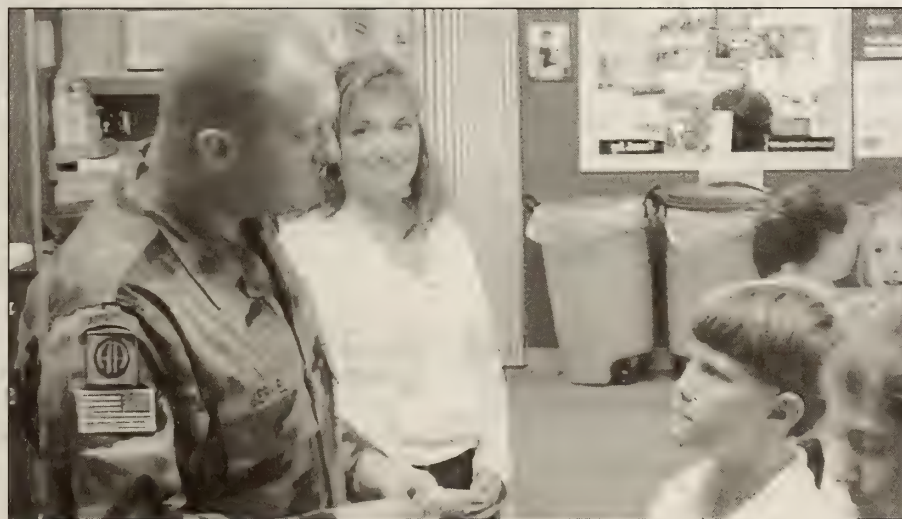
Having a plan for the future feels good. So does a retirement lifestyle that lets you stay in control. Coming soon to the Triad, Pennybyrn at Maryfield will give you this peace of mind, freeing you to enjoy everything more. Even if you happen to be doing nothing at the time.

Call (336) 886-4103 or toll-free (866) 627-9343.

Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor Servants of The Mother of God

PENNYBYRN
at MARYFIELD
A Continuing Care Retirement Community

Armed with prayers



COURTESY PHOTO

Lt. Col. Bob Merkel of the U.S. Army talks with students at St. Leo the Great School in Winston-Salem in October. Col. Merkel, a friend of one of the pre-school teachers, shared a video of ways U.S. soldiers are helping children and families in Iraq, such as helping to reopen schools across the country. He answered questions, encouraged students to keep the soldiers in their prayers and led the student body in the Pledge of Allegiance.

In addition to praying for soldiers, the students write monthly letters to family, friends and alumni serving in Iraq. School outreach plans for the holidays include packages for soldiers and Iraqi children.

“The prayerful support and family experience at the St. Leo School community got me through the year that my son was in Iraq,” said Mary Mack, a mother of a student at St. Leo the Great School.

1315 Greensboro Road
High Point, NC 27260
www.maryfieldliving.org



NP 1005

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

What a theologian is

Q. What is a theologian? Is it just someone who has a degree in theology? Or is it a special designation? I've heard people speak of this theology or that. I thought there was only one genuine and orthodox theology in the church. The rest are wrong. (New York)

A. To begin with, I think you are confusing theology with dogma or doctrine. Dogmas are the official teachings of the church about our faith: Jesus is God and human, there are seven sacraments and so on. Theology is something else entirely.

At its base, theology is a discourse or study about God. More specifically it is an organized system of thought that attempts to synthesize the doctrines we have received from reason or revelation to see how they fit together and how they mesh with other aspects and experiences of human life.

As an ancient saying puts it, theology is "fides quaerens intellectum," faith seeking understanding.

Theologies may focus on any area of Christian belief and activity — doctrine, moral behavior, Scripture, bioethics, history and development of doctrines, to mention only a few.

In that sense there are many respectable and acceptable theologies in the Catholic tradition. St. Augustine evolved a theology, still widely accepted, with which later theologians, like St. Thomas Aquinas, often disagreed.

A good illustration is the theology handed down by St. Paul.

At the risk of oversimplifying a bit, the focus of his theology was the resurrection of our Lord. It was this event, he often said, which bestowed the saving power of the Lord Jesus (Rom 1:4), which bestows the promise of resurrection on Christian believers and which made everything else hang together.

Some later schools of theology identified the key Christian event as the incarnation itself rather than the resurrection.

Such differences may appear academic, but they have immense consequences on how we understand and live our life in Jesus Christ.

To answer your question more directly, theologians are simply knowledgeable experts in these specialized sciences. Through the centuries the church, all of us, including bishops and popes, have depended heavily on competent theologians like Sts. Gregory of Nyssa, Irenaeus, Jerome, Ambrose,

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



Robert Bellarmine, Teresa of Avila, Alphonsus Liguori and hundreds of other great and lesser lights.

Perhaps because good theologians are often at the cutting edge of Catholic thinking and exploration, many, perhaps even most of them, were at some time "prophets without honor" in the church.

Interestingly, through the centuries more than a few theologians who were at one time condemned or refused permission to teach were later recognized as saying something extremely valuable that the church needed to hear. St. Thomas Aquinas himself and several major theologians of the 20th century are good examples.

As with mothers, fathers, priests, physicians and attorneys, there are capable and less capable theologians. They may be right or wrong or in between. But, unlike revealed doctrines which are accepted by faith, theologians' theories and opinions, which deserve to be studied carefully, are as good or bad as their reasons for them.

Another characteristic of truly authentic theologians in the church is that they are perceived by ordinary people as being in touch with real lives of real men and women. Theories, no matter how learned, which the majority of good Christian believers cannot personally relate to, never have a lasting impact on the church.

Theology, and theologians, in other words, are at the service of the church, both the hierarchy and the laity. As history has proven (a vast number of the most illustrious Catholic theologians have been saints), however awesome their learning, they need to have the Catholic faith in their blood and live it with their lives.

The effectiveness of their service in forming and enriching the spirituality, hope and faith of Christians is an indispensable criterion of "good" and authentic theologians.

Questions may be sent to Father John Dietzen at Box 5515, Peoria, IL 61612, or e-mail: jjdietzen@aol.com.

A wakeup call to the laity

People needed to speak, act for truth

Forty years ago the ordained leaders of the Catholic Church empowered the laity as at no other time in recent history. In their Nov. 18, 1965, document "Decree on the Apostolate of Lay People," the world's bishops at Vatican Council II proclaimed and promoted the essential role of the laity in the church and world.

In that decree they wrote, "From the fact of their union with Christ the head flows the laymen's right and duty to be apostles. Inserted as they are in the mystical body of Christ by baptism and strengthened by the power of the Holy Spirit in confirmation, it is by the Lord himself that they are assigned to the apostolate."

God himself is calling each of us to advance his kingdom of justice, peace and love. It is much like the building of a great cathedral. Although architects and engineers are needed to guide the construction, without masons, carpenters, roofers, glassworkers and laborers, it would never rise.

The council fathers said that the laity, "working in harmony, should renew the temporal order and make it increasingly more perfect: Such is God's design for the world. ... At a time when new questions are being put and when grave errors aiming at undermining religion ... are rampant ... the council earnestly exhorts the laity to take a more active part ... in the explanation and defense of Christian principles and in the correct application of them to the problems of our time."

Grave errors are indeed rampant in contemporary society. And we are far from that more perfect order envisioned by God and the council fathers. Abortion, human embryonic stem-cell research, in vitro fertilization and cloning destroy human life at its earliest stages.

Making a Difference

TONY MAGLIANO
CNS COLUMNIST



Poverty, hunger, contaminated water, preventable diseases, homelessness, illiteracy, unemployment and underemployment sadly illustrate the unjust and growing gap between rich and poor.

The sacred institution of marriage is powerfully assaulted by increasing acceptance of same-sex "marriages," cohabitation and violence, and many corporations in the United States selfishly cut jobs, benefits and pensions to maximize profit.

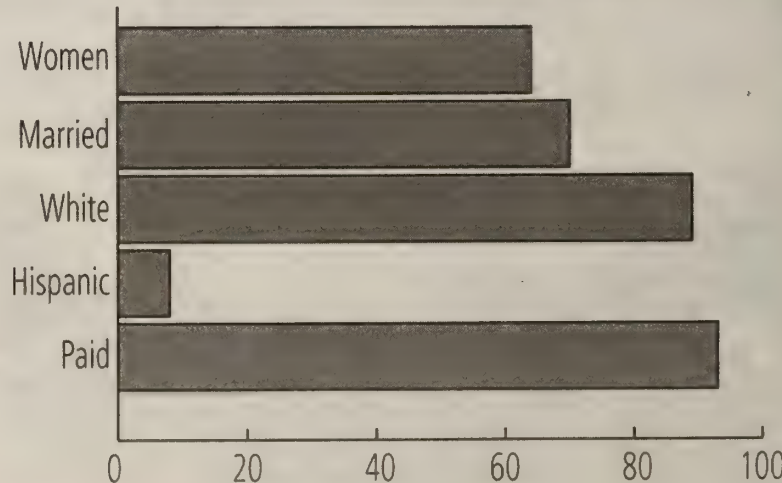
Corporate greed continues heartlessly to abuse sweatshop employees in the developing world. And with no end in sight, war and the arms trade are tightening their stranglehold on humanity.

Today, more than ever, the church and world need a highly motivated laity, deeply committed to bringing the transforming power of the Gospel to all spheres of society. Cardinal John Henry Newman, the great 19th-century church leader, wrote that during the fourth century, when belief in the divinity of Jesus was denied by many bishops, it was largely the faith of the laity that protected this central doctrine.

Like our ancient Catholic ancestors, we need to speak courageously and act on behalf of the truth — the truth that will set us free. It is time to wake up. Jesus is calling us to be the light of the world!

Profile of Catholic Lay Ministers

Percent of ministers who are...



WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

The what and who of Thanksgiving

There is always someone to thank for our blessings

Here comes another Thanksgiving, when the Christmas shopping has begun and the turkeys run for their lives. Except the turkeys, we all rejoice in celebrating Thanksgiving.

I like this holiday, so distinctively American and so symbolic with positive and spiritual attitude toward God. Gratitude, after all, depends not upon physical or material well-being, but on something bigger and deeper.

If Thanksgiving were simply good food and good cheer, then our first Thanksgiving should have had its origin in the Jamestown Colony of Virginia, which enjoyed marked comfort and prosperity, rather than in Plymouth Colony in New England, where hardships, misery and destitution were commonplace.

When our Pilgrim fathers instituted this anniversary, it was no holiday for them. They were separated from home, family and friends by the breadth of the ocean. They didn't enjoy abundant harvests nor peace, prosperity or wealth for which to give thanks. A bleak prospect confronted them and foes surrounded them.

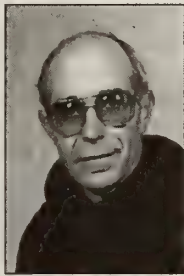
For what and for whom, then, did they give thanks?

They thanked God for God, not for "things." They were thankful, not for the misery and starvation, but for the hope that wealth and food would come, as it did.

I understand that for some, Thanksgiving is not a holiday, but a hollow day. Our faith, however, teaches us that light always follows the darkness, and the

Guest Column

FATHER JOHN
AURILIA,
OFM Cap.



tunnel will eventually end; so we are thankful for what's coming.

There is a huge difference between the superficial Thanksgiving and the sacrificial Thanksgiving. It is easy to hold a Thanksgiving service. It is much more difficult to translate thanksgiving into life.

The Bible gives us three levels of thanksgiving. The first level is found in Lk.18:11: "I give thanks, O God, that I am not like the other men."

You remember who said that: the Pharisee. Sometimes in our lives we may have been just like him or we may have met somebody just like him. He is the self-made man who is so very grateful for himself, his fame or his country. He uses God to congratulate and applaud his accomplishments.

There is a definite link between gratitude and self-glorification.

The second level is outlined in Philippians (1:3): "I thank my God every time I remember you." That's much better.

St. Paul had the humility to acknowledge the power of God in his friends living in Philippi. Remembrance is an important element of our thanksgiving.

We need to remember what the Pharisee forgot: most of the good things are not fruits of our skills and talents, but gifts of the infinite generosity of God as well as the skills and talents of other people.

Retrace your steps on this day: Perhaps you were awakened this morning by an alarm clock invented by a Swiss mechanic. Perhaps you crawled out from between sheets made of cotton by a Southern farmer.

Perhaps you washed your face in a porcelain bowl developed first in China. Perhaps you put on a suit made by a Jewish craftsman in New York, and a pair of shoes taken from the hide of a Texas steer.

Perhaps you went to work driving a car manufactured in Detroit or Singapore. You walked into the office building, built by hands you never saw.

Yes, indeed, I thank God every time I do something and acknowledge that many have prepared the path for me.

The third highest level is Jesus himself when He said: "I thank you, Father" (Jn.11:41). Someone said that the worst moment for an atheist comes when he wants to say "thank you" and has no one to whom to say it.

Jesus knew to whom and for what to give thanks. We sometimes forget or take for granted what is given to us every day. You never miss the water until the well is dry.

Capuchin Franciscan Father John Aurilia is pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in Hendersonville.

Being Christian means thanking God for great gifts, pope says

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Humans often find it easier to remember the bad things that have happened to them, rather than the good that God has done, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Commenting Nov. 16 on the hymn of thanksgiving in Psalm 136, the pope said being Christian means being thankful for the great gifts of God, especially the gift of his Son, Jesus Christ.

In moving from praising God for the gifts of creation to praising God for his efforts throughout history to protect and save his people, the psalm "wants to turn our attention to the greater gift of eternal life with God," the pope said.

In listing the ways God has been present in history, the psalm focuses on God leading Israel out of slavery in Egypt, through the desert and to the Promised Land, the pope said.

Christians "add something the psalmist did not know, but something he was awaiting — the true gift God gave us, the gift of his Son, the gift of the incarnation in which God made himself our gift and remains with us in the Eucharist and in his word every day until the end of history," the pope said.

"One of the dangers we face as human beings is that our memory of the evil we have suffered is often stronger than our memory of goodness," he said. "The psalm helps reawaken in us the memory of goodness, of the great good God has done and continues to do for us, which we can see if our heart is attentive to it."

Pope Benedict said the psalm "wants to reawaken in us an awareness of the good so that we can finally know the truth of what the psalm says with joy, 'The mercy of the Lord endures forever and is present each day.'"

At the end of the audience, the pope offered special greetings to members of the Italian pro-life movement, which was sponsoring a national meeting of centers that help pregnant women facing emotional or financial difficulties.

The pope thanked the movement for its "courageous activity" in defending the right to life of every human from the moment of conception.

After the audience, Pope Benedict went to Vatican City State's central office to receive a gift from DaimlerChrysler Italia — a shiny red Mercedes-Benz Econic truck, which the carmaker outfitted as a firetruck.

The manufacturer said the truck, the only one of its kind, was made especially for fighting fires in Vatican City's tall buildings and narrow roads.

Rosa Parks lives on

One person can make historic changes

As I was leaving the National Gallery of Art on a clear, warm fall evening, I did a double-take at the unending line that had formed in front of and around the U.S. Capitol. People literally were pouring onto the Capitol grounds from everywhere to pay their last respects to Rosa Parks, lying in state in the Capitol Rotunda.

In a hushed atmosphere, people of all ages and races waited patiently in lines that slowly snaked up to the entrance of the Capitol. What made this so awesome is that it was rather a spur-of-the-moment tribute; little notification had been given.

Many parents brought young children with them to experience this historical moment, making it an unforgettable evening. A sense of greatness was in the air.

Above everything else, greatness stands for a person's willingness to stick up for what is important. Great people have great vision, make bold decisions, involve themselves deeply in events and

are original, creative.

In Rosa Parks, we were blessed with a bold woman willing to stay seated on a bus and confront the Jim Crow law that reduced African Americans to second-class status. Her breadth of vision and courage were her weapons of choice and helped to restore to African Americans their rightful first-class status.

Many despised that law and mumbled under their breath against it. Rosa Parks, on the other hand, immersed herself in it. And what more creative and original way to change history than aboard a bus in which people travel together toward a destination?

Today we applaud her courage for doing the right thing. But 50 years ago in Montgomery, Ala., this act of courage was anything but applauded and easily could have led to her death.

As all inspiring actions do, the influence of hers spread, especially to a young 26-year-old Martin Luther King Jr., whose championing of African-American freedom led to his martyrdom.

The Human Side

FATHER EUGENE
HEMRICK
CNS COLUMNIST



As Rosa Parks lay in state in the Capitol Rotunda, there was a sense there that the moment was historic. Here was the first woman ever to be so honored in the U.S. Capitol. Not only does this woman stand for the rights of African Americans and all citizens deemed by others to be second-class, but for the rights of women as well.

During the prayer service, a priest and two ministers prayed for Rosa Parks and the cause she represented. In an age when anything smacking of God is considered virtually unconstitutional, prayers rang out and a Gospel choir sang before a large portrait of the signers of the Constitution. All in attendance bowed their heads.

History is filled with many great individuals. Surely, Rosa Parks is one of them. God singled her out to stand up boldly for one of the noble races he created.

Hope eternal



CNS PHOTO BY TANYA WATTERUD, NEW EARTH

The Losing family of Oxbow, N.D., and their relatives, neighbors, co-workers and friends built this playground in memory of Nadia Losing, who died of SIDS, or sudden infant death syndrome, only four-and-a-half weeks after she was born on May 1, 2003. Nadia's family members (from left) are Noah, 3, Naomi, 7, Nathaniel, 9, and her parents, Michelle and Steve.

Playground memorializes Catholic couple's baby who died of SIDS

BY TANYA WATTERUD
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

OXBOW, N.D. — Each time the Losing children, ages 9, 7 and 3, climb the playground equipment in their neighborhood park in Oxbow, they feel a little closer to their sister, Nadia.

The Losing family and their relatives, neighbors, co-workers and friends built the playground in 2004 in memory of

Nadia, who died of SIDS, or sudden infant death syndrome, only four-and-a-half weeks after she was born May 1, 2003.

To deal with the shock of her death, Nadia's parents, Michelle and Steve Losing, turned to their Catholic faith.

"The first thing I reached for was the rosary ... to pray to give Michelle strength," Steve Losing said. "I leaned on my faith to try to get me through."

Michelle Losing found strength in Mary, the mother of Jesus. During Nadia's funeral, the casket was placed in front of a statue of Mary. Michelle Losing said she trusted that Mary would take care of her little girl. Her comfort came through prayer "and knowing that she would be taken care of up there and be so happy."

The idea of building a playground had actually surfaced a few days before Nadia's death, when at a gathering residents discussed adding one to their neighborhood. After Nadia's death, the Losings decided building it might be one way to create a memorial for their child.

Since "Nadia" means "hope," they decided to call their project "Nadia's Hope."

The Losings did not realize it, but at the same time their neighbors, Kim and Chris Holland, were already talking to others about making donations toward a playground in Nadia's memory. The Hollands pledged to match whatever was raised.

Within four weeks, the Losings' neighbors, co-workers, family members and friends had donated nearly \$11,000.

After seeing information on the Internet about matching-grant programs for playground equipment, Steve Losing sent North Dakota Gov. John Hoeven an e-mail inquiring whether their state had such a program. The Parks and Recreation office responded, telling him federal grants were available. Steve Losing applied and his grant request was approved. Within eight months time, the Nadia's Hope project had received \$50,000.

On Father's Day weekend in June 2004, more than 50 people gathered to construct the playground. At the top of one of the structures are the words "Nadia's Hope."

Seventy percent of those who die of SIDS are between the ages of two weeks and four months.

SIDS deaths occur most frequently among the Native American population, followed by African-Americans, Mexican-Americans and Caucasians. More boys than girls die of SIDS. There are a number of other risk factors, including premature birth or low birth weights, but age was the only risk factor for Nadia.

The day Nadia died, June 3, 2003, her father was out of town on business. Michelle Losing had given Nadia a bath, then laid her down on her back for a nap. When she checked on her baby a short time later, at about 11 a.m., the baby was in a different position.

"She was contorted in a way," Michelle Losing recalled. "When I picked her up, she was completely lifeless."

She called an ambulance and then started cardiopulmonary resuscitation. At the hospital, medical personnel used a ventilator to keep Nadia breathing until Father Dan Pilon, the Losings' pastor, arrived to baptize her. It was a Tuesday. Her baptism was to have been held the following Sunday at St. Benedict Church in Wild Rice.

Efforts to resuscitate Nadia were stopped and the doctor said he would consider her death a SIDS case.

After Michelle Losing called her husband, he was able to get a flight home right away and was back in Fargo by 3 p.m.

Michelle Losing had hoped they would find a more definite cause for Nadia's death. "You're just looking for something to say, 'This was the reason why,'" she said. With SIDS, however, there is no easy explanation. "Nobody has the answers."

Steve Losing said he and his wife have learned a lot about how to express sympathy to others. "I think the best thing to say sometimes is 'I'm so sorry for your loss.'"

Michelle Losing added, "Sometimes the power of a hug from a friend is way better than any words."

Give the unforgettable gift! Enrich your own spiritual life!

Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise —

"The Footsteps of Paul"

Greece and Turkey — May 11-21, 2006

Space is limited—register now!

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

Istanbul — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace

Mykonos — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels

Patmos — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation

Kusadasi & Ephesus — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites

Rhodes — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith

Crete — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion

Santorini — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,849 for inside cabin (before 1/31/06) — includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.

Fabulous Christmas Gifts!

Featuring Colored Diamonds Exclusively



Malak Jewelers

At the Arboretum (St. Matthew parishioners)

We extend to you the very finest in Jewelry and Service...
Largest Selection - Best Quality & Prices Guaranteed

Certified Loose Diamonds
Platinum, Gold, Fine Jewelry
Sterling Silver and Watches
Estate Jewelry - Buy & Sell

26 years of Integrity and Experience!

(704) 341-1188 www.malakjewelers.com
8042-800 Providence Rd., Charlotte



Now featuring special
sterling silver medallion
of Pope John Paul II —
complimentary with
purchases over \$50
(one per purchase)

Roman Catholic
Diocese of Charlotte



Established Jan. 12, 1972
by Pope Paul VI

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

Parish Profile

St. Luke Church a young,
thriving parish in Mint Hill

| PAGE 16

NOVEMBER 25, 2005

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 15 Nº 8

A fire in the mountains

Participants reflect on community, conversion at annual retreat

BY JOANITA M.
NELLENBACH
CORRESPONDENT

LAKE JUNALUSKA — Community, contemplation and conversion were among the themes at the 12th annual Fire in the Mountains.

The one-day retreat, sponsored by the Diocese of Charlotte's Asheville and Smoky Mountain vicariates and Office of Faith Formation, took place Nov. 12. Nearly 200 people attended from parishes around the diocese.

In his English-language talk, "Nurturing the Seed God Sowed," Conventual Franciscan Father Linus DeSantis said Catholics cultivate God's seed in liturgical and family rituals and in "customs and practices which speak of relationships, bond, connection," with individuals and community.

Father DeSantis, campus minister at Kennesaw State University and Berry College in Georgia, said people should



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

During the closing ceremony at Fire in the Mountains in Lake Junaluska Nov. 12, attendees light candles to take back to their parishes to keep the fire in the mountains burning.

See FIRE, page 5

VATICAN II

Council changed concept of marriage, including views on non-Catholics

BY NANCY FRAZIER
O'BRIEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Editor's note: This is the next part in an ongoing series on Vatican II's legacy.

WASHINGTON — Before Louise Cook married her Catholic husband in 1945, the Kansas-born Methodist decided to become a Catholic too.

She didn't want to be excluded from a Catholic nuptial Mass or to be viewed with suspicion about whether she would raise her children as Catholics.

After being widowed in the 1970s, she married again — this time to a Presbyterian who was strongly committed to his own faith. Their 1974 wedding

See COUNCIL, page 7

SAVING FAITH

Youths get 'Rescued' at weekend retreat

BY DEACON GERALD
POTKAY
CORRESPONDENT

CLEMMONS — A group of youths recently made rosaries and contemplated the meaning of being "rescued."

More than 30 youths from around the diocese attended "Rescued," a weekend retreat held at Holy Family Church in

See YOUTHS, page 13



CNS PHOTO BY PAUL HARING

Bishops gather Nov. 14 during the fall general meeting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in Washington.

John Jay College chosen to do major clergy sex abuse study

BY AGOSTONI BONO
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — The U.S. bishops' National Review Board selected the John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York to conduct a major study of the causes and context of clergy child sex abuse.

The announcement was made Nov. 16 by Patricia O'Donnell Ewers, board chairwoman, during a meeting with

the U.S. bishops in Washington for their annual fall meeting. The aim of the study is to better help church leaders understand the problem and improve prevention measures.

The \$3 million study was called for in the 2002 "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People" approved by the bishops. The charter contains church policies to

See USCCB, page 8

Eucharistic adoration

List of parishes offering
eucharistic adoration

| PAGE 6

Culture Watch

'Goblet of Fire' review;
'Narnia' and faith on film

| PAGES 10-11

Perspectives

Evolution versus intelligent
design; poverty and human rights

| PAGES 14-15

#BXNPDVQ.....3-DIGIT 275
#420836#
NC COLLECTION
UNC
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001

S238 P2

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

HEATING HEARTHS AND HEARTS



CNS PHOTO BY CORI FUGERE URBAN, VERMONT CATHOLIC TRIBUNE

Nicholas Ferro (left) and Joe Sheperd load wood into Sheperd's truck at the Upper Valley Wood Fuel Bank in late October. The wood bank, a project of Our Lady of the Snows Church in Woodstock, Vt., helps the needy keep their homes warm.

Parish-based wood bank in Vermont helps needy keep homes warm

BARNARD, Vt. (CNS) — Hearths and hearts will be warmed this winter thanks to volunteers at a parish-based wood bank who cut, split, stack and deliver wood to people who face the emergency situation of having no heat.

"It's community service," said Joe Sheperd, a volunteer for Upper Valley Wood Fuel Bank and a parishioner of Our Lady of the Snows Church in Woodstock. "It feels good to give back physically and not just write a check."

Many recipients use wood as a backup to heat their homes when their heating fuel is depleted. The wood bank is believed to be the only parish-based bank of its kind in Vermont.

Parishioner Nicholas Ferro is filling in as coordinator of the wood bank for his son, Bryan, who founded the wood bank in 1991 as a service project when he was a high school student.

Bryan Ferro was inspired by an article about an elderly couple who died of hypothermia because they could not afford to heat their home.

"The church got involved to help keep it going," said Nicholas Ferro. "Now it's pretty much all church," though there are a few nonparish volunteers who help with collecting, splitting, stacking and delivery.

Some students from nearby Dartmouth College in Hanover, N.H., help too.

Shepherd lives down the road from Ferro's house in Barnard, where the wood is stored in a shed built by parishioners. Shepherd often makes deliveries in his pickup truck to people at risk of being without heat; sometimes he delivers to those whose fuel has already run out.

Referrals come from individuals and agencies such as community action programs and social services.

"I had a call from a woman (who was running out of wood) with three kids whose husband left her, and she doesn't work," said Ferro. "They're really in trouble."

Shepherd said he would make the delivery over the weekend.

Father Thomas Mosher, pastor, said parishioners are aware of their neighbors' needs and willing to address them.

"People here are very responsive ... and very generous both locally and globally," said the pastor of the 360-family parish.

The wood bank, a Vermont domestic nonprofit organization, has served more than 250 families and delivered more than 250 cords of wood.

Wood for the wood bank is donated, sometimes by anonymous donors.

Some people give to the wood bank when they convert to other methods of heating.

Ferro said he expected there will be more requests for emergency wood supplies this winter because of the high price of heating fuel.

Bible, evolution are perfectly compatible, says Jesuit magazine

ROME (CNS) — Properly understood, the Bible and evolutionary science are perfectly compatible, said an influential Jesuit magazine.

To use religious arguments against evolution shows ignorance of the nature of the Bible, said *La Civiltà Cattolica* in its Nov. 19 issue.

On the other hand, science cannot pretend to exclude a divine role behind the creation of the world and man, it said.

The magazine's contents are reviewed by the Vatican's Secretariat of State, and its views are thought to reflect Vatican opinion.

The magazine said there is no opposition between the theory of evolution and the account of creation in Scripture, because "the Bible is a book that does not try to give a scientific teaching, but a religious teaching."

"It doesn't try to teach 'how' man appeared historically," it said. Instead, the Bible teaches who man is in relation

to God and the world, what is man's spiritual condition, and what is man's destiny.

The article said that when it comes to creation scientists and believers should be careful not to invade each other's fields of competence.

Scientists should not presume to exclude God as the first cause of all creation and the creator of man, it said. Science cannot say that man was not created by God and is simply the result of chance.

When evolution is presented correctly, however, there is no contradiction with Scripture, it said.

"These are two visions of the origin of man that not only do not contradict each other but complete each other, on the condition that the scientist does not try to exclude any intervention of God in the formation of man and the believer does not try to find in science a confirmation of the biblical account," it said.

Diocesan planner

BOONE VICARIATE

NORTH WILKESBORO — A *Catholic Scripture Study* group meets at St. John Baptiste de La Salle Church, 275 CC Wright School Rd. Visit www.catholicscripturestudy.com for more information. Classes meet Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m. Please call Rob Hicks at (336) 957-7193 for more information or if you plan to attend.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — *Priests for Life* Father Denis Wilde will lead people in prayer Dec. 3 at 9 a.m. in front of the Family Reproductive Health Clinic, 700 E. Hebron Rd. Father Wilde also will celebrate all Masses Dec. 3-4 at St. James the Great Church, 139 Manor Ave., SW in Concord. For more information, contact Susan Chaney, St. James Respect Life Ministry at (704) 720-0772 or e-mail sujo94@aol.com. To learn more about Priests for Life, visit their Web site at www.priestsforlife.org.

CHARLOTTE — Jesuit Father Thomas Gaunt, executive secretary, Jesuit Conference USA, will present "Religious Values in the Workplace: Revisiting the 'Workbench of Life' Twenty Years Later" at the next Just Second Fridays event, Dec. 9, 1-2 p.m., in the Atrium Room of the Annex Building of St. Peter Church, 507 S. Tryon St. Doors open at 12:30 p.m. and lunch is provided. Visit www.cssnc.org/justicepeace or call (704) 370-3225 for further information about this presentation.

CHARLOTTE — A *Blood Give-In* will take place in the Parish Center Gym of St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., Dec. 18, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Donors will be required to provide identification such as a driver license or Red Cross blood donor card. Appoint-

ments are encouraged and will be honored. Walk-ins are welcome, but will be taken as time permits. For more information, call Ed Nenninger at (704) 366-6637.

CHARLOTTE — The Evangelization Committee of St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd., will offer the *Catholics Returning Home* program Thursdays, Jan. 19-Feb. 23, 2006. *Catholics Returning Home* is a welcoming program for Catholics who have been away from the church. Topics include concerns, the Mass, changes since Vatican II, reconciliation, and Catholic beliefs, prayer and spirituality. For more information, call the St. Gabriel parish office at (704) 364-5431.

CHARLOTTE — The *Young Adult Faith Reflection* group meets at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd., the first and third Mondays of each month. The group will read "The Faith Explained," 3rd edition, by Leo J. Trese and a chapter will be covered at every meeting. For more information, call Jordan at (704) 737-1964 or Ryan at (704) 377-1328.

CHARLOTTE — The *St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order* gathers the first Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. at Our Lady of Consolation Church, 2301 Statesville Ave. Those interested in learning more about the SFO and the Franciscan way of life are invited to attend. For more information, call Tom O'Loughlin at (704) 947-7235.

GASTONIA VICARIATE

BELMONT — *First Saturday Devotions* take place on the first Saturday of each month at Belmont Abbey Basilica, 100 Belmont-Mt. Holly Rd. Devotion begins at 9:30 a.m. with the recitation of the rosary, followed by reconciliation and Mass. For more information, call Phil or Terri at (704) 888-6050.

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-mail: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

NOVEMBER 25, 2005
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 8

The *Catholic News & Herald*, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The *Catholic News & Herald* reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The *Catholic News & Herald*, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Modern culture leaves people in state of adolescence, says pope

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Returning to a key theme of his pontificate, Pope Benedict XVI said modern culture tends to promote selfishness and self-centeredness, leaving people in a state of “prolonged adolescence.”

The pope made the remarks in a message to the annual joint session of the major pontifical academies, including the academies for sciences, social sciences, life, fine arts and archaeology.

The topic of the academies’ encounter was Christ as the “measure of true humanism.” The pope said it was a crucial theme for a modern culture marked by subjectivism, extreme individualism and relativism.

Today’s culture “pushes people to make themselves the ultimate measure” of things, he said. The individual ego has become “the only criterion to evaluate one’s reality and one’s choices.”

“In this way, man tends to increasingly withdraw upon himself and close himself in a suffocating existential microcosm, in which there is no place for the great ideals that are open to transcendence and to God,” the pope said.

All these cultural currents tend to leave people in a state of infancy or prolonged adolescence, he said. Men and women unable to understand themselves as creatures in relationship to a divine reality end up living in “the narrow enclosure of their own selfishness.”

He asked the pontifical academies to promote a “new humanism” based on Christ as a model of goodness, beauty and truth.

During their meeting, the academies awarded their annual prize, which went this year to Giovanni Catapano for his recent publication on philosophy in the early works of St. Augustine.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians of Guilford County will join with the Men’s AOH Dec. 1 at 7:30 p.m. for a *Christmas Wine and Cheese Social* at St. Pius X Church, 2210 North Elm St. Please bring a baby gift for Room at the Inn. On Dec. 17, the LAOH will have a Christmas Tea at 3 p.m. at the O. Henry Hotel, 624 Green Valley Rd. Please call Marilyn Conte for information at (336) 632-1340.

GREENSBORO — The *Reemployment Support Group* of St. Paul the Apostle Church will meet Dec. 1, 7:30-9 p.m., in Room 8 of the Parish Life Center, 2715 Horse Pen Creek Rd. If you are currently out of work or looking to make a career change, join us for encouragement, support and informative topics to help you in your job search. For more information, call Colleen Assal at (336) 294-4696, ext. 226.

GREENSBORO — The *Coffee Talk for Adults Advent Series* will meet Dec. 4, 11 and 18, 10:30-11:15 a.m., in the Youth Room of St. Pius X Church, 2210 North Elm St. For more information, call the church office at (336) 272-468.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

CONCORD — The *National Night of Prayer* will take place Dec. 8, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., at St. James the Great Church, 139 Manor Ave., S.W., in unity of prayer with thousands across the country highlighting eucharistic adoration and silent prayer followed by recitation of the rosary and prayerful song and music. For more information contact Lisa Metz, St. James Respect Life Ministry, at (704) 785-9566 or email sjmetz7@msn.com.

SALISBURY — Sacred Heart Church, 128 N. Fulton St., celebrates a *Charismatic and Healing Mass* the first Sunday of each month at 4 p.m. Prayer and worship with prayer teams are available at 3 p.m., and a potluck dinner will follow the

Mass. Father John Putnam, pastor, will be the celebrant. For further information, call Bill Owens at (704) 639-9837.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

MURPHY — St. William Church, 765 Andrews Rd., will host a *Homecoming for Inactive Catholics* in the church commons Dec. 4 at 2:30 p.m. For more information, call (828) 837-2000, e-mail stwilliam@tri-county.main.us.nc.us or visit www.st-william.net.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

WINSTON-SALEM — *Spend Advent with Mary*. Join us for four weeks with Mary as guide, model and companion during the Advent season. The retreat meets at Portiuncula Franciscan Spiritual Center, 211 W. Third St., Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14 and 21, 7-8:30 p.m. For additional information, call Sister Kathy Ganiel at (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

WINSTON-SALEM — The *Compassionate Care-Givers* meet the first, third and fifth Thursdays of each month at St. Benedict the Moor Church, 1625 East 12th St. This group provides affirmation, support and prayer for people who have cared for and are caring for loved ones living with Alzheimer’s and any other chronic illnesses. For more information call Sister Larretta Rivera-Williams at (336) 725-9200.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 15 days prior to the event date in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

People have right to keep genetic status unknown, says geneticist

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Until science can cure genetic defects and illnesses, it must protect an individual’s right to keep his or her genetic status unknown, a geneticist told a Vatican conference.

The Nov. 17-19 conference on the human genome, sponsored by the Pontifical Council for Health Care Workers, featured top-level scientists and physicians who reported progress in the field of genetics and cautioned about the ethical problem of what to do with information when no cure is possible.

Giovanni Neri, professor of genetics at Rome’s Sacred Heart University, said counseling must be part of the process of sharing genetic test results with a patient.

“The recognition that there is a genetic disease running in the family will be perceived by the family as a stigma, a mark of imperfection,” he said. Counseling can ensure the family understands the real risks involved and can assist them in reaching “responsible reproductive decisions.”

Neri said that a basic, absolute re-

quirement is that the tests are performed only on consenting adults.

“In this respect, special care must be taken to protect the right of not knowing one’s genetic status, especially when children are involved, and/or when there is no effective treatment for the disease that is being considered,” he said.

Dr. George Robert Fraser, an expert on genetic defects in children, told the conference that while great progress has been made on mapping the human genome and identifying anomalous genes “we are only at the beginning” of finding therapeutic uses for the information.

The physician acknowledged “a tendency to resort to abortion” when a fetus is diagnosed with a genetic malformation.

Fraser said that since the emphasis of medicine is on “the preservation of life,” he believes that, as the possibilities for cures increase, the resort to abortion will be seen as “a transient phase in the development of genetic medicine.”

The physician also said scientists and ethicists must work together to ensure that no one suffers discrimination based on his or her genetic code.

Baskets of love



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Mike Maynard, a parishioner of St. Matthew Church in Charlotte, loads a basket of food into the car of a Catholic Social Services client at the diocesan Pastoral Center in Charlotte Nov. 21. More than 100 baskets filled with non-perishable food and grocery vouchers were donated by St. Matthew Church to clients of Catholic Social Services in Charlotte. The church collects food each year for Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Nov. 27 — 4 p.m.
Dedication of new church
Holy Family Church, Clemmons

Nov. 29 — 12 p.m.
Meeting with vicars forane
Diocesan Pastoral Center, Charlotte

Nov. 30 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. Joan of Arc Church, Asheville

Dec. 4 — 2:30 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. Gabriel Church, Charlotte

Dec. 7 — 3 p.m.
Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice honors
Diocesan Pastoral Center, Charlotte

Dec. 8 — 10 a.m.
Mass at Maryfield Retirement Community
Groundbreaking for Pennybyrn at Maryfield High Point

ATTENTION READERS! HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?

Have you experienced a Christmas miracle, or have you had a special Christmas experience? If so, would you be willing to share it with the readers of *The Catholic News & Herald*?

Please contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans at (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Eucharistic Congress

Dates set in 2006 for second diocesan event

BY DAVID HAINS

SPECIAL TO
THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

CHARLOTTE — Mark your calendars for the next Eucharistic Congress.

The 2006 Eucharistic Congress has been scheduled for Friday, Oct. 6, and Saturday, Oct. 7, at the Charlotte Convention Center.

The Eucharistic Congress brings together laity, clergy, religious men and women, and well-known speakers for a day and a half of worship and lectures related to the Eucharist, the source and summit of Catholic life.

The highlights of this Eucharistic

Congress will include a eucharistic procession through uptown Charlotte and a vigil Mass celebrated by Bishop Peter J. Jugis and concelebrated by priests of the diocese.

The first Eucharistic Congress, held this past September, drew a larger-than-expected crowd — an estimated 7,000 people attended all or some of the events Sept. 23-24. Evaluation forms turned in at the congress indicated overwhelming support for making the congress an annual event.

The 2005 congress used only a small portion of the Convention Center in Charlotte. The 2006 event will utilize more space to accommodate the gathering.

WANT MORE INFO?

Visit the Eucharistic Congress Web site, www.GoEucharist.com, throughout the year for updated information about the event and the speakers.

Bishop Peter J. Jugis carries the Eucharist in a monstrance blessed by Pope John Paul II during the eucharistic procession, part of the Eucharistic Congress in Charlotte Sept. 24.



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Scouts earn Eucharist patches



COURTESY PHOTO

Boy and Girl Scouts at Our Lady of the Mountains Church in Highlands proudly display their Year of the Eucharist patches. Pictured are (from left): Mary Katherine Karcher, Stephen Karcher, Ann Marie Crowe, Brendan Karcher, Emily Crowe and Bridget Karcher.

More than 2,500 scouts in 35 states participated in the Year of the Eucharist religious activity program initiated by the Diocese of Dodge City's Catholic Committee on Scouting earlier this year. The program, in which Scouts worked to earn the Year of the Eucharist patch, was initially started as a way for Scouts in the Kansas diocese to commemorate the church's Year of the Eucharist, observed from October 2004 until October 2005.

To earn the patch, Scouts in different age groups and adult leaders were required to complete specific religious activities.

"This just seemed to be a program that Scouts were ready to embrace," said Tim Wenzl, religious emblems coordinator. "The response is an obvious indication that there is a real hunger out there for religious activity programs of this type."

ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO THE HARVEST?

Then he said to His disciples, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers for His harvest." (Mt 9:37)

I am praying that you will join me in responding to our Lord's request for more "laborers" in harvesting the abundant fruit to be found at Belmont Abbey College. Over 125 years ago the Benedictine Monks came south in response to God's call to begin His work in the vineyard of North Carolina.

He is calling you to place your hands upon the same bricks that were formed and put in place by these holy monks so long ago. I am looking for strong, dedicated, Catholic students to help realize our vision of excellence and virtue. Belmont Abbey is your Catholic College and God is calling you to the "harvest."

Dr. William K. Thierfelder
President



**BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE**

THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED



☐ I WANT TO HELP BUILD OUR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY. PLEASE SEND ME A STUDENT REFERRAL PACKAGE.

If you would like to help Belmont Abbey College by referring or becoming a new student, please fill out this form and send it to us or go online to BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu and click on Referral Package in the Quick Links. We will send you our complete referral/information package with detailed information about the Abbey and all it has to offer!

Your Name _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____
Email _____
Phone _____ No. of Packages Requested _____

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

100 BELMONT-MT. HOLLY ROAD
BELMONT, NC 28012-1802
BELMONTABBEYCOLLEGE.EDU

Community, conversion at Fire in the Mountains

FIRE, from page 1

give serious thought to how they spend their and God's time and resources.

Also, he said, they should ask: "How am I being the instrument today, making God present, giving him glory, assisting my sister and brother, coming to a deeper understanding and greater insight into God's use of me as an instrument?"

Catholics must be open to listening to God by choosing "quiet and silence," to create a balance between activity and stillness, he said.

After reading the First Book of Kings story of Elijah hearing God's whispering voice, Father DeSantis said, "I like to have it more evident, but as you and I know, it doesn't occur that way."

"We need to be very attentive, to listen so very carefully," he said. "We need to really just be still — as is told to us, 'Be still and know that I am God.'"

Catholics, he said, must look at the reasons why they minister to others and to really engage those to and with whom they minister.

"I see Jesus looking directly into their eyes," Father DeSantis said. "There is an intensity, a presence; there is a desire to communicate, a desire to give, and he follows through."

"Baggage" obstructs ministry and openness to God, he said. It's more than just excess possessions.

"What else are we holding onto?" Father DeSantis asked.

The Gospel, he said, is meant "to be that sword that cuts right through, to really challenge me: 'Linus, are you holding a grudge? Is there someone you haven't spoken with in five years?'"

"If that's the case, I have to resolve that, to ask forgiveness, to lay something aside. That Gospel that I preach ... before I preach to anybody, I preach to myself," Father DeSantis said. "Every time you pick up a Bible, every time you read from Scripture, think about it:

"What is the Lord saying to me?"

"You see, that's what life is all about," he continued. "You're created in God's image and likeness. You can't say you're bad, because God created you. You're not your own. What you can say is that you're good and that you want to build on that goodness, you want to work with God to complete what God has begun."

Pat Mahon, a parishioner at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hayesville, liked the Scripture references and the advice about getting rid of that "baggage."

"The value of a day like this is that we can step back and evaluate where we are," he said.

Jose Martinez, a parishioner at Holy Redeemer Church in Andrews, was equally complimentary about Augustinian Father Robert Dueweke's Spanish-language presentation to Hispanic attendees, "Espiritualidad de la Pastoral de Conjunto."

Martinez said Father Dueweke, Hispanic minister at Immaculate Conception Church in Canton and St. Margaret of Scotland Church in Maggie Valley, emphasized "that we need to work together as a real team; that when we work together, God is in it. You have to have spirituality to have a real team."

The term, "pastoral de conjunto," doesn't really have an English translation, Father Dueweke explained, but refers to "collaborating with the spirit of God and the building of the kingdom of God."

"The main characteristic of the kingdom of God is a reality of community — the call of communion with God and with one another," Father Dueweke said, "everything that we do that gives a glimpse of the communion with God."

"Pastoral de conjunto, he added, is the "practice of living communion in a parish setting."

The U.S. bishops' 1987 "National Pastoral Plan for Hispanic Ministry," Father Dueweke said, "emphasized the harmonious coordination of all the elements of pastoral ministry, such as the pastoral



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Eduardo Bernal, Jesus Gutierrez and Rebecca Sharp display credos written by attendees of the 12th annual Fire in the Mountains Nov. 12. The credos reflect the faith experiences of the attendees.

ministers themselves and the structures of the parish and the diocese, with one common goal — the kingdom of God."

"Pastoral ministers," he explained, are not just priests, but everyone who is involved in ministry.

"There is no room for clericalism," Father Dueweke said. "Clericalism is a structural sin. It is a concentration of power within the hands of the ordained, where the majority of the baptized are left out of the decision-making processes."

"It's a form of authoritarianism, rather than the people of God as defined by Vatican II in 'Lumen Gentium,'" he said.

Spirituality, Father Dueweke said, is about harmony, which, "is not everyone thinking and acting alike, but the harmonious coordination of diverse views to-

ward a common goal."

Silence is required for reflection before dialogue, he said.

"Silence and dialogue are parts of the spirituality of communion," Father Dueweke said. "We share from the silence. Dialogue is the rhythm of interpersonal relationships with self, God, others, the created world."

Dialogue, he said, means "inter-change of ideas, seeking the truth together, freedom and creativity."

A new asceticism is required.

This asceticism (training and discipline), he said, includes forming teams for various tasks; listening with attention during meetings, because such listening is an act of love; being willing to "sacrifice your precious ideas" to achieve goals; "problems are not only discussed but are taken to prayer"; and living the truth with courage.

When there is no pastoral de conjunto, Father Dueweke said, "we build our kingdom, not the kingdom of God. We are deaf to the word of God, blind to the movement of the Spirit. Fragmentation and frustration become part of our daily lives. We have a lesser commitment to live the Gospel."

Without pastoral de conjunto, he added, with a play on the conference title, "there is no good news and because of that, there is no fire in the mountains."

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail jnell@dnet.net.

BINGO
it's here!!!

Doors open: 6 pm
BINGO starts: 7 pm sharp!

St. Matthew K of C
BINGO at the new
South Charlotte Banquet Center
every Monday evening



Food and refreshments available
NON-SMOKING FACILITY
CASH ONLY - ATM AVAILABLE

9009 Bryant Farms Rd.

Directions: from 485- exit Rea Road (south). Right on Ballantyne. Past St. Matthew, turn left on Elm Lane (which turns into Bryant Farms Road). K of C Banquet Center is approximately 2 miles on the left.

AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles
Licensed & Insured
FREE ESTIMATES
www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185

RATES ARE STILL AT ALL-TIME LOWS!

30-Year Fixed: **6%**
3/1 ARM: **5.375%**

As mortgage brokers, we work with a variety of lenders to find the best loan and rates for your needs & goals!



Jayne McGonnell
Mortgage Broker
704.549.4600 x1028
877.402.4600 (tollfree)
704.516.9682 (cell)

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Adoration of the Eucharist is offered at the following churches:

Andrews	Holy Redeemer Church	Fridays, 9-10 a.m., with confessions ending with Benediction
Arden	St. Barnabas Church	Sundays, 1-10 p.m.; weekdays, 6 a.m.-10 p.m., Saturdays, 6 a.m.-4 p.m.
Asheboro	St. Joseph Church	first Fridays following 8:15 a.m. Mass until 1 p.m.
Asheville	Basilica of St. Lawrence	daily, 6 a.m.-9 p.m.
Belmont Abbey	Mary, Help of Christians Church	daily, 5 a.m.-10 p.m.
Boone	St. Elizabeth Church	first Fridays 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. Mass
Bryson City	St. Joseph Church	first Fridays following 5:15 p.m. Mass (unless otherwise posted) until 6:30 p.m.
Charlotte	Our Lady of the Assumption Church	first Fridays, following 7 p.m. Mass for one hour
	St. Ann Church	Saturdays following 8 a.m. Mass until 9 a.m.
	St. Gabriel Church	perpetual adoration
	St. Matthew Church	Fridays following 9 a.m. Mass until 9 a.m.
	St. Peter Church	Saturday, in chapel
	St. Thomas Aquinas Church	first Fridays following the 12:10 p.m. Mass with Benediction at 1:30 p.m.
	St. Vincent de Paul Church	Fridays following 12:15 p.m. Mass until 8:30 p.m.
		first Fridays following 9 a.m. Mass until 10:30 a.m.
Clemmons	Holy Family Church	Thursdays, 9:30-10:30 a.m. except holidays
Concord	St. James the Greater Church	first Fridays, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Mass at 11 a.m.
Denver	Holy Spirit Church	first Fridays, 7 p.m.-1 a.m. Saturday
Forest City	Immaculate Conception Church	Thursdays, 7-8 p.m.; Fridays, 12:30-1:30 p.m.; Sundays, 8-9 a.m.
Franklin	St. Francis of Assisi Church	first Fridays 9 a.m. until 9 a.m. Saturday; other Fridays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Gastonia	St. Michael Church	eve of first Friday, 10 p.m. until 8 a.m. Friday
Greensboro	St. Benedict Church	first Fridays, 12:15-8 p.m.
	St. Paul the Apostle Church	first Fridays, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Hendersonville	Immaculate Conception Church	first Fridays, 9-11:30 a.m.
Hickory	St. Aloysius Church	first Fridays, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.
High Point	Christ the King Church	first Fridays: call church for time
	Maryfield Chapel	perpetual adoration
Highlands	Our Lady of the Mountains	first Fridays, 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Nov.-April; 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. May-Oct.
Huntersville	St. Mark Church	Fridays, 8 a.m.-7 p.m.
Jefferson	St. Francis of Assisi Church	Fridays, 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Kannapolis	St. Joseph Church	Thursdays, 4-7 p.m.; Fridays, 10 a.m.-7:45 p.m.
Kemersville	Holy Cross Church	Fridays following 9 a.m. Mass until 7 p.m.
King	Good Shepherd Church	Fridays, 6-7 p.m.
Lexington	Our Lady of the Rosary Church	Fridays following morning Mass until 5 p.m.; Benediction following 11 a.m. Mass Sundays
Lincolnton	St. Dorothy Church	Fridays, 6-7 p.m.
Linville	St. Bernadette Church	Fridays following 11 a.m. Mass
Marion	Our Lady of the Angels Church	first Fridays, 8:30-11:30 a.m. followed by Benediction and Mass. For Spanish-speaking parishioners, 6-8 p.m.
Mocksville	St. Francis of Assisi Church	first Fridays following 12 p.m. Mass until 9 p.m. Benediction; Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m.; children's adoration, last Fridays 12:30-1:30 p.m.
Monroe	Our Lady of Lourdes Church	Saturdays, 6:30 p.m.-12 a.m. Sunday
Mooreville	St. Therese Church	first Fridays following 9 a.m. Mass until Benediction at 4:45 p.m.
Morganton	St. Charles Borromeo	Fridays following 6 p.m. Mass until 7:30 p.m.
Mt. Airy	Holy Angels Church	Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m.; Thursdays, 10-11 a.m.
Newton	St. Joseph Church	first Fridays following 12:10 p.m. Mass until 6 p.m.
Reidsville	Holy Infant Church	Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m.; first Fridays following 9 a.m. Mass until 6 p.m.
Salisbury	Sacred Heart Church	Thursdays, 7-8 p.m.; Sundays 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Sparta	St. Frances of Rome Church	Mondays, 10:15-11:15 a.m.
Spruce Pine	St. Lucien Church	first Fridays, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Statesville	St. Philip the Apostle Church	first Fridays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Swannanoa	St. Margaret Mary Church	first Fridays following 12 p.m. Mass until 5 p.m.
Sylva	St. Mary Church	first Saturday following the 9 a.m. Mass until 3 p.m.
Thomasville	Our Lady of the Highways Church	first Fridays, 12-7 p.m.
Tryon	St. John the Baptist Church	Wednesdays, 3:30-4:30 p.m.; first Fridays 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Waynesville	St. John the Evangelist Church	first Fridays following 9 a.m. Mass until 4:30 p.m.
Winston-Salem	St. Leo the Great Church	first Fridays following the 8:15 a.m. Mass until 5 p.m., except during summer months

TO INCLUDE YOUR CHURCH ON THIS LIST, PLEASE CALL (704) 370-3354.

Fourth-grader appeals to legislators

Crock advocates for food allergy education in classroom

CHARLOTTE — Emily Crock, a fourth-grader at Our Lady of the Assumption School in Charlotte, was selected to represent North Carolina and attended the inaugural Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Network's (FAAN) "Kid's Congress on Capitol Hill" Oct. 18-19.

The program is geared toward creating a better understanding of food allergies, advocating for federal funding for food allergy research and encouraging elected officials to establish food allergy legislation in U.S. schools.

Emily, who suffers from a food allergy, wrote a winning essay with supportive material for the opportunity to join more than 70 school-aged children from 31 states and the District of Columbia as FAAN Junior Ambassadors.

As part of her ambassadorial duties, Emily met with North Carolina legislators in Washington to discuss a nationwide school food-allergy education act, introduced by Rep. Nita Lowey, D-NY.

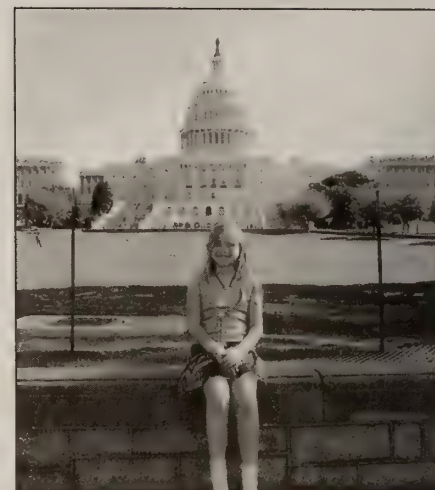
The act will help establish a federal standard regarding the management of children at school who are at risk for anaphylaxis — a severe allergic reaction. Specifically, the act will direct the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to develop a policy for managing the risk of food allergies and anaphylaxis in schools.

The federal policy would then be made available to local educational agencies, such as school boards, along with other interested parties and entities, including school nurses, administrators and teachers.

"The FAAN Kids' Congress on Capitol Hill is an important step for the millions of children with food allergies nationwide," said Anne Munoz-Furlong, founder and CEO of FAAN.

"The FAAN Junior Ambassadors advocated for the 1-in-every-25 children with food allergies about the need for more education in the classroom and school setting," said Munoz-Furlong.

FAAN believes new legislation is needed because food allergy management strategies often differ from state to



COURTESY PHOTO

Emily Crock, a fourth-grader at Our Lady of the Assumption School in Charlotte, sits in front of the nation's Capitol in October. Emily was selected to represent North Carolina at the inaugural "Kids' Congress on Capitol Hill" Oct. 18-19.

state, school district to school district, and school to school. Additionally, a delay in administering epinephrine when a reaction occurs at school is believed to be a factor in fatal reactions.


The new law will ensure that everyone is prepared for these allergic emergencies.

FAAN is a Virginia-based nonprofit organization representing the 11 million Americans who have food allergies. Established in 1991, FAAN's mission is to increase awareness, to provide education and advocacy, and to advance research on behalf of all those affected by food allergies and anaphylaxis.

WANT MORE INFO?

Visit the FAAN Web site at www.foodallergy.org or call (800) 929-4040.

To reach a board-certified allergist, contact the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (www.aaaai.org) or the American College of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (www.acaai.org).



Where driving to your meeting is half the fun and arriving there is a pleasure...

The Catholic Conference Center

The Center is centrally located in the Piedmont of North Carolina. Located only an hour's drive from three major cities assures meeting planners and attendees a meeting that is more accessible than ever. Being accessible to the country and a peaceful setting is a meeting place only we can offer!

1551 Trinity Lane
Hickory, NC 28602

(828) 327-7441
Toll-free (888) 536-7441
info@catholicconference.org
www.catholicconference.org

Council changed concept of marriage

COUNCIL, from page 1

took place in a Presbyterian church, with his minister and her Catholic priest as equal participants.

The changes to Catholic marriage brought about by the Second Vatican Council went far beyond how and where an interfaith marriage could take place, but for many they were the most visible sign of the church renewal and openness brought by the council.

Many of the adaptations began long before the council, said Father Joseph Champlin, whose 1970 book, "Together for Life," is still used by four out of five couples planning a Catholic wedding.

In his own family, Father Champlin saw interfaith weddings move from a service in the rectory (his mother and non-Catholic stepfather, in the 1940s) to inside the church, but outside the Communion rail (his brother and non-Catholic sister-in-law, later in the 1940s) to within the church sanctuary and in the context of a Mass in the 1950s.

"It eased a lot of those hurts" and the feelings of rejection sometimes felt by the non-Catholic partner, said the priest, who serves as sacramental priest at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Warners, N.Y.

After Vatican II, the church eased another requirement for interfaith couples — that the non-Catholic partner sign a pledge to raise the children as Catholics. Beginning in the late 1960s, the non-Catholic needed only to make such a pledge verbally.

Ceremony planning

A key change in Catholic weddings after the Second Vatican Council was the couples' participation in planning the ceremony.

Pre-Vatican II, elements of the wedding ceremony were "rather rigid and the same for everybody," Father Champlin said. But afterward, "the church, as with all liturgical rites, urged participation in the liturgy," the priest said.

Couples could now select their own Bible readings and music and otherwise personalize the wedding ceremony.

"This immediately resonated with young Catholics," said Father Champlin, whose "Together for Life" and its various revisions over the years have sold 9 million copies.

Marriage and family

Beyond the ceremony itself, Vatican II changed the very concept of marriage in the Catholic Church, according to H. Richard McCord, executive director of the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Family,



CNS PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MIKE CRUPI, CATHOLIC COURIER

The changes to Catholic marriage brought about by Vatican II went far beyond how and where an interfaith marriage could take place, and, for many, those factors were the most visible signs of the church renewal and openness brought by the council.

Laity, Women and Youth.

In "Gaudium et Spes," the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, the council said marriage was not only for procreation and "reached back to the biblical understanding of covenant" to define the sacramental bond between husband and wife, McCord said.

"Marriage to be sure is not instituted solely for procreation; rather, its very nature as an unbreakable compact between persons, and the welfare of the children, both demand that the mutual love of the spouses ... grow and ripen," the pastoral constitution says.

"Therefore, marriage persists as a whole manner and communion of life, and maintains its value and indissolubility, even when despite the often intense desire of the couple, offspring are lacking," it says.

The idea of marriage as a covenant also emphasized "the radical equality of persons" at a time when some still saw women as the property of their husbands, McCord said.

Each marital partner was to fully contribute his or her gifts and abilities to the other spouse and receive the same in return, he said.

"Lumen Gentium," the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, also contributed "a key idea that continues to play itself out in the pastoral ministry of the

church" — the concept of the Christian family as domestic church, McCord said.

This "new way of understanding the role of the Christian family" was an ancient idea first articulated by St. John Chrysostom (347-407), but "rediscovered by the council fathers," he added.

As heads of the domestic church, parents are the "first evangelizers of their children" and "the first school of life and faith," Pope Benedict XVI said in a recent talk to a group of Mexican bishops.

The council's pronouncements on marriage still play a major role in helping present-day Catholic leaders articulate why they oppose efforts to legalize same-sex marriage, McCord said.

"The defining element of marriage is the conjugal love that is only possible between a man and a woman," he said. "It's not just custom. It's not just tradition."

Congress marks anniversary of 'Nostra Aetate'

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The House and Senate both approved a resolution recognizing the 40th anniversary of "Nostra Aetate," the declaration of the Second Vatican Council on Catholic relations with other religions.

The Senate passed the resolution by unanimous consent Nov. 10 and the House approved it with a 349-0 vote Nov. 7.

The resolution noted the Oct. 28, 1965, promulgation of the Vatican II document, and said it "affirmed the respect of the Roman Catholic Church for Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam and Judaism, and exhorted Catholics to engage in 'dialogue and collaboration with the followers of other religions.'"

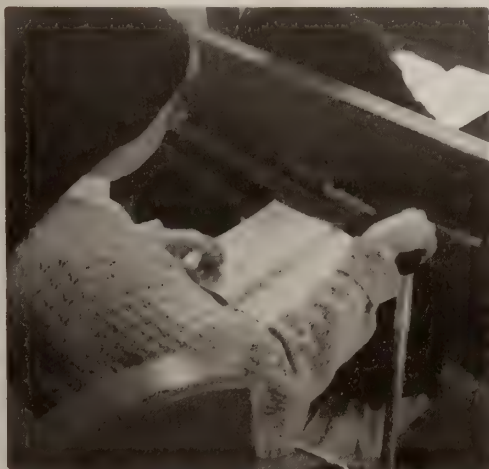
"Nostra Aetate" recognized "the role of the Holy See in combating religious intolerance and religious discrimination," and said Congress by the resolution "encourages the United States to continue to serve in a leading role in combating anti-Semitism and other forms of religious intolerance and religious discrimination worldwide."

The resolution also asked President George W. Bush to issue a proclamation recognizing the document's anniversary.

Please Give Generously

Retirement Fund for Religious

Since 1988, you have donated more than \$460 million to help alleviate unfunded retirement liability at Catholic religious institutes. Regrettably, the costs for assisted living and skilled nursing care for elderly religious exceed this amount *each year*. Please remember our faithful women and men who have dedicated their lives to prayer and service.



- Today, almost 39,000 sisters, brothers, and order priests are past age 70.
- In 2004, the Fund awarded grants to 528 religious institutes, including 91 monasteries where prayer is the primary ministry.
- Less than five percent of donations are used for administration, education, and promotion.

Give at your local Catholic parish.

Make your check payable to:
Retirement Fund for Religious.

Or, donate by mail:

National Religious Retirement Office
Attn: RFR
3211 Fourth Street NE
Washington DC 20017

View our annual report online: www.usccb.org/nrrro

30 YEARS EXPERIENCE



ALICE & THE PYANO MAN

Henry C. Rozell III

2nd Generation

Piano Tuner/Technician

Piano Tuning, Repairs, Refinishing

Pianos Bought and Sold

FREE ESTIMATES

704-321-5843

Cell: 704-562-5394



CNS PHOTO BY NANCY WIECHEC

U.S. bishops join in prayer at the start of the second day of their fall general meeting in Washington Nov. 15.

Major clergy sex abuse study approved by U.S. bishops

USCCB, from page 1

stem child sex abuse.

The charter said the study was needed "to understand the problem more fully and to enhance the effectiveness of our future response."

The study plan calls for John Jay College to work with Jesuit-run Fordham University in New York and other experts across the country.

To be examined

A Nov. 16 news release by the U.S. bishops said that issues to be examined in the study include:

— Epidemic aspects of the sexual abuse incidents that surged in the 1970s and subsequently declined in the 1980s.

— Prominence of young adolescent males among the victims.

— Content and influence of seminary admission policies and priest formation programs before and after the 1980s.

— Differences between the lifestyle and formation of diocesan clergy and that of religious order priests that might explain any differences in cases of abuse perpetrated by members of the two groups.

— Ecclesiastical environment and the ways in which the church responded to reports of sexual abuse.

— Behavioral and psychological problems of abusers.

— Circumstances that enhanced the vulnerability of the victims.

— Cultural, social and psychological factors in U.S. society and the Catholic Church which contributed to sexual

abuse of children, particularly during the 1970s' surge of incidents.

— Response of law enforcement to reports of clergy sexual abuse in the 1970s as compared with current responses.

— Common psychiatric treatment models of the 1970s as compared with current treatment models.

The study also plans to examine environmental aspects that influenced the risk factors for victims and predators.

Seeking causes and answers

This will be the second study conducted by John Jay College for the all-lay National Review Board appointed by the bishops to advise them on prevention policies and to monitor policy compliance.

The first John Jay study, published in 2004, provided statistics collected from U.S. dioceses and Eastern-rite eparchies on the nature and scope of the problem covering the 1950-2002 period. It reported that about 4 percent of U.S. priests ministering from 1950 to 2002 were accused of sexually abusing a minor.

The 2004 study said that 4,392 clergymen — almost all priests — were accused of abusing 10,667 people, with 75 percent of the incidents taking place between 1960 and 1984. It was the first comprehensive, national statistical study of the problem.

After the new study was announced, Jeremy Travis, John Jay president, said that the college pledges to do the research "with scrupulous objectivity and scientific rigor to advance society's understanding of the causes and context of the problem within the church."

John Jay was chosen to conduct the study from among several research institutions which submitted proposals.

The bishops have pledged \$1 million toward the cost of the new study with the remainder of the funding being sought from Catholic and other philanthropic organizations.

The 13 members of the National Review Board include experts in the fields of education, law, psychology, psychiatry, church administration and medicine. Chairwoman Ewers is an educational consultant and former president of Pace University in New York.

Ewers told Catholic News Service that work on the study would begin immediately and take three years to complete.

There are several organizations interested in providing the additional funding for the study, she said.

"The study is a unique opportunity to gain significant insights into the problem," said Ewers.

At the USCCB's Nov. 14-17 fall meeting in Washington, the bishops:

— Adopted revisions to the book of Scripture readings for children's Masses in the U.S. and sent them to the Vatican for confirmation.

— Approved new guidelines for the growing phenomenon of lay ecclesial ministry in U.S. parishes.

— Approved a proposal to seek Vatican approval to retain current dollar levels at which different controls kick in for the disposal of church property.

— Authorized a rewrite of their 1982 preaching manual in light of "current liturgical understanding and practice."

— Approved a \$131.2 million USCCB budget for 2006 that could result in up to \$1.8 million in deficit spending.

— Held an informational session to prepare for the upcoming English translation of the Roman Missal for use in the United States.

— Consented in a voice vote to support the canonization cause of Fray Bartolome de las Casas, a Spanish friar who argued against the enslavement of native peoples by Spanish conquistadors.

— Received an update about a new effort to support the development of the Catholic Church in Africa.

Many Annuity Owners Lose Money. Will YOU?

Some annuity owners lose money because they didn't know what questions to ask when they bought, and their salesperson did not volunteer any information.

If you own an annuity or are considering taking advantage of their many benefits, my **FREE** report, "Using Guaranteed Annuities to Help You Survive Your Retirement," will tell you what questions to ask.

The report is **FREE** and shows you how to get more benefits from your existing assets and help preserve your annuity value.

Call 800-800-4960, ext. 7405 (24 hours)

for your **FREE** report!

Dr. Richard Pucciarelli

Certified Senior Advisor

Member of Asset Protectors and Advisors Group



Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels. 

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065

'I Can' controversy

Parish cancels American Girl event; others urge boycott of doll maker

BY NANCY FRAZIER O'BRIEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Saying that "the pursuit of funds can't come at the cost of our integrity," the pastor of St. Luke Church in Brookfield, Wis., has canceled an American Girl school fundraiser set for May because of the doll company's ties to a nonprofit group that supports keeping abortion legal.

The American Girl's connection to Girls Inc. through the "I Can" bracelet project — which promotes girls' self-esteem and service — also has prompted criticism of the company by at least three organizations — Pro-Life Wisconsin, Pro-Life Action League and American Family Association.

The latter two organizations urged a boycott of American Girl, which produces a line of popular collectable dolls.

"We are asking people who care about little girls, and about the value of human life, to refrain from purchasing products and visiting American Girl Place during the entire Christmas shopping season," said Ann Scheidler, executive director of the Chicago-based Pro-Life Action League, in a Nov. 1 statement.

The head of Girls Inc. said, however, that the controversy resulted from "false, inflammatory statements from people who

are pursuing a narrow political agenda."

American Girl representatives did not respond to Catholic News Service requests for comment on the controversy Nov. 2, but spokeswoman Julie Parks told The Associated Press earlier that some groups "have chosen to misconstrue American Girl's purely altruistic efforts."

Writing in his Oct. 30 parish bulletin, Father Francis Malloy, pastor, said the parish school had planned an American Girl fashion show for May. The company sells dolls, related books and doll accessories through its Web site and catalog and at stores in Chicago and New York.

"It seemed like a match made in heaven, a motivated Catholic school and an all-American icon," Father Malloy wrote. "We seemed poised to raise enough funds for a new playground and a remake of the school library."

But following a special meeting of the Home and School Association at St. Luke Church, the pastor canceled the fundraiser, forfeiting a \$1,000 deposit. Although the parish hopes to get the deposit returned, "even if we don't it probably won't matter," Father Malloy said. "The real lesson is one of integrity."

"We are a Catholic school and we do have core values of faith and tradition," he added. "These we pass on to our young

people — it's why we have a school. We do believe in preparing our daughters to be strong women of principle — we just happen to disagree with Girls Inc."

Formerly known as Girls Clubs of America, Girls Inc. "develops research-based informal education programs that encourage girls to take risks and master physical, intellectual and emotional challenges," according to its Web site.

"Major programs address math and science education, pregnancy and drug abuse prevention, media literacy, economic literacy, adolescent health, violence prevention and sports participation," it says.

"Recently, our mission to help girls develop their self-esteem and self-reliance has become the target of false, inflammatory statements from people who are pursuing a narrow political agenda," said Joyce Roche, president and CEO of Girls Inc., in a statement.

"Girls Inc. stands on its long positive history. The millions of lives we have touched speak for who we are and our values," she said.

On its Web site, Girls Inc. said it "supports a woman's freedom of choice, a constitutional right established by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1973 in *Roe vs. Wade*." It also says girls have a right to "convenient access to safe, effective methods of contraception and protection from disease."

In September, American Girl launched the "I Can" bracelet project, selling bands that carry the American Girl "I Can" promise: "I can be myself, follow my dreams and always do my best. I can reach for the stars, lend a

hand to others and be a good friend. I can make a difference! I promise to try."

American Girl, a subsidiary of Mattel Inc., said it would donate net proceeds from the band sales to Girls Inc. and would make an additional \$50,000 donation to the organization to support its educational programs.

Peggy Hamill, state director of Pro-Life Wisconsin, praised Father Malloy and St. Luke Church for canceling the planned American Girl fundraiser.

"The parish sacrificed possibly thousands of dollars to take a stand for life," she said. "Such courage will most likely not, however, go unrewarded. It would only take a few people who decide not to purchase an American Girl doll, and instead send their money to St. Luke, for the parish to recoup their losses."

The American Family Association, based in Tupelo, Miss., called Girls Inc. a "pro-abortion, pro-lesbian group" and urged its members to tell American Girl that its decision to support Girls Inc. "casts a great shadow over their trustworthiness to put the welfare of girls and children first."

Scheidler of the Pro-Life Action League said girls are being "unwittingly introduced to Girls Inc. through the 'I Can' bracelet program, and lured into contact with their radical feminist ideology."

"As consumers, we have both the freedom and the responsibility to spend our gift dollars in a manner consistent with our values," she added. "There are excellent alternatives to American Girl dolls. We expect that many families will choose to reject American Girl this Christmas."

Enjoy God's peace
and beauty in the
foothills!

Share the blessings
of this opportunity

Janua Coeli

- Four riverfront homesites offered for sale, all with gated access and private drive
- In the Appalachian foothills, 1 hour west of Charlotte and 40 minutes from Asheville
- Designed by nature, home to abundant wildlife with majestic riverwalk
- Very large lots, 6 to 12 acres each, all with access to community barn
- Frontage on Second Broad River, with beautiful forest land and nature trails all accessible by foot and/or horseback
- Deeded access to 40 acres of pasture and more than ½ mile of riverfront
- Our Lady of the River grotto and Stations of the Cross



A unique opportunity, this property of 110 acres will be used as a retreat ranch for children suffering from cancer, and their families. Held by the Padre Pio Land Trust, it is being developed by Michael and Robin Hunter, Parishioners of Immaculate Conception in Rutherfordton and trustees of Janua Coeli Cancer Foundation. If you are interested in an ideal spot for your vacation home, or have any questions regarding this property, please contact Mike or Robin at (828) 429-8544, (828) 285-1998, or online at www.januacoelicanccancerfoundation.com

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

'Goblet' full of action, suspense

BY DAVID DiCERTO
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW YORK (CNS) — "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire" conjures enough movie magic to cast a satisfying spell over audiences.

"Goblet of Fire" is the fourth movie adapted from the hugely popular fantasy novels by British author J.K. Rowling.

The film is entertaining, intelligent and visually delicious, but despite considerable plot-pruning, at an unwieldy two hours and 37 minutes this "Goblet" runneth over a bit long.

Continuing the moodier tone set by 2004's "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban," the new installment — the darkest thus far — is the first in the franchise to be rated PG-13.

From its spooky opening image, the film is probably too scary for young children, who might have nightmares, precisely what's plaguing Harry (Daniel Radcliffe) at the story's outset.

This is especially true for the scenes involving the "Death Eaters," agents of the evil Lord Voldemort (Ralph Fiennes in fearsome face makeup), who finally makes his much-anticipated appearance.

But for most of "Goblet," the story revolves around a three-task, interscholastic competition known as the Triwizard Tournament to be hosted at Hogwarts. Harry is chosen to compete along with a Hogwartsian upperclassman, a French enchantress and a Bulgarian bruiser.

The dangerous trials pit them against fire-breathing dragons, menacing mermaids and a sinister hedge-maze. But to bashful Harry, those perils pale compared to the harrowing ordeal of finding a date for Hogwarts' annual Yule ball, injecting some lighthearted teen romance into the abracadabra action mix.

The onset of awkward adolescence adds an interesting new emotional dimension to the relationships of the three young leads. (The film could have done without an eyebrow-raising scene in which a frisky girl ghost cozies up to a thoroughly embarrassed Harry while bathing.)

As with the magical elements in its predecessors, those in "Goblet of Fire" should be viewed as time-honored storytelling devices, like those employed throughout the history of Western fantasy literature from childhood fairy tales to Arthurian legends and Shakespeare.

A reference by Voldemort about the



CNS PHOTO FROM WARNER BROS

Daniel Radcliffe stars in "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire."

"old magic" wrought by the sacrificial love of Harry's mother (who died protecting him in his infancy) seems to echo the salvific "Deeper Magic" spoken of in C.S. Lewis' Christian-allegorical "The Chronicles of Narnia."

Curbed is Harry's habit of rule-breaking. Perhaps as he matures, so has his sense of integrity, evidenced by his — on more than one occasion — endangering his chance of winning to do the honorable thing (that is, saving a life).

"Goblet of Fire" presents the clearest delineation between "right" and "wrong" in the series thus far, even introducing moral imperatives into the students' hocus-pocus curriculum.

Despite lots of wand-waving, the real victories are won through self-sacrifice. As Dumbledore counsels, "We must face the choice between what is right and what is easy."

Such life lessons would support the contention of Father Peter Fleetwood, a Vatican official formerly of the Pontifical Council for Culture, that "the chief concern of ... (Rowling) is to help children understand the conflict between good and evil."

The film contains frightening images, scenes of intense menace and some sexual innuendo. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

DiCerto is on the staff of the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Dec. 4, Second Sunday of Advent

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11
Psalm 85:9-14
- 2) 2 Peter 3:8-14
- 3) Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

We are all called to serve in our own ways

BY JEFF HENSLEY
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

What strikes me as I read about John the Baptist is how different he was: that he had a message entrusted to him, and that he went about fearlessly and obediently announcing that One more powerful than he was coming, One who would baptize not with water but with the Holy Spirit.

Sounds like the advent of a whole new thing in religion to me.

I've had a handful of friends who remind me of John the Baptist in their "differentness," their obedience and the clarity of their announcing the one who baptizes in the Spirit.

Bob and Mary — just to name two — each have a joy so transparent, a goodness so strong that, as with John the Baptist, anyone who is around them for very long can't help but know they are different. And that leads to their other characteristic, which is a willingness to

announce God's good news, if not at first, then after a reasonable length of time has passed.

By the time they start to speak of the One who baptizes with the Spirit, their words have an authority I'm afraid my own will never quite have.

They have a gift for proclaiming the love of God that I wish I did possess. But, like anyone reading this, I have my own gifts.

For me, they are gifts of compassion and a facility with words (at least some of the time), and in my limited gifts I have found my own way to enter into the Christian's work of telling others about the One who brings the Holy Spirit.

Each of us, whether a grocery clerk, teacher, computer entry operator, businessperson or stay-at-home mom, has a specific place and a specific way we interact with others. We offer news of this now-identified person of whom John the Baptist spoke in guarded terms because he did not know his name.

We know his name and are formed in it and by it. We know the One John announced did indeed come in the flesh, and so we ourselves share John's mission, the mission of announcing Jesus.

Question:

How do you think God wants to use you to bring his love to others in the everyday contacts of your life?

Scripture to Illustrate:

"Make ready the way of the Lord. Clear him a straight path" (Mark 1:3bc).

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 27 - DECEMBER 3

Sunday (First Sunday of Advent), Isaiah 63:16-17, 19; 64:2-7, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9, Mark 13:33-37; **Monday (Advent Weekday),** Isaiah 2:1-5, Matthew 8:5-11; **Tuesday (Advent Weekday),** Isaiah 11:1-10, Luke 10:21-24; **Wednesday (St. Andrew),** Romans 10:9-18, Matthew 4:18-22; **Thursday (Advent Weekday),** Isaiah 26:1-6, Matthew 7:21, 24-27; **Friday (Advent Weekday),** Isaiah 29:17-24, Matthew 9:27-31; **Saturday (St. Francis Xavier),** Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26, Matthew 9:35-10:1, 6-8.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 4 - DECEMBER 10

Sunday (Second Sunday of Advent), Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11, 2 Peter 3:8-14, Mark 1:1-8; **Monday (Advent Weekday),** Isaiah 35:1-10, Luke 5:17-26; **Tuesday (St. Nicholas),** Isaiah 40:1-11, Matthew 18:12-14; **Wednesday (St. Ambrose),** Isaiah 40:25-31, Matthew 11:28-30; **Thursday (Immaculate Conception),** Genesis 3:9-15, 20, Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12, Luke 1:26-38; **Friday (St. Juan Diego),** Isaiah 48:17-19, Matthew 11:16-19; **Saturday (Advent Weekday),** Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11, Matthew 17:9, 10-13.

The **Catholic** Company

Lake Norman Book Store
maryimmaculata.com

CAROLINA CATHOLIC
BOOKSHOPPE

Mon. thru Sat.
10 am - 6 pm



Now 2 COMPLETE Catholic stores for

- Unique gifts & cards
- Books, rosaries, medals
- Previously read book section (at Lake Norman)
- Video rentals
- Artwork

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

Tastefully Yours Catering
1801 S Church Street - Suite A - Charlotte, NC 28201
704.632.8040 - tastefullycarolina.com
Located in Charlotte's Southend

Full Service Caterer

- Holiday Parties
- Receptions
- Rehearsal Dinners
- Engagement Parties
- Bridal Showers
- Spa Parties

Visit our cafe for a sampling of the possibilities!
(Wedding tastings by appointment only)

A 'Line' worth walking



CNS PHOTO FROM 20TH CENTURY FOX

Joaquin Phoenix stars in "Walk the Line," a superior biopic about country singer Johnny Cash (a mesmerizing Phoenix, who does his own singing). It traces the singer's childhood, marred by the accidental death of his older brother and his father's subsequent coldness, through an unfulfilling first marriage and his budding romance with singer June Carter (Reese Witherspoon, who matches her co-star in the singing and acting departments), drug dependency and ultimate survival.

Director James Mangold deftly balances the personal drama with plenty of good music, making for first-rate entertainment, though the touching romance between the married Cash and Carter — despite cautious treatment by scriptwriter Gill Dennis — is naggingly problematic from a basic moral, as well as Catholic, perspective.

Some rough and crude language, ethnic slurs, scenes of domestic violence, drug and alcohol use, and an extramarital relationship. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.



Faith on film

'Narnia' film may signal greater acceptance of faith-themed movies

BY GUY FITZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

PLANO, Texas — The Dec. 9 release of "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe," the potential Christmas blockbuster based on a novel by Christian writer C.S. Lewis, may signal Hollywood is focusing more on audiences for whom religion is important.

David DiCerto, a movie reviewer for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said he has noticed more movies being targeted toward Christian audiences.

This can be seen as "an economic byproduct of the success of 'The Passion of the Christ,'" he said.

With Mel Gibson's film grossing more than \$400 million in worldwide box office proceeds, Christian audiences are establishing themselves as a lucrative market for Hollywood producers. Grass-roots evangelical campaigns are starting to grow around religious-themed movies being released.

In October, Stonebriar Community Church in Plano hosted about 300 moviegoers for a sneak peek of "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe." Local faith leaders were selected as attendees.

The event was one of 140 held across the United States by Motive Entertainment, which also conducted similar events for the "The Passion."

The Stonebriar event was billed as an "exclusive experience for leaders of faith in the community." It was attended by Michael Flaherty, president of Walden Media, the Narnia film production company, and Doug Gresham, co-producer of the film and stepson of Lewis.

For Flaherty and Walden Media, attending the outreach-oriented sneak peek was just one part of promoting the movie.

"People seem to be interested that we're going to churches to promote this movie, but we're also going to schools, libraries, Boy Scout and Girl Scout groups," said Flaherty.

In addition to exclusive clips of the film and hearing Grammy-winning Christian musician Steven Curtis Chapman perform songs from the Narnia album, audience members received free material describing how the movie story can be incorporated into

local outreach activities.

"What I found interesting was the number of important figures from Disney and Walden Media that were there to court the Christian market," said John Reis, national accounts director of Good News Advertising, a Dallas-based company.

Good News Advertising was hired to put "Narnia" advertisements in 64 Christian newspapers nationwide, including 46 Catholic newspapers, *The Catholic News & Herald* among them.

"The sneak peek gave me the sense that they realize the viability of the Christian market," Reis said.

"The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" is the story of four children growing up in World War II-era England. The children stumble upon a magical wardrobe that transports them to the world of Narnia. The children embark on a quest to save the land from an evil witch with the help of Narnia's noble ruler, the lion Aslan.

Lewis wrote "The Chronicles of Narnia" as a seven-book series, published between 1950 and 1956. The faith of Lewis, who died in 1963, often played a part in his writing. He was Anglican.

"We're interested in telling great stories and being true to the original themes of the author," said Flaherty. "Many times these great stories we want to tell will have elements of faith in them, and we don't shy away from that."

Some say the lion Aslan represents Jesus Christ, because the lion dies and is resurrected in the story. The witch represents evil. Many other Christian lessons and stories develop throughout the four children's journey.

With such strong faith-based themes, it seems natural for a movie such as "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" to be aimed at Christian audiences. Depending on its success, a greater number of movies may be released with similar elements.

DiCerto could not attest to the fact that more movies are coming out with Christian themes, but "keep in mind," he said, "(Hollywood producers) are going to be open to any audience that can make them money. If it helps sell tickets, moviemakers are going to emphasize Christian elements in movies."

The perfect gift of praise for this
Advent and Christmas season!

Let Jesus' presence fill your heart as you listen to

WITH ALL MY HEART

by Elyse O'Kane, singer and songwriter

featuring 12 original compositions including

"Magnificat," "Messiah and King," and "Hail Mary"

** As seen at the Charlotte Eucharistic Congress **

CD - \$15

Cassette - \$10

To order, contact Elyse O'Kane: www.elyseokane.com,

elyse@elyseokane.com, or 770-265-8320



International torch run comes to diocese

CHARLOTTE — Runners are carrying a symbol of unity through the Diocese of Charlotte. For the fourth consecutive year, a group of young people from New York City has organized the "Antorcha Guadalupana." This international torch run is meant to unite families who have been divided by the U.S.-Mexico border through their Catholic faith and their love for Our Lady.

The torch run began in Mexico City at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in October and will culminate in New York City Dec. 12, the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Over the past two months, the group has carried the torch from city to city celebrating Masses in honor of Our Lady and sharing with the community the concerns of immigrants in the United States.

This year the torch will visit four communities in the Diocese of Charlotte: Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Charlotte, Nov. 28; St. Joseph Church in Newton, Nov. 29; St. Francis of Assisi Church in Mocksville, Nov. 30; and Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in High Point, Dec. 1.

Each visit begins with the reception of the torch between 5 and 6 p.m., followed by Mass and a presentation. The following morning, runners from the community accompany the core group to the next stop. The visits are open to the public and the presentations are bilingual.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information, call Franciscan Sister Andrea Inkrott, director of diocesan Hispanic Ministry, at (704) 370-3269.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

The Archdiocese of Atlanta seeks an experienced principal to lead Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School, a SACS accredited college preparatory high school; co-educational, with 258 students and 35 faculty members. The School offers a challenging academic and co-curricular program to a diverse student body: 43% African American, 46% Caucasian and 11% other ethnic groups. Located in Fairburn, Georgia, 20 miles south of downtown Atlanta. Position requirements:

- Practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church;
- Educational Leadership Certification;
- Minimum of 3 years of successful Catholic secondary administrative experience;
- Excellent communication skills;
- Collaborative leadership style;
- Experience in fiscal management and institutional advancement;
- Commitment to teaching;
- Fair and consistent disciplinarian.

Negotiable and competitive salary; excellent benefits. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled. Send letter of interest, resume, university credentials, and names, addresses and telephone numbers of at least five references to:

Ruprecht and Associates
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811

Phone: 218-727-5150

E-mail: mruprecht@cpinternet.com



Please pray for the following priests who died during the month of December:

Rev. Msgr. Francis M. Smith 1983

Rev. Vincent M. Stokes 1979

Rev. Thomas McAvoys 1978

Rev. Michael J. Hoban 1995

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Seeking Director of Human Resources for a Southeast Catholic Archdiocese to develop policy and direct and coordinate human resources activities for an organization of 3000. Responsibilities include recruitment and employment of management and non-management employees; compensation and benefit programs; employee relations; training and development programs; regulatory compliance in employment practices; employee and management counseling; and committee and project work. **REQUIREMENTS:** **Education.** BA in Human Resource management, psychology or business, and/or equivalent experience. **Experience.** Ten or more years experience in Human Resources at a professional level, including at least five years in a broad management position. Experience in working with teams and committees, and in a hierarchical structure. **Knowledge.** Broad, in-depth working knowledge of human resources laws and regulations, standard policies, practices, and procedures. Knowledge of budgeting and strategic planning. A practicing Catholic. **Skills/Abilities.** Participative/collaborative management style that is supportive of team development. Excellent communication (oral and written), interpersonal, and organizational skills. Excellent negotiating and problem-solving abilities. Strong service orientation. Good quantitative and analytical skills. Ability to use tact, sensitivity, and discretion. Ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously. Computer literacy, including skills in human resource software and timekeeping systems.

Send resume to: Ruprecht & Associates
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811-5018,
Email: mruprecht@cpinternet.com
Telephone: 218-727-5150



Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT

COMMUNITY GROUP HOME MANAGER: (adults) — Live in (7 days on, 7 days off). Prepare/serve meals, transportation, recreation, cleaning, med treatments, work goals. Requirements: HS/GED & group home & MR/DD experience. Holy Angels, Inc., 6600 Wilkinson Boulevard, Belmont, N.C. 28012. (704) 825-4161.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES: Call us or visit our website at www.sherpallc.com for 100+ Charlotte-area job opportunities. Recruiting, Staffing and Consulting Services. Specializing in Accounting, Finance and IT. 704-374-0001

SERVICES

COUNSELING SERVICES: Individuals.

Couples. Family. Lucille Moses, BSN, M.Ed. North Carolina Licensed Professional Counselor. 1801 East 5th Street, Charlotte, NC. 704-366-6507 or 704-942-4334.

EMERALD HOME REMODELING: NC Licensed General Contractor. Kitchens, Baths, Additions, Handyman services, etc. All size jobs completed. (704) 684-0301(T); (704) 719-0808(cell) for free consultation

PIANO TUNING & RESTORATION: Hi-Quality Used Pianos. PIANO CRAFT (336) 454-2000. Al Guecia, formerly of Steinway & Sons. IHM Parishioner.

FOR RENT

VACATION CABIN: Lake Lure. Mountain views! A great holiday get-away! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, fully furnished. Reasonable rates. Call 828-299-3714.

Elementary School Principal Archdiocese of Atlanta

St. Mary's Catholic School, an accredited school with a rich 60-year history wrapped in a new \$6 million facility, is accepting applications for the position of elementary school principal. The school enjoys a highly engaged parent base, an active parish of 1000 families, and broad community recognition and support.

St. Mary's is located in Rome, Georgia, a beautiful, vibrant town, one hour northwest of Atlanta. One of the South's best kept secrets, Rome is an established community with three colleges, symphony, theatre, and a warm and inviting atmosphere.

Energetic, creative leaders who will take our school to the next level of excellence, please apply. Active Catholics with a master's degree in educational administration (or its equivalent) and at least three years of demonstrated experience in administration will be considered. Handsome salary and benefits.

Please submit letter of interest, resume, three letters of reference and university credentials to:

Fr. Jim Miceli
St. Mary's Catholic Church
911 N. Broad Street
Rome, GA 30161

Classified ads bring results! Over 125,000 readers! Over 49,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.



PHOTO BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY

Youths participate in a group game during the "Rescued" youth retreat held at Holy Family Church in Clemmons Nov. 18-20.

Youths get 'Rescued' at retreat

YOUTHS, from page 1

Clemmons the weekend of Nov. 17-20.

"There were 11 members of the team consisting of adults, young adults and teenagers who put this very successful retreat together, said Deacon Mike Langsdorf, permanent deacon at Divine Redeemer Church in Boonville and a member of the leadership team.

The team meets to plan the spiritual and catechetical experience and retreat theme, and organize the people and resources needed to carry out the retreat.

"These retreats also train future youth leaders and who take these skills

with them into adulthood," said Peg Ruble, assistant director for diocesan youth ministry.

This retreat's theme came from the Scripture readings for Nov. 20, the Feast of Christ the King, which say "God is the Good Shepherd and will save, or rescue, all of us who are the sheep of his fold," said Deacon Langsdorf.

During the retreat, the youths explored the Scripture readings, explored contemporary Christian anthropology and took part in eucharistic adoration.

They then broke into small groups to contemplate what being saved and rescued meant to them, and who does the saving. The groups came up with both physical and scriptural aspects of being rescued.

Emie Dillard, a junior at Elon University in Elon, spoke about how she traveled with 50 students to Bay St. Louis, Miss., after Hurricane Katrina.

"We camped out in the front yard of the parish, bringing help and hope to those who have lost everything," said Dillard. "They didn't even have rosaries. Therefore we are making rosaries at this retreat to send down to them."

Dillard hoped the retreat gave the youths the inspiration "to help rescue others, knowing that they have Jesus working through them."

"I am getting stronger in my faith, like Jesus," said Katherine Haugen, a parishioner of St. James the Greater Church in Concord. "You don't feel as though you're so far away and I understand things better."

The retreat helped Raquel Hernandez get more in touch with the Catholic Church, its teachings, her peers and with God, and "how to be rescued."

"I am being rescued from stress at school in a very spiritual way," said Raquel, a parishioner of Divine Redeemer Church in Boonville.

Caitlyn Finney found ways to be rescued after a bad day of work. More importantly, she said, she came to understand that in "everything you do, God is always there."

Contact Correspondent Deacon Gerald Potkay at (336) 427-8218 or e-mail gpotkay@triad.rr.com.

Sponsor a Child in the Holy Land

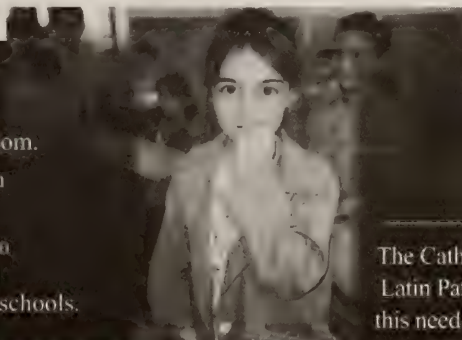
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUPPORT



Be a Champion-in-Christ
"To such as these does the Kingdom of God belong."
Matthew 19:14

Even though the Christians of the Holy Land are directly descended from the first Christians converted by the Apostles:

- They are in a desperate struggle to survive as a community.
- They are isolated from the rest of Christendom.
- They are down to only 2% of the population from 18% in 1948.
- They are suffering from overt discrimination and their economy is being destroyed, and their children are stigmatized in the public schools.



The Catholic Schools play an integral role in preserving the Christian heritage of the Holy Land.

The Catholic Archbishop of Jerusalem, the Latin Patriarch Michel Sabbah, recognizes this need and supports the parochial school system to educate all native Christian Children of the Holy Land.

A gift from you will help educate a child in the Catholic School system. It takes only \$25 per month or an annual gift of \$300 to assure the primary and secondary education of a Christian child in the Holy Land.

"It is essential that we, as Christians in the Diocese of Charlotte, reach out to our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land at this time of great need. By sponsoring a child for Christian education, we can help ensure the presence of the original Christians and actively contribute to the continuity of our Christian heritage."

Msgr. John McSweeney, KCHS
Pastor, St. Matthew Catholic Church



Let's make a difference in the lives of the Christian Children in the Holy Land.

YES, I Will Sponsor a Child:

Name: _____ Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Name of Church: _____ Denomination: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____ Child ID # _____

My pledge is \$300 in payments of: ☐ \$25 monthly ☐ \$75 Quarterly ☐ \$100 Tri-annually ☐ \$150 Semi-Annually ☐ \$300 Annually

I would prefer to bill my sponsorship payment to my credit card ☐ Visa ☐ Master Card ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Card Number: Expiration Date: / CVV No.

☐ I would prefer to charge my Credit Card according to my payment plan. ☐ Charge my card one time only.

Signature: _____

☐ I do not wish to sponsor a child now, but here is my gift of \$ _____

☐ Send me information on other HCEF programs

Your contribution is tax deductible to the full extent of the law. • HCEF is a nonprofit, charitable, 501(c)3 organization.

Or fill out an online application at www.hcef.org. • Email: esp@hcef.org



Carolina Funeral & Cremation Center

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Evolution versus intelligent design controversy

Q. We read much today about evolution, creation and intelligent design. Some scientists, according to the stories, deny the need of a Creator. The universe, they say, can explain itself without bringing God into the picture.

Obviously we would not agree. Would you explain what this evolution versus ID controversy is all about? Can scientists really prove, or try to prove, God does not exist or did not create the world? (Ohio)

A. I'm sorry that a helpful explanation of the relationship between creationism and intelligent design, and their connection to evolution, would be far beyond the limits of this column. But extensive information is readily available from your library or through an Internet Google search under these topics.

One important point may be made, however, concerning your second question. The physical sciences themselves will never be able to prove either the existence or nonexistence of God.

In Christian tradition we hold that God is "pure spirit." That means there is nothing material or physical in the Divine Being, nothing that has physical parts that can be measured or weighed — or broken off.

If that is true, there cannot possibly exist a place in our cosmos that one could point to and say, Here is the spot where something physical came out of God, here is where creation began. There can be, so to speak, no physical "belly button" in the universe, no trace anywhere of some sort of umbilical cord by which material existence flowed from God into this world.

In that specific sense, the material universe must be a "closed system," existing and operating within itself. There could be no transfer of physical matter or energy from Creator to creature.

This means that physical sciences alone, whatever more they learn about how the universe began and how it functions, cannot possibly prove there was no intelligent Creator behind what happened.

They may discover much that changes our conceptions of how God functions in this world. That has happened often, particularly in the past 400 years, and is happening today.

In the end, however, when all relevant scientific evidence is gathered (which certainly is not yet), the most science can declare is that no physical evidence exists of any outside divine ac-

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



tivity that started the whole thing. As I explained above, not only would we agree with that; we would say that's the way it must be.

If a cosmologist or astrophysicist or mathematician, therefore, were to claim that no Creator is needed to explain the universe, he would have jumped outside the field of natural sciences and be speaking as a philosopher or theologian — speaking no longer within his competence as a physical scientist.

Unfortunately our culture has a curious tendency to assume that people prominent in one field — movie stars, authors, even clergy — are authorities on almost everything else as well.

We must also admit that we can never prove, from physical evidence alone, that there is a God, a personal, intelligent Creator. Our physical reach extends only to the edges of the physical universe. We need something else to go beyond that.

Obviously, we human beings have that "something else," the ability to think, to reason our way past what we can see and hear and feel to Someone who started it all by simply willing it into existence, Someone who gave it direction and purpose, even if that design evolves over billions of years.

As St. Paul says and the church teaches, we humans are able to come to know the invisible God through the visible things he has made (Rom 1:20).

We all, scientists or not, and whatever our beliefs, seriously need to recognize the limits on how far either the physical sciences, or theology, can take us on such questions.

A free brochure in English or Spanish answering questions Catholics ask about baptism practices and sponsors is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 5515, Peoria, IL 61612.

Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address, or e-mail: jjdietzen@aol.com.

What's in a name?

Identity helps in relationships with God, others

What's in a name?

The first thing we do in the baptismal rite for babies is to give them a name. We say to the parents, "What name do you give to your child?"

This makes sense. You cannot have a relationship with someone unless you at least know the person's name. The name is a sort of "handle."

In the Bible, the first thing God asked Adam to do after creation was finished was to give a name to all the birds and animals. It was the beginning of a relationship between man and all the creatures of the earth.

In my parish we always explain the importance of naming to parents. We tell them it expresses our hope for the person. That is why Christians often take a name from our Christian heritage, like Mary, or the name of a virtue, like Faith.

We want our children to have names of the great saints who are heroes of the faith or of great virtues to which we aspire.

This message seems to be lost on parents today. Often they name them for movie stars or celebrities. Sports figures account for a pretty fair number of names.

These things go in fads. There were a lot of girls called "Morgan" and boys called "Jordan" for a while. I don't think anybody will be naming their girls "Katrina" or "Wilma" for a while after this hurricane season.

I pretty much go along with anything, but I draw the line when they start naming children after luxury automobiles. Lexus and Infiniti are not entirely unknown.

When the touring company of "Late Night Catechism" came to our parish, Sister asked each person, "What's your name, dear?" If someone answered, "Wendy," Sister asked, "Is there a St. Wendy?" Sister did not approve.

If they'd been thinking, they should have answered, "Not yet, but I'm working on it."

Remembering names is a key pastoral skill. I'm pretty lousy at it.

I learned all the techniques for re-

Parish Diary

FATHER
PETER J. DALY
CNS COLUMNIST



membering a name. Repeat it as soon as you hear it. Write it down if you can. Use the name at least once in a sentence as soon as you meet the person: "So Howard, how did you find our parish?"

These techniques don't work with me. I often find myself "handle-less" with people, even after they have been in the parish a long time.

Our archbishop, Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, is a genius with names. He can meet someone once and remember the person's name.

I was stunned the first year he came to our archdiocese when he called out each priest's name as we came forward to meet him. Later I discovered that his secretaries were whispering our names to him as we approached. That's what I need, a prompter.

My secretary is much better with names than I am. In general I think women are better at names because they are better with relationships.

When people call or come by, I often ask our secretary, "Are they one of ours?" She not only knows their names, she knows the names of all their children and in-laws.

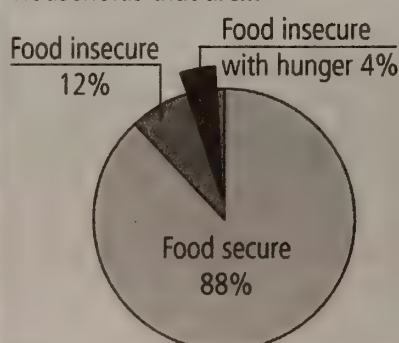
People have an easy time with me. They just call me "Father" — except in Mexico where I am "Padrecito," "Little Father." That's the beauty of a uniform.

In heaven I plan on asking God for a better memory for names. That way I will be able to call everybody's name. It would be embarrassing to forget Moses or somebody important.

But I think I will just call the ones I can't remember "Saint." I figure nobody will object to that name.

Hunger in America

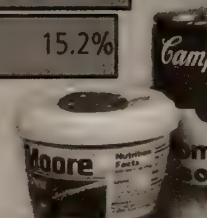
Households that are...



Highest prevalence of food-insecure households 2002-2004

Texas	16.4%
Mississippi	15.8%
New Mexico	15.8%
Oklahoma	15.2%

Food secure means access by all household members at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life.



Anatomy of an execution

Capital punishment at odds with family's mercy

Who is wronged in a killing? The victim, of course; and the victim's family, the people who have to live with a gnawing sense of injustice when a loved one is needlessly taken.

In 1990, Teresa Syriani was murdered by her husband Elias at their Charlotte home. The Syrianis had been married for 15 years and had four children. But the marriage was falling apart because of Elias' violence. He was abusive and she had filed for divorce.

Teresa's life ended in her driveway, in her car. Elias vented his rage with a screwdriver, stabbing her 28 times. John Syriani was 10 years old that day. He remembers it well; he was in the car with his mother.

Elias was convicted and sent to death row in Raleigh to await his fate as the appeals dragged through the courts. A year passed, then four, then nine, then 12. John and his three sisters, Rose, Sarah and Janet, had nothing to do with their father.

Then in 2003, when Elias had been locked away for 13 years, his children chose to forgive him.

Forgiveness soon blossomed into a quest for mercy as Elias' four children traveled the state, telling their story.

Catholics & the Media

DAVID HAINS
GUEST COLUMNIST



They were the victims who were most traumatized by their father's senseless brutality. Even though they had to grow up without a mother, they had no thirst for vengeance and didn't want the state to kill their father, the only parent they had left.

Senseless pre-meditated violence had already taken their mother. Now pre-meditated violence was going to be repeated on their father, this time sanctioned by the state.

Our court system determines the guilt or innocence of those who are brought before it. Elias was found guilty and a jury of his peers decided that death was the proper punishment. Appeals went nowhere. His only chance, the only possibility for the Syriani family to stay together, was for Gov. Mike Easley to

grant clemency.

Gov. Easley is a Catholic who is pro-abortion and sometimes, but not always, pro-death penalty. His positions are at odds with often-repeated teachings of the Catholic Church. The eye-for-an-eye idea of justice shouldn't trump mercy.

Gov. Easley met with the Syriani children, who are all adults now, and he listened to their pleas. In the end he decided to give his OK to legally sanctioned violence.

In the dead of the night on Nov. 18, Elias was strapped to a gurney and rolled into the execution chamber of Raleigh's Central Prison. Tied down, Elias was injected first with a chemical that put him to sleep and then another that stopped his breathing.

As a family member, John Syriani could have joined the reporters and others who were there to witness his father's execution. John took a pass. Seeing one parent senselessly killed is enough.

Defense lawyer Henderson Hill put it best when he said, "We punished four innocent children already scarred by family violence. ... By taking the life of a man in the process of giving life back to his kids, we betray our own humanity."

Who is wronged in an execution? We all are.

David Hains is director of communication for the Diocese of Charlotte. Contact him at dwains@charlottediocese.org.

Catholics must help others see dignity in all human life, pope says

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVII



BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Editor's note: Due to an early publishing deadline, we are unable to bring you the pope's weekly general audience.

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In a world increasingly against discrimination, Catholics must protect all human life, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Modern men and women understand that "the dignity of man is not based on the genes of his DNA and does not diminish in the presence of physical differences or genetic defects," the pope said Nov. 19, addressing participants at a Vatican conference on health care, ethics and the human genome.

"The principle of nondiscrimination on the basis of physical or genetic factors has entered deeply into consciences," the pope said. "This principle has its truest foundation in the dignity inherent in every man because he was created in the image and likeness of God."

Pope Benedict said it was true that secularization has "often obliterated the bond of temporal realities with their Creator, going so far as to disregard the need to protect the transcendent dignity of man and respect for his very life."

However, he said, it also is true that many people know something is missing in the secularized view of life.

"This means that possible new areas have opened for a profitable dialogue with society, and not only with believers, on important themes such as those related to life," the pope said.

Pope Benedict said "seeds of humanism" influenced by Judeo-Christian values remain present in even the most secularized societies, and those seeds can be encouraged to grow.

The pope said the church proclaims the value of every human life from the moment of conception based not only on the Gospel, but also on reason, and reason can be used to promote a wider acceptance of that value for the good of individuals and societies.

Priests, hospital chaplains and educators also must work to ensure that Catholic faithful are aware of the ethical implications of new advances in genetics and biomedical technology, he said. They need support when facing difficult medical decisions, but also when they vote in elections where biomedical issues are involved.

"If adequate instruction ... is lacking," he said, people could be easily swayed by the media or the presentation of only partial information.

Poverty: An abuse of human rights

Everyone has right to healthcare, security

Dr. Arjun Sengupta, the U.N. independent expert on human rights and extreme poverty, traveled to the United States to study poverty.

His itinerary included the homeless of the Bronx, the Immokalee farm workers of Florida, the hurricane-devastated of New Orleans, the ethnically and culturally diverse of the Mississippi Delta, Native Americans in upstate New York and people in the hollows of Appalachia.

The purpose of the trip focused on the expressions of poverty and possible efforts to address them. The underlying assumption of the trip: poverty is an abuse of human rights.

The richest nation on earth and poverty? What about the 2.8 billion people of the world who survive on less than \$2 a day, those living in mud huts, those with little more than a sarong or loin cloth? Those graphic images depict absolute poverty and charge overindulgent nations with social sin.

But, the effects of the relative poverty in the United States fly under the radar when people live shorter lives with no healthcare, face financial insecurity from corporate decisions and experience their human potential halted by social and racial barriers.

"Bobby" in eastern Kentucky testified that he worked 30 years as a nurse's aid. Scratched on the right arm by a resident at a nursing home, he developed methicillin resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA); then later, high blood

pressure. Without insurance, he could not get proper healthcare which compounded his problems.

He eventually had a stroke and is legally blind. Forced to declare bankruptcy, he lost his house. His family survives on Social Security Disability and food stamps, but he remains constantly behind on his rent and heavily in debt.

The subtlety of poverty in Appalachia extends to the environmental degradation that comes with mountaintop removal and irresponsible strip mining. Outside Hazard, Ky., "Jeff" showed the U.N. delegation a four-foot crack in his home's chimney caused by blasting a mile away.

Legally, a company can detonate 40,000 pounds of dynamite in one blast, but mining concerns routinely receive waivers for larger shots. The results: plates rattle and picture frames fall off the wall, cracks appear in chimneys and foundations.

Jeff lives with the fear that some night the pillars supporting his house will shift, sending the house with him and his retired mother and father down the mountainside.

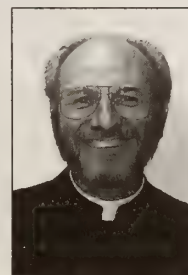
The United Nations defines poverty as a denial of a life in dignity. Because everyone has a right to live in dignity, poverty equates to an abuse of human rights. Bobby deserves healthcare and Jeff's family has a right to security.

Poverty has three dimensions.

With "income poverty," a person

Faith and the Marketplace

GLENMARY
FATHER JOHN
S. RAUSCH
GUEST COLUMNIST



cannot buy the essentials of life: food, clothing, shelter. On a second level, with "human development poverty" a person cannot access education, healthcare and the basic social services that allow a person to feel spiritually alive. Thirdly, with racism, sexism and other forms of "social exclusion," a person cannot participate fully in society.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the United Nations Dec. 10, 1948, implies that poverty is an abuse of human rights: "Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services ..." (Article 25).

The Catholic Church teaches that human rights arise from the dignity of being made in the image and likeness of God. Whether absolute or relative, poverty cannot be eradicated by mere charity, because it remains an abuse of human rights that calls for new structures of justice.

Glenmary Father Rausch's column "Faith & the Marketplace" is carried by 30 Catholic newspapers. He serves as peace and justice director for the mission diocese of Lexington, Ky.

St. Luke Church a young, thriving parish in Mint Hill

ST. LUKE CHURCH

13700 Lawyers Road
Charlotte, N.C. 28227
(704) 545-1224

Vicariate: Charlotte

Pastor: Father James Hawker

Number of Households: 1,100



Father James Hawker

MINT HILL — The Charlotte area's shopping centers are complete with an endless variety of stores, restaurants, movie theaters and ... Catholic churches? In one instance, that was the case for seven years in southeast Charlotte, when St. Luke Church found its beginnings in, of all places, the theater complex of the Matthews Township Festival shopping center.

In an effort to meet the ever-growing needs of Charlotte Catholics, diocesan officials created an 11th parish in Mecklenburg County. In September 1987, St. Luke Church was formed, thus easing crowding at nearby Catholic churches and accommodating more of the influx of Catholics to the Charlotte area from various parts of the country.

Some 50 people made up the congregation when Father Joseph Mulligan, pastor of the newly created parish, celebrated the first Mass in the shopping center movie theater on Oct. 18, 1987.

In December, the parish moved to



COURTESY PHOTO

St. Luke Church has managed to integrate into the Church family while retaining an identity all its own.

another shopping mall, Mint Hill Festival, in time to celebrate Christmas. Earlier that year, property along Lawyers Road — on which the present facility lies — was purchased for the future construction of a church.

A grassroots campaign to create a permanent parish home began in the summer of 1992. Called "Develop," the process included a series of town meetings and fundraisers. As Masses continued at the Mint Hill Festival, the parish busied itself with beginning construction of the new church on Lawyers Road.

Construction of the parish center was underway in October 1993. The resulting facility included an 8,600-square foot church, as well as space for

educational and social functions. Much attention was paid to landscaping. Water and flower gardens were added, and a country-style picnic pavilion was built for parish functions.

Father Mulligan celebrated the first Mass at the new St. Luke Church in October 1994, thereby beginning a new

phase in the history of the parish. From its rather unconventional shopping mall early stages, St. Luke Church was dedicated on the Feast of the Epiphany, Jan. 7, 1995, with then-Bishop William G. Curlin celebrating and Father Mulligan concelebrating.

The parish has made the sense of family and community a top priority in its young life. Parishioners keep active in many ministries and organizations, under which dozens of committees, groups and projects operate. St. Luke parishioners participate in a number of community-level undertakings as well, including several ecumenical activities.

Some of the parish's ministries include Room in the Inn; Refugee Mentoring Ministry, a pilot ministry in collaboration with Catholic Social Services Refugee Resettlement Office; Uptown Men's Homeless Shelter; Kairos Prison Ministry; Thomasboro School Outreach; RAIN; Habitat for Humanity and Jamaica Ministry.

After several years of steady growth, the parish constructed a Family Life Center in 1996. This center is used for worship services as well as a variety of educational and social activities.

Since 2001, when Father James Hawker assumed the pastorate, 400 families have been added to the parish registry.

So far, \$650,000 has been pledged toward eliminating the debt on the parish center. In the next six years, Father Hawker hopes ground will be broken for a permanent church.

Although it is one of the youngest parishes in Charlotte, St. Luke Church has wasted no time in practicing and expanding the ministry of the Catholic Church in western North Carolina. In fewer than 20 years, it has managed to integrate into the Church family while retaining an identity all its own.

Staff writer Karen A. Evans contributed to this story.

Fabulous Christmas Gifts!



Featuring Colored Diamonds Exclusively

Malak Jewelers

At the Arboretum (St. Matthew parishioners)

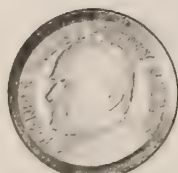
We extend to you the very finest in Jewelry and Service...

Largest Selection - Best Quality & Prices Guaranteed

Certified Loose Diamonds
Platinum, Gold, Fine Jewelry
Sterling Silver and Watches
Estate Jewelry - Buy & Sell

26 years of Integrity and Experience!

(704) 341-1188 www.malakjewelers.com
8042-800 Providence Rd., Charlotte



Now featuring special
sterling silver medallion
of Pope John Paul II -
complimentary with
purchases over \$50
(one per purchase)

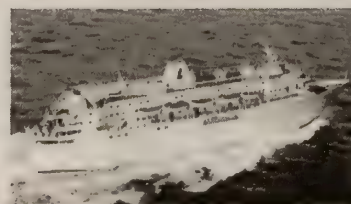
Give the unforgettable gift! Enrich your own spiritual life!

Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise —

"The Footsteps of Paul"

Greece and Turkey — May 11-21, 2006

Space is limited—register now!



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,849 for inside cabin (before 1/31/06) - includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

Istanbul — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace

Mykonos — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels

Patmos — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation

Kusadasi & Ephesus — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites

Rhodes — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith

Crete — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion

Santorini — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?



Celebrating a new Holy Family in Clemmons

*Bishop Jugis
dedicates new Holy
Family Church*

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CLEMMONS — Five years ago, then-Bishop William G. Curlin called Msgr. Michael Buttner at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Lenoir and asked him to be pastor of Holy Family Church.

The request came with one very long string: Msgr. Buttner was instructed to build a new church to accommodate the growing parish in Clemmons. He accepted both of Bishop Curlin's mandates and set to work.

"Bishop Curlin believed in me before I believed in myself," Msgr. Buttner said at the

See HOLY FAMILY, page 5



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Knights of Columbus line the aisle of Holy Family Church in Clemmons as Bishop Peter J. Jugis prepares to lead the recessional at the conclusion of the dedication Mass Nov. 27.

VATICAN II

Council's impact on religious education still felt in U.S

BY CAROL ZIMMERMAN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Editor's note: This is the next part in an ongoing series on Vatican II's legacy.

WASHINGTON — Religious education in parishes and Catholic schools is not what it used to be.

Students no longer recite the Baltimore Catechism as in decades past, nor do they focus on personal experiences and feelings as they had done in

See COUNCIL, page 7

Celebrating service

*Swiss Guard to mark 500th anniversary
with stamps, Masses, march*

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

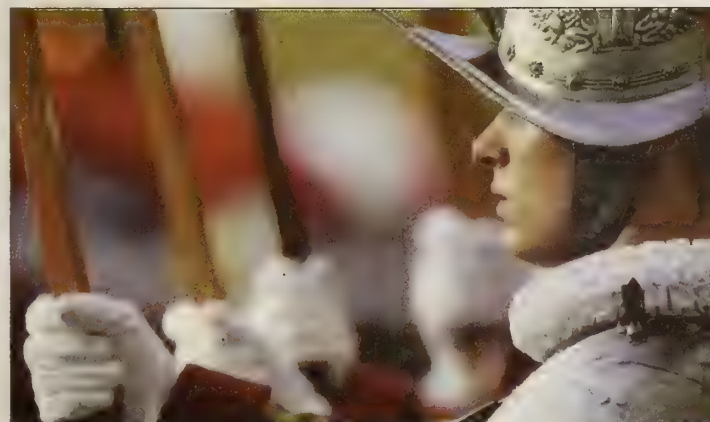
VATICAN CITY — One of the Vatican's most popular tourist attractions is about to celebrate its 500th anniversary with a special series of stamps, concerts, Masses and a 450-mile march.

The Swiss Guard officially

turns 500 Jan. 22, the anniversary of the arrival in Rome of 150 Swiss soldiers recruited to serve and protect Pope Julius II.

The Vatican's commemorative stamps, featuring artwork by former guard Rudolf Mirer, went on sale Nov. 22 at

See GUARD, page 9



CNS PHOTO BY NANCY WIECHEC

The legendary Swiss Guard has served as the protector of the pope since 1506. The corps is preparing to celebrate its 500th anniversary.

Ministering the faithful

BISHOPS APPROVE LAY
ECCLESIAL MINISTRY
GUIDELINES

BY JERRY FILTEAU
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Nov. 15 approved a major document giving guidelines on lay ecclesial ministry after some debate over use of the terms "minister" and "ministry" with regard to lay people serving the church.

The debate ended after Cardinal Avery Dulles, long one of the country's most noted Catholic theologians, rose to defend the usage in the text, saying the drafters "were very careful to see that the terminology is in accord with the documents of the Holy See and with a whole series of documents previously published by this conference."

The 82-page document, "Co-workers in the Vineyard of the Lord," needed approval

See LAITY, page 8

In the News

Vatican rules on gays
in seminary

| PAGE 6

Culture Watch

Anne Rice's 'Christ';
award for 'Pope'?

| PAGES 10-11

Perspectives

Godlike generosity; history
of infant baptism

| PAGES 14-15

#BXNPDVQ.....3-DIGIT 275
#420836#
NC COLLECTION
UNC
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001

\$239 P2

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

RUNNING ON FAITH



CNS PHOTO BY KATS BARRY

Running cross country is a family activity for the Peters family. All of the children run cross country for the team at St. Matthew School in the Diocese of Nashville, Tenn., which their parents coach.

Tennessee clan makes cross-country running a family affair

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (CNS) — Meet Team Peters: Mom, Mary; Dad, Mark; 12-year-old Michael; 11-year-old Daniel; 9-year-old Emily; 7-year-old twins, Will and Tom; and 6-year-old Clare.

The Peters are parishioners at St. Matthew Church in Franklin, and all of the children attend St. Matthew School. They all run cross country too.

The family takes having fun at running very seriously. The Peters children participate in the Nashville diocesan cross-country running program, representing St. Matthew Church, and Mary and Mark Peters are coaches of the parish team.

"I started running when I was in seventh grade, and have been running ever since," Mark Peters said. "When I started dating Mary, running seemed to be part of our life together."

After Mark and Mary Peters married and children started coming on the scene, they just sort of fell into step.

"When Michael and Daniel were just babies, we'd take the stroller to the track, and I ran laps while Mary walked them," said Mark Peters. "So they've just always seen me doing it, and over time they became interested in it too."

As more sons and daughters joined the Peters team, running just became an integral part of the family picture.

"It's never been a forced effort," Mary Peters said. "It's just a fun, healthy lifestyle activity. And it's a life sport; it's something they can take with them anywhere."

The Peters children are racking up the accolades. All six of them ran in five different races in this year's final competition Oct. 16. Michael won an individual trophy, coming in first in the seventh- and eighth-graders' race, and the St. Matthew boys' team finished first.

At some time during the 2005 cross-country season, five of the six have won at least one race, with the oldest, Michael, winning four times.

But winning isn't everything. For many of the young competitors on the St. Matthew team, their goal is simply to improve on their own previous records.

The Peters children have different reasons for participating. Daniel likes cross-country running because of the diverse terrains. Michael enjoys setting his own personal goals. Emily loves making new records, Tom thinks running is an exciting sport, and his twin brother, Will, likes getting the exercise but also enjoys running for his school.

For Dad, running also means a chance to delve deeper into his faith.

"I found that running was an opportunity to be away from the rat race of life, a time to collect my thoughts and think about the day and where life was headed," he said. "It was a very cleansing thing, to think deeper thoughts, even spiritual."

"It's hard not to think about God when it's a beautiful day, you're running through hills and different terrains where the trees are budding, and the smell is fresh and clean," he said.

Anniversary marks 60 years of little action to assist uninsured

WASHINGTON (CNS) — For the 45.8 million people in the United States without health insurance and for leaders in Catholic health care nationwide, Nov. 19 marked 60 years of failed efforts to achieve national health reform resulting in universal coverage.

On Nov. 19, 1945, President Harry S. Truman became the first U.S. president to call for such a plan, proposing that Social Security be expanded to include mandatory medical insurance.

"Millions of our citizens do not now have a full measure of opportunity to achieve and enjoy good health," he said. "The time has arrived for action to help them attain that opportunity and that protection."

For Sister Carol Keehan, a Daughter of Charity who is the new president and CEO of the Catholic Health Association, the anniversary offers "a dramatic reminder of how we continue to tolerate the intolerable," she said Nov. 15.

"How long can we tolerate millions

without insurance and millions of others who are underinsured or still can't get the care they need?" Sister Keehan said.

Sister Bernice Coreil, who has been working in health care for more than 50 years, said the key problem is the lack of a national will to achieve comprehensive health care coverage for all Americans.

"We said we would get people to the moon by a certain time, and we did it, but we do not have a health care policy that says by the year 2015, every American will have access to health care," said Sister Coreil, also a Daughter of Charity.

The Catholic health care ministry must be a leader in efforts to cover the uninsured, said Mercy Sister Marie Hartmann, a veteran health care administrator with the Sisters of Mercy in Cincinnati.

"We need to ... awaken our social conscience as we look to how to solve this tremendous problem, which has certainly been exposed as a disgrace to our nation," Sister Hartman said.

Diocesan planner

BOONE VICARIATE

NORTH WILKESBORO — A *Catholic Scripture Study* group meets at St. John Baptiste de La Salle Church, 275 CC Wright School Rd. Visit www.catholicscripturestudy.com for more information. Classes meet Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m. Please call Rob Hicks at (336) 957-7193 for more information or if you plan to attend.

SPRUCE PINE — A *Rosary of Intercession for Priests* is recited each Friday at St. Lucien Church, 695 Summit St., before the 9 a.m. Mass. Prayers are offered for bishops, priests and deacons, and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. For more information, call the church office at (828) 765-2224.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — Jesuit Father Thomas Gaunt, executive secretary, Jesuit Conference USA, will present "Religious Values in the Workplace: Revisiting the 'Workbench of Life' Twenty Years Later" at the next Just Second Fridays event, Dec. 9, 1-2 p.m., in the Atrium Room of the Annex Building of St. Peter Church, 507 S. Tryon St. Doors open at 12:30 p.m. and lunch is provided. Visit www.cssnc.org/justicepeace or call (704) 370-3225 for further information about this presentation.

CHARLOTTE — A *Blood Give-In* will take place in the Parish Center Gym of St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., Dec. 18, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Donors will be required to provide identification such as a driver license or Red Cross blood donor card. Appointments are encouraged and will be honored. Walk-ins are welcome, but will be taken as time permits. For more information, call Ed Nenninger at (704) 366-6637.

CHARLOTTE — The Hispanic Ministry and the choir "Alegria Hispana" from St. Gabriel Church will present *Las Posadas* Dec. 20 at 6:30 p.m. at the church, 3016 Providence Rd. This traditional Hispanic family festivity is a re-enactment of the Holy Family's search for lodging in Bethlehem. For more information, call the church office at (704) 364-5431.

CHARLOTTE — The *Young Adult Faith Reflection* group meets at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd., the first and third Mondays of each month. The group will read "The Faith Explained," 3rd edition, by Leo J. Trese and a chapter will be covered at every meeting. For more information, call Jordan at (704) 737-1964 or Ryan at (704) 377-1328.

CHARLOTTE — The *Vietnamese Cursillo* of Charlotte School of Leaders meets the second Sunday of each month at 2:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1400 Suther Rd. For more information, contact Nam Le at (704) 549-1525.

CHARLOTTE — The *Happy Timers* of St. Ann Church meet the first Wednesday of each month with a luncheon and program at 1 p.m. in the Msgr. Allen Center, 3635 Park Rd. All adults age 55 and older are welcome. For more information, call Charles Nesto at (704) 398-0879.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — The *Greensboro Council of Catholic Women* will host a Christmas Tea Dec. 7, 2:30-4:30 p.m., at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 2780 Horse Pen Creek Rd. For more information, please call Carmen Wood at (336) 545-9266.

GREENSBORO — The *Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians of Guilford County* will have a Christmas Tea Dec. 17 at 3 p.m. at the O. Henry Hotel, 624 Green Valley Rd. Please call Marilyn Conte for information at (336) 632-1340.

GREENSBORO — The *Coffee Talk for Adults Advent Series* will meet Dec. 4, 11 and 18, 10:30-

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-mail: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

DECEMBER 2, 2005
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 9

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Prepare for Advent, Christmas with 'spiritual fervor,' pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Wearing a heavy red cape to protect him from the cold, Pope Benedict XVI encouraged Christians to prepare for Advent, which begins Nov. 27, and for Christmas with "spiritual fervor."

"I ask you all to prepare for Advent with spiritual fervor, drawing from the word of God and the Eucharist interior energy for welcoming the Lord who comes," he said at his Nov. 23 general audience.

Because more than 25,000 people requested free tickets to the audience, the morning gathering was held in St. Peter's Square, where the temperature stayed below 45 degrees Fahrenheit and a cold breeze blew.

In his talk, the pope focused on the hymn of blessing found at the beginning of St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians.

The pope said the hymn picks up similar "blessings" found in the Jewish

tradition, but praises God as the "Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ."

The central figure is Christ, "in whom the work of God the Father is revealed and accomplished," the pope said.

By professing that Christians are chosen in Christ, filled with abundant grace and are made adopted sons and daughters of God through Christ, the hymn underlines the Christian vocation to brotherhood, unity and holiness, the pope said.

The hymn, he said, emphasizes the "excess, the giving without limit or reserve" of God's grace out of love and the fact that all creation was destined from the beginning of time to be united in Christ.

Pope Benedict ended his talk by saying, "Let us pray: 'Yes, Lord, draw us to yourself, draw the world to yourself and give us peace.'"

11:15 a.m., in the Youth Room of St. Pius X Church, 2210 North Elm St. For more information, call the church office at (336) 272-468.

GREENSBORO — The book club of St. Pius X Church, 2210 North Elm St., will read *"The Five People You Meet in Heaven"* by Mitch Albom. Discussion dates are Jan. 8 at 12:45 p.m. with a buffet lunch and Jan. 9 at 7 p.m. with a dessert bar. For more information, call the church office at (336) 272-468.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

CONCORD — The *National Night of Prayer* will take place Dec. 8, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., at St. James the Great Church, 139 Manor Ave., S.W., in unity of prayer with thousands across the country highlighting eucharistic adoration and silent prayer followed by recitation of the rosary and prayerful song and music. For more information contact Lisa Metz, St. James Respect Life Ministry, at (704) 785-9566 or e-mail sjmetz7@msn.com.

MOORESVILLE — A *Support Group for Parents Who Have Lost a Child of any age* meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at St. Therese Church, 217 Brawley School Rd. We draw strength from others' experience of loss and grief. For more information, call Joy at (704) 664-3992.

MOORESVILLE — Seniors ages 55 and up are invited to St. Therese Church, 217 Brawley School Rd., the second Saturday of each month following the 5:30 p.m. Mass for *Senior Games Night*, featuring games and a potluck dinner. Call Barbara Daigler at (704) 662-9752 for details.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

SYLVA — Knights of Columbus #9722 will sponsor an *American Red Cross Blood Drive* at St. Mary Church, 22 Bartlett St., Dec. 16, 1-5 p.m. For more information, call Allen or Anne Thurston at (828) 586-0432 or (828) 507-0594.

WAYNESVILLE — The *Catholic Women's Circle* of St. John the Evangelist Church, 234 Church St.,

meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the church hall. For more information, call the church office at (828) 456-6707.

FRANKLIN — The *Women's Guild* of St. Francis of Assisi Church, 299 Maple St., meets the second Monday of each month at 1 p.m. in the Family Life Center. The meetings feature guest speakers and special events periodically. For more information, call Claire Barnable at (828) 369-1565.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

CLEMMONS — The *Knitting Ministry* of Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd., meets Monday evenings, 6:30-8 p.m., to pray, learn to knit, reflect on life's lessons and reach out to others in our community. Opportunities exist for the beginner to the experienced as we knit and purr Prayer Shawls, Preemie Blankets or Squares for Survivors. Please contact Rosemary at (336) 766-2315 or Carmel (336) 766-0650 for more information.

WINSTON-SALEM — *Spend Advent with Mary*. Join us for four weeks with Mary as guide, model and companion during the Advent season. The retreat meets at Portiuncula Franciscan Spiritual Center, 211 W. Third St., Dec. 7, 14 and 21, 7-8:30 p.m. For additional information, call Sister Kathy Ganiel at (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

U.S. nun says Catholics should extend pro-life concerns to poor, war

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pro-life concerns must include protecting the vulnerable and opposing unjust wars, said a U.S. nun who participated in a Vatican-hosted international congress.

"If we want to be serious about creating a culture of life, we need to now think beyond things like abortion and euthanasia," said Holy Family Sister Carol Taylor, who directs the Center for Clinical Bioethics at Georgetown University.

The Pontifical Academy for Life and the John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and the Family sponsored the Nov. 17-19 congress, which reviewed how ethical norms of Catholic teaching could better permeate modern science. It marked the 10-year anniversary of the publication of Pope John Paul II's encyclical *"Evangelium Vitae"* (*"The Gospel of Life"*).

In her Nov. 19 speech to the conference, Sister Taylor cited Hurricane Katrina and the war in Iraq as two events

that underline a need for Catholics to be consistent in their commitment to protect human dignity and life.

Katrina helped expose the immense poverty still plaguing America 40 years after President Lyndon B. Johnson declared a "war on poverty," she said.

"It was the elderly ... who died of gross neglect, and so aren't their deaths as important as the deaths caused by abortion or euthanasia?" she asked.

"No needless death is more tragic than another if every life is inviolable," she said in her speech. If Catholics are to be true to the legacy left by *"The Gospel of Life,"* Catholics must "respect, protect, love and serve every human life."

Carl Anderson, supreme knight of the Knights of Columbus and a professor of family law at the John Paul II Institute in Washington, said a public culture that helps women and their children is lacking, and Catholics are uniquely suited to fill that vacuum.

First (grade) Thanksgiving



COURTESY PHOTO

First-graders at Our Lady of Grace School in Greensboro re-enact the first Thanksgiving during a play presented to fifth-graders Nov. 18 and to parents Nov. 21. The play showed how the Native Americans, especially one named Squanto, helped the pilgrims settle in their new land. Pictured are "Native Americans" holding a powwow to determine whether or not they should be like Squanto and help the pilgrims.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Dec. 4 — 2:30 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. Gabriel Church, Charlotte

Dec. 7 — 3 p.m.
Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice honors
Diocesan Pastoral Center, Charlotte

Dec. 8 — 10 a.m.
Mass at Maryfield Retirement Community
Groundbreaking for Pennybyrn at Maryfield
High Point

ATTENTION READERS! HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?

Have you experienced a Christmas miracle, or have you had a special Christmas experience? If so, would you be willing to share it with the readers of *The Catholic News & Herald*?

Please contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans at (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Dispensing help and hope

Hurricane relief funds being dispersed along Gulf Coast, in Diocese of Charlotte

BY DAVID HAINS
SPECIAL TO
THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

CHARLOTTE — Due to the generosity of the people in the pews, the Diocese of Charlotte is distributing more than \$700,000 for victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Voluntary collections were conducted at nearly all of the 92 parishes and missions in the diocese in the aftermath of the hurricane that devastated the Gulf Coast in August.

Unlike the January and February collections for the victims of the tsunami that struck Southeast Asia in December 2004, in which the money was forwarded to a single agency, these funds are being distributed by the diocese to agencies in the hurricane-stricken area as well as to agencies in North Carolina.

"The people of the Diocese of Charlotte have once again demonstrated their love and concern for the victims of a disaster," said Bishop Peter J. Jugis.

Tsunami collections totaled \$422,000 and were sent to the Baltimore-based Catholic Relief Services, the U.S. bishops' overseas aid agency.

From the hurricane collections, seven dioceses in Louisiana, two in Alabama and two in Mississippi are receiving a total of \$520,000. The money will be spent on

needs as identified by local authorities.

Ten service agencies within the Diocese of Charlotte responded to refugee needs in a variety of ways, including housing, food and health care. Those agencies, which are receiving \$180,000, are in Charlotte, Mooresville and Winston-Salem.

Catholic Campus Ministry at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte is receiving \$10,000.

"The students wanted to do something hands on to help a family. One week after we started talking about it, we had a house and a family of four living in it," said Grey Nun of the Sacred Heart Sister Eileen Spanier, campus minister.

"This (\$10,000) grant will allow us to continue to meet the needs of Katrina evacuees," she said.

In addition to the \$700,000 that was collected, the Diocese of Charlotte enrolled 47 students from hurricane-stricken areas in diocesan Catholic schools at no cost to the students' families. The individual schools absorbed the costs associated and are not receiving funds from the collection.

Parent Teacher Organizations at the schools helped evacuee families with textbooks, uniforms and supplies.

Linda Cherry, superintendent of diocesan Catholic schools, said some of the students have returned to the Gulf Coast.

"My office and the individual schools have received several letters of thanks from the families who were helped," said Cherry.

Cherry said the schools participated in a separate collection with the National Catholic Education Association. The

"Child to Child" funds were distributed to faith formation programs in the devastated areas.

David Hains is director of communications for the Diocese of Charlotte. Contact him at dwhains@charlottediocese.org.

DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE'S DISTRIBUTION OF HURRICANE KATRINA FUNDS

PROVINCE OF MOBILE

Mobile \$40,000
Birmingham \$40,000
Biloxi \$60,000
Jackson \$60,000

PROVINCE OF NEW ORLEANS

New Orleans \$80,000
Alexandria \$40,000
Baton Rouge \$40,000
Houma-Thibodaux \$40,000
Lafayette \$40,000
Lake Charles \$40,000
Shreveport \$40,000

DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

Catholic Social Services, Charlotte \$25,000

Butterfly Bin, Charlotte \$25,000
Charlotte Community Health \$25,000
Salvation Army, Charlotte \$25,000
Salvation Army, Winston-Salem \$15,000
Helping Empower Local People, Charlotte \$10,000
Mooresville Christian Mission, \$5,000
Second Harvest Food Bank, Charlotte \$15,000
Catholic Campus Ministry, UNC-Charlotte \$10,000

OTHER

Federation of Southern Cooperatives \$25,000

TOTAL AMOUNT \$700,000


ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO THE HARVEST?

Then he said to His disciples, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers for His harvest." (Mt 9:37)

I am praying that you will join me in responding to our Lord's request for more "laborers" in harvesting the abundant fruit to be found at Belmont Abbey College. Over 125 years ago the Benedictine Monks came south in response to God's call to begin His work in the vineyard of North Carolina.

He is calling you to place your hands upon the same bricks that were formed and put in place by these holy monks so long ago. I am looking for strong, dedicated, Catholic students to help realize our vision of excellence and virtue. Belmont Abbey is your Catholic College and God is calling you to the "harvest."

Dr. William K. Thierfelder
President


BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE
THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED



☐ I WANT TO HELP BUILD OUR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY. PLEASE SEND ME A STUDENT REFERRAL PACKAGE.

If you would like to help Belmont Abbey College by referring or becoming a new student, please fill out this form and send it to us or go online to BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu and click on Referral Package in the Quick Links. We will send you our complete referral/information package with detailed information about the Abbey and all it has to offer!

Your Name _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____
Email _____
Phone _____ No. of Packages Requested _____

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
100 BELMONT-MT. HOLLY ROAD
BELMONT, NC 28012-1802
BELMONTABBEYCOLLEGE.EDU



Clemmons parish one happy Holy Family

HOLY FAMILY, from page 1

conclusion of the Mass to dedicate the new Holy Family Church Nov. 27.

The dedication Mass was celebrated by Bishop Peter J. Jugis, with Bishop Emeritus Curlin presiding. Msgr. Buttner, pastor, and Father Brian Cook, parochial vicar, concelebrated.

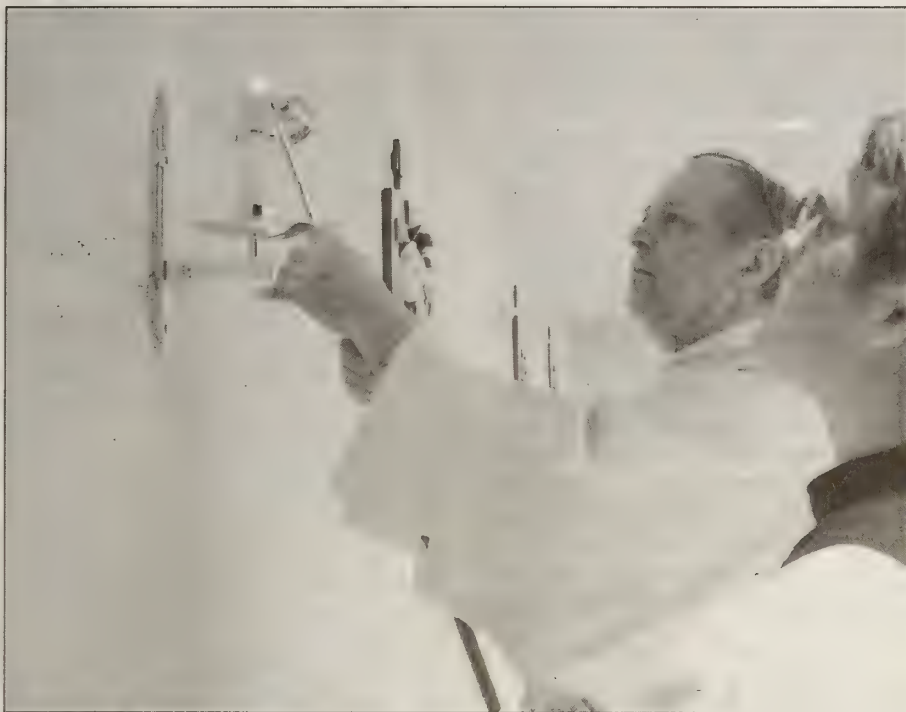
Several priests and permanent deacons of the Diocese of Charlotte were also in attendance, along with approximately 1,000 parishioners, guests and local officials and clergy.

In fewer than 30 years, Holy Family Church has grown to become the largest church in Clemmons and among the largest in Forsyth County. With an increased seating capacity from 575 to 1,250 worshippers, the new church can now accommodate its 1,600 registered families for its six weekend Masses.

More than 1,000 parishioners participated in the capital campaign to finance construction of the \$3.6 million church. The campaign began in September 2002 and ground was broken for the new church June 5, 2004.

The new church includes Stations of the Cross imported from Italy, a skylight over the baptismal font, marble altar, ambo and altar of repose, altar flooring of Brazilian cherry wood, statues of Jesus, Mary and Joseph and crucifix imported from Spain.

The new bell tower carillon is programmed with more than 100 hymns for daily Mass, Sunday Mass and special occasions such as Christmas, Easter, weddings and funerals.



PHOTOS BY KAREN A. EVANS

Deacon Gerard Schumacher lights a candle along the back wall of Holy Family Church in Clemmons during the dedication Mass for the new church Nov. 27.

The new church includes an enlarged choir area, a nursery, family room, handicapped access to the church and a state-of-the-art audio system.

Bishop Curlin provided the altar carpet as a gift for the new church.

The old church will be used as a faith formation center, to be named the Bishop Curlin Faith Formation Center.

"When we stand in awe of what God is doing at Holy Family Catholic Church, we can only be humbled by the many blessings he has bestowed on us," said Msgr. Buttner. "We are hungry to share

what God is doing in us and through us in the community, in our church and in our homes and to spread the love of Jesus throughout our area, so that others may experience a glorious life centered on our most holy Lord and God."

Holy Family Church was founded in 1976 as a mission of St. Leo the Great Church in Winston-Salem. The first Mass was celebrated July 15, 1978 in Clemmons Presbyterian Church by Msgr. Richard Allen, then-pastor of St. Leo the Great Church.

While Clemmons Presbyterian Church had generously offered their hospitality, after two weekends of Masses, their Catholic guests were overflowing the facility.

For the next five years, the Saturday evening Mass and religious education classes were held at Clemmons Moravian Church and Sunday Masses were celebrated at the Clemmons Vogler



A life-size sculpture of the Holy Family, depicting Jesus as a 12-year-old boy, stands at the front of Holy Family Church. In the background is the new bell tower carillon, which is programmed with more than 100 hymns.

Funeral Home Chapel.

Paulist Father Robert Scott was installed as the first pastor of Holy Family Church Aug. 15, 1980 with St. Francis of Assisi Church in Mocksville named as a mission. At that time, 200 families comprised the church's registry.

Construction on the original church was begun in February 1982, and the first Mass was celebrated in December 1984. By the mid-1980s, 550 families were registered at Holy Family Church, indicating the steady growth that would follow for the next 20 years.

"Our spiritual growth is infectious and has necessitated our expanded church. We have been blessed abundantly beyond our expectations," Msgr. Buttner said.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

Give the unforgettable gift! Enrich your own spiritual life!

Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise —

"The Footsteps of Paul"

Greece and Turkey — May 11-21, 2006

Space is limited—register now!



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,849 for inside cabin (before 1/31/06) - includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

Istanbul — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace

Mykonos — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels

Patmos — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation

Kusadasi & Ephesus — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites

Rhodes — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith

Crete — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion

Santorini — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?



**Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center**

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

WANT MORE HISTORY?

For more on the history of Holy Family Church, read the parish profile on page 16.

AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles
Licensed & Insured
FREE ESTIMATES
www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185

IN THE NEWS

Vatican says no ordaining homosexuals, men who support 'gay culture'

BY CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — A long-awaited Vatican document said the church cannot allow priestly ordination of men who are active homosexuals, who have "deep-seated" homosexual tendencies or who support the "gay culture."

Such people have serious problems relating properly to men and women and present a risk of "negative consequences" that should not be underestimated, the document said.

Prepared by the Congregation for Catholic Education, "Instruction Concerning the Criteria for the Discernment of Vocations With Regard to Persons With Homosexual Tendencies in View of Their Admission to the Seminary and to Sacred Orders," was officially released by the Vatican Nov. 29.

In recent weeks, some reports have suggested that the document would allow homosexual men to be ordained, as long as they had remained celibate for at least three years during seminary formation.

But the document does not say that; there is no discussion of "celibacy" of homosexual candidates. What it does say is that fleeting homosexual tendencies experienced in youth should not represent a bar to ordination — as long as those tendencies are clearly overcome.

The wording of the text presumes that homosexuality is not a permanent identity but a set of "tendencies" or an inclination that can, in fact, be overcome.

But the instruction makes no attempt to define the difference between "deep-seated" or "transitory" tendencies. Nor does it say what criteria would be used to determine whether a candidate had overcome such tendencies.

In explaining why homosexuals should not be ordained, the instruction refers to the

teaching of the "Catechism of the Catholic Church," which describes homosexual acts as sinful and the homosexual inclination as "objectively disordered."

It follows, it said, that homosexuality is a bar to a priest's "affective maturity" and seriously impairs his ability to minister pastorally to the Catholic community.

Bishop William S. Skylstad of Spokane, Wash., president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said "it is certainly not acceptable if a candidate practices homosexuality or ... identifies himself principally by a homosexual inclination or orientation."

The aim of seminary education is to develop priesthood candidates who "display an 'affective maturity' which enables them to relate properly to others as chaste, celibate priests who can faithfully represent the teaching of the church about sexuality," he said.

"The priesthood is conferred on men who have given proof that they have been called by God to the gift of chastity in absolute and perpetual celibacy," said Bishop Peter J. Jugis of Charlotte, commenting on the document.

Although described by some media reports as Pope Benedict XVI's answer to clerical sex abuse, the decision to write the instruction predates the eruption of the sex abuse scandal and the pope's election.

Sources said the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith — then headed by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, the current pope — suggested in 1996 that the education congregation prepare such a document. A first draft was completed in 1998, a second draft in 2002 and the final version this year.


Editor Kevin E. Murray contributed to this story.

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels. 

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065



Sleep like a baby again.

At Pennybyrn, peace of mind will be yours.

Having a plan for the future feels good. So does a retirement lifestyle that lets you stay in control. Coming soon to the Triad, Pennybyrn at Maryfield will give you this peace of mind, freeing you to enjoy everything more. Even if you happen to be doing nothing at the time.

Call (336) 886-4103 or toll-free (866) 627-9343.

Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor Servants of The Mother of God

PENNYBYRN
at MARYFIELD
A Continuing Care Retirement Community



FROM THE COVER

Vatican II Council's impact on religious education still felt in U.S

COUNCIL, from page 1

more recent decades.

Instead, according to those in the field, religious education strives for a balance in handing down content and relating it to personal faith experiences.

Msgr. Dan Kutys, deputy secretary for catechesis for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said trends in religious education over the past several decades have been like a swinging pendulum.

Prior to the Second Vatican Council, he noted, religious education primarily focused on content. In the '70s and '80s, the focus was more on how the content was taught, he told Catholic News Service Oct. 5.

The pendulum, the priest said, came back to the center with the 1992 publication of the "Catechism of the Catholic Church," which he said helped "reclaim universal truths" of the Catholic faith.

The catechism and corresponding texts that have followed it, such as the Vatican's General Directory for Catechesis, the U.S. bishops' National Directory for Catechesis and the Vatican's "Compendium of the 'Catechism of the Catholic Church,'" currently available only in Italian, provide guidelines for religious educators on what aspects of the

faith should be taught.

Religious educators today also implement modern teaching methods focusing on different learning abilities and the importance of linking doctrinal studies with personal faith experiences.

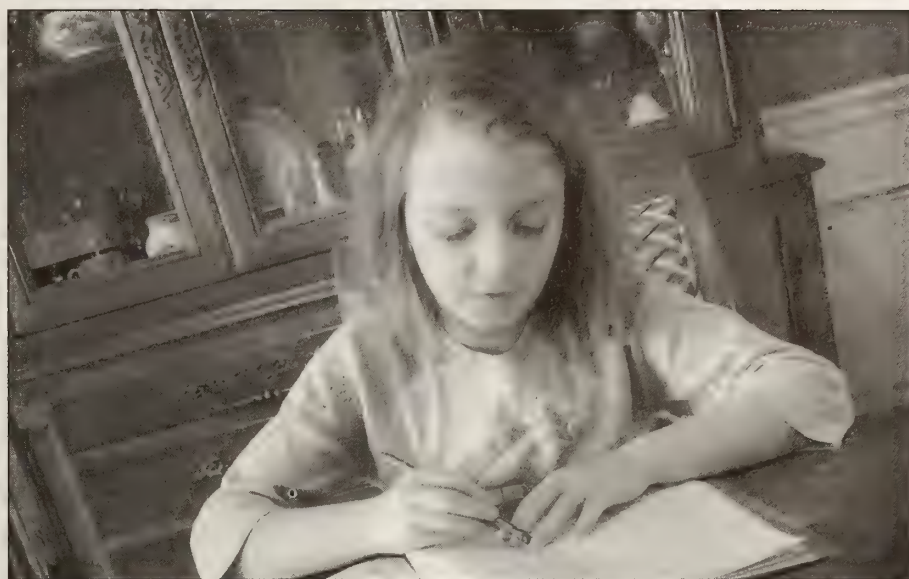
Then and now

Jerry Baumbach, director of the Center for Catechetical Initiatives at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana, said he thinks the dissonance is waning "between the content and methodology concerns of the past" referring to the disconnect some have perceived with handing down authentic teachings and focusing on how that is done effectively.

Instead, he told CNS Oct. 19, "authentic catechesis is a rich sharing of content and methodology working together."

Baumbach, who was a parish catechetical leader in the '70s in the Diocese of Albany, N.Y., just as the church was implementing Vatican II changes, said "a lot of good emerged from the council," and noted that it was an exciting time to be working in church ministry.

One immediate change for religious education was the newly emerging role of lay people in a ministry once primarily reserved for priests and women religious to carry out. Another change was the development and availability of tools, texts and background materials to use in teaching the faith.



CNS PHOTO BY MIKE CRUPI, CATHOLIC COURIER

Bridget Fichtner, a member of St. John of Rochester Parish in Fairport, N.Y., prepares for her first Communion at her Perinton, N.Y., home in late March. In religious education classes, students no longer recite the Baltimore Catechism as in past decades, nor do they focus on personal experiences and feeling as they had done in more recent decades.

Along with this new set of lay teachers and materials came necessary teacher formation and a means for determining if the newly published religious texts were in line with church teaching.

Marie Scanlon, coordinator of assessment for catechesis for the USCCB, recalled leading a catechist formation program in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia in the '70s that was not met enthusiastically by all participants, primarily because it was a change in the usual way things had been done.

Today, she is involved in the review process of catechetical texts. Once these are approved by a bishops' committee, the texts are deemed to be in conformity with the "Catechism of the Catholic Church."

Teaching the faith

Scanlon told CNS that just as Pope John XXIII said he wanted to open the windows of the church to let in some "fresh air" with Vatican II, "a whole new window opened for religious education" after the council.

The council specifically dealt with education in one of its 16 documents, the Declaration on Christian Education

("Gravissimum Educationis"). This document affirmed the right of parents to choose the type of education they wanted for their children, upheld the importance of Catholic schools and defended freedom of inquiry in Catholic colleges and universities.

But Scanlon pointed out that all of the council's documents "have messages for educators" and her own copy of the documents, collected in a paperback version, is well-worn.

"The documents refocused our efforts," she said. "They spoke to educators about what we were to do."

She noted that educators are constantly evaluating their approach and thus in recent years Catholic leaders are taking a close look at what has been gained and lost in current religious education.

As a result, there has been a renewed interest among educators to have students memorize basic prayers or even learn them in Latin.

"The pendulum is not static," said Scanlon, referring to the shifts in focus in religious education. "We are constantly searching for better ways to teach the faith."

Please Give Generously

Retirement Fund for Religious

Since 1988, you have donated more than \$460 million to help alleviate unfunded retirement liability at Catholic religious institutes. Regrettably, the costs for assisted living and skilled nursing care for elderly religious exceed this amount *each year*. Please remember our faithful women and men who have dedicated their lives to prayer and service.



- Today, almost 39,000 sisters, brothers, and order priests are past age 70.
- In 2004, the Fund awarded grants to 528 religious institutes, including 91 monasteries where prayer is the primary ministry.
- Less than five percent of donations are used for administration, education, and promotion.

Give at your local Catholic parish.

Make your check payable to:
Retirement Fund for Religious.

Or, donate by mail:

National Religious Retirement Office
Attn: RFR
3211 Fourth Street NE
Washington DC 20017

View our annual report online: www.usccb.org/nrrro

BINGO

it's here!!!

St. Matthew K of C
BINGO at the new
South Charlotte Banquet Center
every Monday evening

Doors open: 6 pm
BINGO starts: 7 pm sharp!

Food and refreshments available
NON-SMOKING FACILITY
CASH ONLY - ATM AVAILABLE

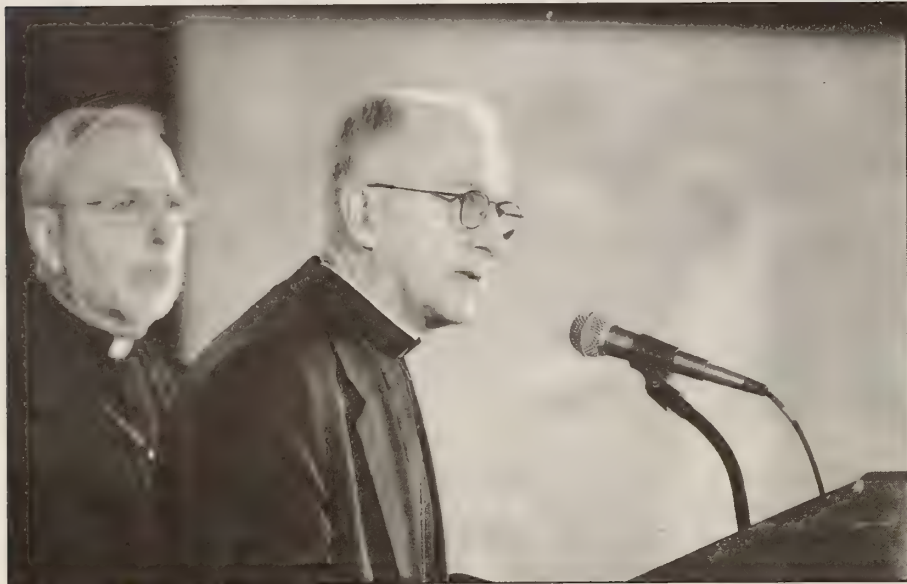


9009 Bryant Farms Rd.

Directions: from 485- exit Rea Road (south). Right on Ballantyne. Past St. Matthew, turn left on Elm Lane (which turns into Bryant Farms Road). K of C Banquet Center is approximately 2 miles on the left.

IN THE NEWS

Bishops approve lay ecclesial ministry guidelines



CNS PHOTO BY PAUL HARRING

Bishop Dale J. Melczek of Gary, Ind., right, is joined by Bishop Gerald F. Kicanas of Tucson, Ariz., in answering questions about proposed guidelines for lay ecclesial ministry at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops meeting in Washington Nov. 14.

LAITY, from page 1

by two-thirds of the entire membership of the conference. It passed by a vote of 190-49 with five abstentions.

Bishop Dale J. Melczek of Gary, Ind., chairman of the bishops' Committee on the Laity, and Bishop Gerald F. Kicanas of Tucson, Ariz., chairman of the Subcommittee on Lay Ministry, presented the document to the bishops.

Bishop Melczek described it as a "resource for guiding the development of lay ecclesial ministry," a rapidly growing phenomenon in Catholic parishes in the U.S.

Bishop Kicanas stressed that "this document is not particular law. It does

not lay down norms or prescriptions."

Rather, he said, it seeks to give bishops guidance in overseeing the "faithful development" of the growing practice of employing lay ecclesial ministers in parishes and other church institutions.

Redefining the ministry

The document says lay ecclesial ministry does not describe a new rank or vocation in the church; rather, it is a generic term for a variety of positions held by nonordained people who engage in substantial public leadership positions in church ministry, collaborating with the ordained leadership under their authority.

It sets out guidelines for the appropriate human, spiritual, intellectual and pastoral formation of those who are en-

trusted with such ministries. It also addresses the role of church authorities in certifying, authorizing and appointing lay ecclesial ministers.

It spells out the theology of lay ministry and the differences between ministry arising out of ordination and ministry arising out of the sacraments of initiation.

According to the latest national study, there are about 1.6 paid lay ecclesial ministers per parish and they now outnumber priests engaged in parish ministry.

According to the study more than 40 percent of lay ecclesial ministers in U.S. Catholic parishes are directors of religious education. About one-fourth are general pastoral associates, assisting the pastor in a wide variety of pastoral tasks.

The National Association for Lay Ministry welcomed the document, saying it "takes an important step forward in recognizing and supporting the significant role these lay ecclesial ministers play in the Catholic Church. It publicly affirms their leadership, invites appropriate authorization for their ministry and clarifies their accountability within ecclesial structures."

Ministry and service

Several bishops have questioned the use of the term "lay ecclesial minister," suggesting a danger that Catholics may not understand clearly the difference between lay ministry and the ministry proper only to those who are ordained.

Bishop Robert J. Baker of Charleston, S.C., argued that the church would be better served if the term "ministry" were restricted to those who are ordained. He asked that "roles of service" replace "ministry" in the phrase "lay ecclesial ministry" throughout the document.

Bishop Melczek said describing certain lay activities in the church as ministries is grounded in official church documents.

Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio of Brooklyn, N.Y., asked that the document be remanded to the committee with a request that it be reviewed by the Committee on Doctrine before coming to the bishops for a vote. He said he did not have a problem with the word "ministry," but with using "minister" to describe some lay people.

Bishop Blase J. Cupich of Rapid City, S.D., said the document's use of minister and ministry followed the clear practice of the church and official church documents.

The bishops rejected a proposal by Bishop Allen H. Vigneron of Oakland, Calif., that the document be submitted to the Holy See and not be published until any changes suggested by the Vatican are incorporated.

The committee rejected the suggestion as unnecessary, saying there was nothing in the document in the way of new teaching or legislation, norms or prescriptions that would require Vatican review or approval.

Join us in the March For Life Washington, D.C.

January 22-23, 2006



"Roe vs. Wade Violates the American Way"

"The state or a person can never justify the intentional killing of an innocent born or preborn human in existence at fertilization.

No Exception ! No Compromise !"

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday, January 22 - 8 PM — Mass at Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Principal celebrant, Cardinal Keeler.

Monday, January 23 - 10 AM — Youth Mass, MCI Center. Principal celebrant, Cardinal McCarrick.

Monday, January 23 - 10:30 AM — Mass for North Carolina pilgrims, Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Principal celebrant, Bishop Jugis.

Rally begins promptly at Noon, on Monday, January 23.

If your parish or school has a group attending the March for Life, please call the Diocesan Respect Life Office at 704-370-3229.

Rachel's Vineyard Weekend Retreat for Post-Abortion Healing

January 6-8

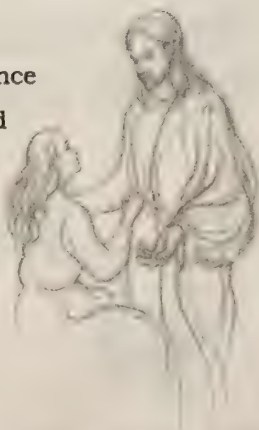
**St. Francis Springs Prayer Center
Stoneville, NC (north of Greensboro)**

sponsored by the Charlotte Diocese Respect Life Office, Catholic Social Services

*Turn your pain into hope, learn to forgive yourself,
and find the unconditional love of Christ.*

Open to both men and women, Catholic or non-Catholic, this retreat will give you a chance to be nurtured and supported by experienced retreat leaders. You will not be rushed or

hurried but allowed
time to reflect and be
open to the gradual
healing process.



For information and/or registration, **please call 704-370-3229.**

Swiss Guard to mark 500th anniversary

GUARD, from page 1

the Vatican and in Switzerland, marking the first Vatican-Swiss stamp package.

Also in anticipation of the anniversary, a history of the Guard written by Sgt. Christian-Roland Marcel Richard was released Nov. 9.

Col. Elmar Mader, commander of the Guard, said Richard's work marked the first time that an active guard published a book describing life in the corps.

Precise as the watches of his homeland, Richard said it took him 2,962 hours to write the book when he was not guarding the entrances to the Vatican, protecting the pope, working crowd control, continuing his training or performing ceremonial duties at Masses and visits from heads of state.

In addition to the history of the Swiss Guard, the book includes a chapter on the rules governing the recruitment, training and discipline of the corps.

The current Guard has 110 male Swiss citizens, all of whom are Catholic. They must have an impeccable reputation, be under age 30, unmarried when they begin their service and have served in the Swiss Army.

Marching strong

Unveiling plans for the anniversary celebration during a Nov. 22 press conference,

Mader — flanked by two guards in their traditional tri-colored uniforms — said Pope Julius chose the Swiss mercenaries because of the Swiss "passion for war and, especially, for their respect for the church."

"The pontiff wanted to be able to count on a well-prepared corps of guards which would safeguard him at critical moments and which could become the permanent nucleus of a larger army to be formed in case of necessity," Mader said.

Between April 7 and May 4, more than 100 former guards will march from Switzerland to Rome, following the route taken by their predecessors in 1506.

The march was timed to allow the former guards to participate in the key moment of the anniversary celebration — a memorial Mass and swearing in of new members on the May 6 anniversary of the fall of 147 guards, killed in action in 1527 while protecting Pope Clement VII during the sack of Rome.

Those in uniform

Mader was asked if any thought had been given to changing the uniform of the guards, particularly after Richard's book definitively laid to rest the legend that Michelangelo designed the costume.

"It is not up to me to change the uniform of the Swiss Guard, which dates from the Renaissance and which the whole world recognizes," he said.



CNS PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SWISS GUARD

Col. Elmar Mader, commander of the Swiss Guard, stands in his dress uniform on the hill above St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican. Mader said a new book detailing the history of the Guard marked the first time an active guard published a book describing life in the corps.

The commander also was asked — and not for the first time — whether the Guard ever would include women.

"I cannot imagine that we ever would have women in service," he said. "We live in a very small barracks, and there would not be room for women."

"The men are young," he said, "and I would not want to recruit problems" for discipline.

"Obviously, women are capable of providing security services. That is not the

point. It is a matter of discipline," he said.

Mader said his men have a variety of reasons for seeking a place in the corps.

"It is a mix of motivations, although you will find in all of them a certain religious sensitivity" and a desire to serve the church, he said.

While there is a sense of prestige and honor in being a guard, Mader said, "it is not like it was 30 years ago, when a guard would return home and be seen as one of the pope's men."

*Enjoy God's peace
and beauty in the
foothills!*

*Share the blessings
of this opportunity*

- Four riverfront homesites offered for sale, all with gated access and private drive
- In the Appalachian foothills, 1 hour west of Charlotte and 40 minutes from Asheville
- Designed by nature, home to abundant wildlife with majestic riverwalk
- Very large lots, 6 to 12 acres each all with access to community barn
- Frontage on Second Broad River, with beautiful forest land and nature trails all accessible by foot and/or horseback
- Deeded access to 40 acres of pasture and more than ½ mile of riverfront
- Our Lady of the River grotto and Stations of the Cross



A unique opportunity, this property of 110 acres will be used as a retreat ranch for children suffering from cancer, and their families. Held by the Padre Pio Land Trust, it is being developed by Michael and Robin Hunter, Parishioners of Immaculate Conception in Rutherfordton and trustees of Janua Coeli Cancer Foundation. If you are interested in an ideal spot for your vacation home, or have any questions regarding this property, please contact Mike or Robin at (828) 429-8544, (828) 286-1998, or online at www.januacoelicanerfoundation.com

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

A different journey

Author sees 'Christ the Lord' series as her 'life's work'

BY MARK PATTISON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE



Anne Rice

WASHINGTON — Even before "Christ the Lord: Out of Egypt" had made its appearance on *The New York Times'* hardcover fiction best-seller list, its author, Anne Rice, had come a long way toward completing a follow-up novel.

She envisions four books in all, telling the story of Jesus all the way through to his ascension into heaven.

"It's becoming my life's work," said Rice, 64, best known for her "Vampire Chronicle" novels.

"This is the consuming passion," Rice said in a telephone interview Nov. 21 with Catholic News Service.

While promoting "Christ the Lord," Rice, who was born Catholic, has talked freely about her decades spent as an atheist, and her return to Catholicism in 1998.

She said that she sees her atheism as "part of the journey" she had to take to get to the faith she embraces today.

"My earlier books, they were all part of the search for God, part of the conversation between God and the devil, finding the meaning of good and evil in the world," Rice said.

Those novels' characters, she added, were "a reflection of who I was for years: seeking, searching down dark, dark corridors."

Rice finds her atheism was nuanced.

"I never met any atheist who thought we were just here to have a good time," she recalled. "I think most of us felt we were facing reality. We thought of religious people as deluded, people who needed mythology to get through life. We had to be the ones to make things better."

"I had a few more spiritual questions than many of them had," Rice said. "I was never totally convinced. I was afraid there would be no God, but (did) not (believe) 'there was no God.'"

Her turnaround began while reading "the story of the Jews in history, thinking there was no explanation for the survival of these people," Rice said. The process continued with what she called "more reading, studying, pondering."

Rice said, "I felt I was running and (God) saw me, saying, 'I'm coming after you. It's not going to be enough. You're

not going to find any peace without me.' By the end of 1998, I felt I was obsessed."

One example Rice gave that, regardless of where she was, when she turned on the television, "it would be on EWTN and there would be a priest saying Mass. It was uncanny. Here I am, this atheist, and I'd sit back in my easy chair watching the priest delivering his homily for an hour."

Rice rejects the notion that "Christ the Lord" is a refutation or recanting of her earlier books.

"I think of it more as finding what I had to do, finding my realization that that's what I was being prepared for all these years, part of a search," she said.

She does not read much other fiction, apart from the Brontes and Dickens.

However, "I'm certainly reading (C.S.) Lewis with new eyes," Rice said. "I'm very much committed to the idea of lay witness. We who believe in Christ have to witness in our own way. We have to tell the Christian story over and over again."

"I'm intrigued by how (Lewis) became such a powerful and influential witness. I'm moved by his power and his simplicity and his simple eloquence," she said.

Rice said her first brush with Lewis was in the 1950s as a child.

"My mother was reading 'The Screwtape Letters' and was knocked out by it," said Rice.

Much more recently, she added, "I read 'Mere Christianity' by C.S. Lewis and I was completely knocked out. That's more my kind of reading."

Join our Oratorian Congregation to SERVE GOD AS PRIEST OR BROTHER

As priests and lay men, our community lives without
vows and serves God's people numerous ways, including:

Parishes	Youth Camps	Nursing
Retreats	Campus Ministry	Hospital Chaplains

Find out more about serving God with us:

Fr. Ed McDevitt, CO The Oratory
P O Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: DEC. 11, 2005

Dec. 11, Third Sunday of Advent

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11
Psalm: Luke 1:46-50, 53-54
- 2) 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
- 3) Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

God is our light in the dark

BY BEVERLY CORZINE
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Hurley Whittaker, a former coal miner, possessed a keen wit and a faith that knew no bounds. Like other people who spend their lives in jobs where catastrophe and death are just around the corner, my grandfather was a master storyteller.

When I was little I tagged along while he went about his daily chores. No matter what he was doing, it would be fun for me because he would tell me stories or silly jokes.

Sometimes, however, he would talk about working deep in the ground in utter darkness. These were heart-stopping stories about courage, superstition and faith.

My grandfather had a jagged scar on his forehead that was the source of my

favorite story from his coal mining days. He was digging on his knees when the ceiling of the tunnel collapsed. Hurt and bleeding, he lay in complete darkness.

At this point in the story, I always would ask him about being scared. For me being caught in the dark was the ultimate terror of my young life.

I never have forgotten his answer: He told himself he eventually would see the light of someone coming to get him. It would be the light of a fellow miner or the light of an angel.

Either way, someone would come to take him home.

As we begin this second full week of December, darkness falls sooner each day. Even in light-polluted cities, the short days leave their mark on us.

In John's Gospel the imagery of light and darkness helps us understand the astonishing miracle of God's sending Jesus into our world. In today's reading, John the Baptist differentiates between Jesus and himself, describing himself as one who is testifying to the "light" and preparing for Jesus' arrival.

We, like John the Baptist, must prepare for the coming of the light, but ours is a twofold mission. Right now we are consumed with preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

However, the larger task challenges us to live our lives so that we may be prepared to celebrate the Second Coming with the risen Christ, the eternal light who will come to take us home.

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 4 - DECEMBER 10

Sunday (Second Sunday of Advent), Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11, 2 Peter 3:8-14, Mark 1:1-8; **Monday (Advent Weekday)**, Isaiah 35:1-10, Luke 5:17-26; **Tuesday (St. Nicholas)**, Isaiah 40:1-11, Matthew 18:12-14; **Wednesday (St. Ambrose)**, Isaiah 40:25-31, Matthew 11:28-30; **Thursday (Immaculate Conception)**, Genesis 3:9-15, 20, Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12, Luke 1:26-38; **Friday (St. Juan Diego)**, Isaiah 48:17-19, Matthew 11:16-19; **Saturday (Advent Weekday)**, Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11, Matthew 17:9, 10-13.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 11 - DECEMBER 17

Sunday (Third Sunday of Advent), Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11 Luke 1:46-50, 53-54, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24, John 1:6-8, 19-28; **Monday (Our Lady of Guadalupe)**, Zechariah 2:14-17, Luke 1:26-38; **Tuesday (St. Lucy)**, Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13, Matthew 21:28-32; **Wednesday (St. John of the Cross)**, Isaiah 45:6-8, 18, 21-25, Luke 7:18-23; **Thursday (Advent Weekday)**, Isaiah 54:1-10, Luke 7:24-30; **Friday (Advent Weekday)**, Isaiah 56:1-3, 6-8, John 5:33-36; **Saturday (Late Advent Weekday)**, Genesis 49:2, 8-10, Matthew 1:1-17.



The perfect gift of praise for this
Advent and Christmas season!

Let Jesus' presence fill your heart as you listen to

WITH ALL MY HEART

by Elyse O'Kane, singer and songwriter

featuring 12 original compositions including

"Magnificat," "Messiah and King," and "Hail Mary"

** As seen at the Charlotte Eucharistic Congress **

CD - \$15

Cassette - \$10

To order, contact Elyse O'Kane: www.elyseokane.com,
elyse@elyseokane.com, or 770-265-8320



HONORING GREATNESS

Made-for-TV movie about Pope John Paul II might get Golden Globe

BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ROME — The made-for-TV movie, "A Man Who Became Pope," may get a Golden Globe nomination, said the film's Italian producer, Pietro Valsecchi.

The movie and television awards, run by the Hollywood Foreign Press Association, will be presented Jan. 16 with the nominations announced Dec. 13.

Valsecchi told Catholic News Service he heard hints that his movie about the early life of the late Pope John Paul II may have a chance at a Golden Globe nomination.

Even though a nomination "would be a miracle," it would also reflect the great success the film had in Poland, Italy and the United States, he said.

The movie, which aired in August on cable's Hallmark Channel in the United States, was based on the Vatican-approved book, "Stories of Karol: The Unknown Life of John Paul II," by Gian Franco Sviderecoschi.

According to the Vatican, Pope John Paul had seen the movie in its entirety during a private viewing before his death April 2. Valsecchi said the pope was only able to see the film's first rough cut, which had no musical score.

"I had a feeling I wouldn't get this film finished in time for the pope to see it," he said.

After Valsecchi sent the Vatican a rough cut of the movie on DVD in early December, Msgr. Pawel Ptasznik, an official at the Vatican's Secretariat of State



CNS PHOTO FROM HALLMARK CHANNEL

Piotr Adamczyk portrays Karol Wojtyla in "A Man Who Became Pope," which aired on the Hallmark Channel in August. The made-for-TV movie may get a Golden Globe nomination, said the film's Italian producer, Pietro Valsecchi. The movie and television awards, run by the Hollywood Foreign Press Association, will be presented Jan. 16 with the nominations announced Dec. 13.

who served along with Cardinal Roberto Tucci as Vatican consultants to the filmmakers, called Valsecchi asking him to send a VHS copy of the film "because they didn't have a DVD" player.

Soon after, Msgr. Ptasznik and Cardinal Tucci told Valsecchi their names could be associated with the film and listed in the credits, which for Valsecchi meant "the pope saw himself" as being accurately represented in the fictionalized version of his early life and "accepted the film."

After the viewing, Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said the late pope "was very impressed" with the film's portrayal.

The two-and-a-half-hour film portrays the late pope's early life, starting with Nazi Germany's 1939 invasion of Poland, followed by the communist repression and ending with his 1978 election as pope.

At the May 19 showing of the finished film at the Vatican, Pope Benedict XVI commended the film's focus on Karol's early heroism for "reviving in every right-minded person the duty to do what he or she can so that such inhuman barbarism never happens again."

Valsecchi said Pope Benedict requested a copy of the film for the Vatican.

"So I made 200 collector's edition DVDs for the Vatican," he said.

A Golden Globe nomination would be a great honor and give greater exposure to a film that, he said, "offers a very important message in these times of war."

As pope and in his early life, Karol Wojtyla is "a model for young people to be open to the world, to care for the least and defenseless," said Valsecchi. "It's very important Karol's example seep in" today's society "in order to carry his message forward" and keep it alive.

FEBRUARY 17 - MAY 29, 2006

The Dead Sea Scrolls

2000 YEARS
IN THE JUDEAN DESERT
100 DAYS IN CHARLOTTE

Discovery Place presents the oldest surviving manuscripts of the Bible in a monumental exhibition that gives visitors the opportunity to experience the most remarkable archeological discovery of the 20th century.

Tickets on sale now: call 877.TIX.4DSS (877.849.4377) or order online at www.discoverscrolls.org. Tickets are also available from Ticketmaster at www.ticketmaster.com. Charge-by-phone at 704.522.6500.



DISCOVERY PLACE

Presented By
THE LEON LEVINE FOUNDATION
SANDRA AND LEON LEVINE

Also Sponsored By
THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER
WSOC-TV Channel 9

In association with the Israel Antiquities Authority, The Dead Sea Scrolls Foundation and Pacific Science Center

We Love Blessed Sacrament Academy !!



Call now to guarantee your child's enrollment.
Space is LIMITED! 704-841-2292

Visit us on the web : www.blessedsacramentacademy.org

Located behind Windsor Square in Matthews, NC. Independent of Charlotte diocesan schools. Member of NARCIS.

- ◆ A classical curriculum in the Catholic tradition
- ◆ Latin, French, Music & Art
- ◆ Grades K-8
- ◆ Excellent scores on standardized tests



Groce
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

1401 Patton Ave. 72 Long Shoals Road
Asheville, NC Arden, NC
(828) 252-3535 (828) 687-3530

**Assuring
Absolute
Integrity**

Asheville's Catholic Funeral Directors
Dale Groce • John Prock
Toll-free (888) 874-3535

Pre-arrangements and obituaries on-line at www.grocefuneralhome.com

CCHS junior wins new scholarship

CHARLOTTE — Andy Tinson, a junior at Charlotte Catholic High School, was named the first recipient of a new scholarship.

Andy received the Gregory Bazluki Sr. Memorial Scholarship, named for a longtime Charlotte Catholic assistant football coach who passed away recently.

The award is dedicated to those who give back to their school community through volunteer athletic service and includes a plaque and a \$1,500 scholarship to Charlotte Catholic.

Andy received the award before the opening kickoff of the Charlotte Catholic homecoming game versus West Mecklenburg High School Oct. 21.

Ranked in the top 15 percent of his class, Andy is actively involved with the high school's sports medicine program, which helps provide care and rehabilitation to the school athletes.

"The scholarship is intended for someone who gives back to the Charlotte Catholic High School community through athletic service and represents the volunteerism

that is promoted by the school and Christian, Catholic teachings," said Marjorie Bazluki, Gregory Bazluki's daughter.

"This is a tremendous honor for Andy," said Al Tinson, Andy's father.

"He puts a lot of effort into his role as a student athletic trainer at Charlotte Catholic and we are grateful to the Bazluki family for this recognition for him," said Tinson. "And I think it is a wonderful tribute to Coach Bazluki that his family has chosen to honor him in a way that will keep his memory in the forefront of the Charlotte Catholic community in the years ahead."



COURTESY PHOTO

Andy Tinson, a junior at Charlotte Catholic High School, receives the first Gregory Bazluki Sr. Memorial Scholarship during the opening kickoff of the Charlotte Catholic homecoming game Oct. 21. Pictured is Andy (fourth from left) as well as members of his family (on left) and members of the Bazluki family (on the right).

DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Seeking **Director of Human Resources** for a Southeast Catholic Archdiocese to develop policy and direct and coordinate human resources activities for an organization of 3000. Responsibilities include recruitment and employment of management and non-management employees; compensation and benefit programs; employee relations; training and development programs; regulatory compliance in employment practices; employee and management counseling; and committee and project work. **REQUIREMENTS:** **Education.** BA in Human Resource management, psychology or business, and/or equivalent experience. **Experience.** Ten or more years experience in Human Resources at a professional level, including at least five years in a broad management position. Experience in working with teams and committees, and in a hierarchical structure. **Knowledge.** Broad, in-depth working knowledge of human resources laws and regulations, standard policies, practices, and procedures. Knowledge of budgeting and strategic planning. A practicing Catholic. **Skills/Abilities.** Participative/collaborative management style that is supportive of team development. Excellent communication (oral and written), interpersonal, and organizational skills. Excellent negotiating and problem-solving abilities. Strong service orientation. Good quantitative and analytical skills. Ability to use tact, sensitivity, and discretion. Ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously. Computer literacy, including skills in human resource software and timekeeping systems.

Send resume to: **Ruprecht & Associates**
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811-5018,
Email: mruprecht@cpinternet.com
Telephone: 218-727-5150



CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

The Archdiocese of Atlanta seeks an experienced principal to lead Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School, a SACS accredited college preparatory high school; co-educational, with 258 students and 35 faculty members. The School offers a challenging academic and co-curricular program to a diverse student body: 43% African American, 46% Caucasian and 11% other ethnic groups. Located in Fairburn, Georgia, 20 miles south of downtown Atlanta. Position requirements:

- Practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church;
- Educational Leadership Certification;
- Minimum of 3 years of successful Catholic secondary administrative experience;
- Excellent communication skills;
- Collaborative leadership style;
- Experience in fiscal management and institutional advancement;
- Commitment to teaching;
- Fair and consistent disciplinarian.



Negotiable and competitive salary; excellent benefits. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled. Send letter of interest, resume, university credentials, and names, addresses and telephone numbers of at least five references to:

Ruprecht and Associates
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811

Phone: 218-727-5150

E-mail: mruprecht@cpinternet.com

Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT

COMMUNITY GROUP HOME MANAGER: (adults) - Live in (7 days on, 7 days off). Prepare/serve meals, transportation, recreation, cleaning, med treatments, work goals. Requirements: HS/GED & group home & MR/DD experience. Holy Angels, Inc., 6600 Wilkinson Boulevard, Belmont, N.C. 28012. (704) 825-4161

SERVICES

COUNSELING SERVICES: Individuals. Couples. Family. Lucille Moses, BSN, M.Ed. North Carolina Licensed Professional Counselor. 1802 East 5th Street, Charlotte, NC. 704-366-6507 or 704-942-4334.

EMERALD HOME REMODELING: NC Licensed General Contractor. Kitchens, Baths, Additions, Handyman services, etc. All size jobs completed. (704) 684-0301(T); (704) 719-0808(cell) for free consultation.

PIANO TUNING & RESTORATION: Hi-Quality Used Pianos. PIANO CRAFT (336) 454-2000. Al Buecia, formerly of Steinway & Sons. IHM Parishioner.

FOR RENT

VACATION CABIN: Lake Lure. Mountain views! A great holiday get-away! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, fully furnished. Reasonable rates. Call 828-299-3714.

Providing Help. Creating Hope. Changing Lives.

Catholic Social Services The Diocese of Charlotte

Executive Director: Elizabeth Thurbee (704) 370-3227

Refugee Office: Cira Ponce (704) 370-6930

Justice & Peace: Joe Purello (704) 370-3225

Family Life: Gerard Carter (704) 370-3228

Charlotte Region: 1123 South Church Street, Charlotte, NC 28203
Area Director: Geri King (704) 370-6155

Western Region: 50 Orange Street, Asheville, NC 28801
Area Director: Debra Braese (828) 255-0146

Piedmont-Triad: 621 W. Second Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27108
Area Director: David Harold (336) 727-0705
Greensboro Satellite Office (336) 274-5577
High Point Satellite Office (336) 884-5858



For information on specific programs, please call your local office.

1123 South Church Street, Charlotte, NC 28203
www.cssnc.org

Classified ads bring results! Over 125,000 readers! Over 49,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

Lasting spirit

Holy Angels honors resident, employees at banquet

BELMONT — As a prelude to the 50th anniversary of Holy Angels and the 50th birthday of its first resident, Maria Morrow, Holy Angels announced the establishment of the Maria T. Morrow Spirit Award.

Regina Moody, Holy Angels president and CEO, presented the award to Morrow during the Holy Angels 17th annual employee awards banquet held in Belmont Nov. 19.

Moody said Morrow was being recog-

nized for a number of honorable traits, including her "spirit, ... commitment to making a difference, encouragement and determination."

Morrow's life and example have made an impact on the lives of the families and their children who are residents at Holy Angels, which was founded in 1956 by the Sisters of Mercy. The non-profit corporation provides services to children and adults with varying degrees of mental retardation, some of whom

have physical disabilities and are medically fragile.

Morrow, who was born Dec. 20, 1955, with multiple disabilities, was not expected to live; if she did, doctors expected her to have serious medical problems, severe retardation and physical disabilities.

Morrow's young mother sought help from the Sisters of Mercy, who operated a day care center under the direction of Mercy Sister Marie Patrice

Manley. When Morrow became seriously ill, her mother asked the sisters to care for her child.

Each sister took turns caring for the infant Maria, who began to thrive with their attention and medical care. She grew and developed far better than expected. Soon, other parents of children with multiple disabilities and mental retardation asked the Sisters of Mercy for help.

The sisters set up the home that eventually became Holy Angels.

At the banquet, Holy Angels presented 10 employees with the Achievement of Excellence Award that recognizes outstanding job performance. The winners, who were nominated by fellow staff members, were: Shelia Boyden, Dawn Ford, Fannie Rendleman, Keith Roper, Deborah Adams, Laura Shive, Barbara Haley, Patsy Kell and Justin Maulden.

Also, Don Shew, who serves on the Holy Angels Foundation board of directors, received the Dr. C. Ellis Fisher Caring Hands, Caring Heart Award, which recognizes distinction, excellence, commitment, generosity and vision.

Fisher, for whom the award is named, currently serves as Holy Angels medical director, a position he has held for more than 25 years.

Holy Angels will officially begin its 50th year with the dedication and official opening of the fifth intermediate care facility on Dec. 20.

Sponsor a Child in the Holy Land

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUPPORT



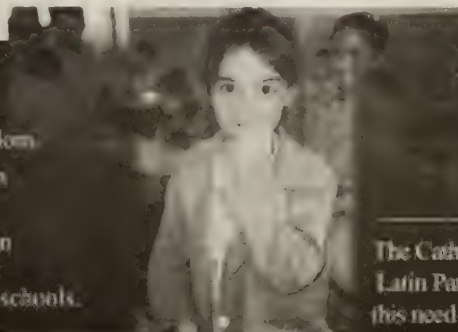
Be a Champion-in-Christ

"To such as these does the Kingdom of God belong."

Matthew 19:14

Even though the Christians of the Holy Land are directly descended from the first Christians converted by the Apostles:

- They are in a desperate struggle to survive as a community.
- They are isolated from the rest of Christendom.
- They are down to only 2% of the population from 18% in 1948.
- They are suffering from overt discrimination and their economy is being destroyed, and their children are stigmatized in the public schools.



The Catholic Schools play an integral role in preserving the Christian heritage of the Holy Land.

The Catholic Archbishop of Jerusalem, the Latin Patriarch Michel Sabbah, recognizes this need and supports the parochial school system to educate all native Christian Children of the Holy Land.



A gift from you will help educate a child in the Catholic School system. It takes only \$25 per month or an annual gift of \$300 to assure the primary and secondary education of a Christian child in the Holy Land.

"It is essential that we, as Christians in the Diocese of Charlotte, reach out to our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land at this time of great need. By sponsoring a child for Christian education, we can help ensure the presence of the original Christians and actively contribute to the continuity of our Christian heritage."

Msgr. John McSweeney, KCHS
Pastor, St. Matthew Catholic Church

Let's make a difference in the lives of the Christian Children in the Holy Land.

YES, I Will Sponsor a Child:

Name: _____ Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Name of Church: _____ Denomination: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____ Child ID # _____

My pledge is \$300 in payments of: ☐ \$25 monthly ☐ \$75 Quarterly ☐ \$100 Tri-annually ☐ \$150 Semi-Annually ☐ \$300 Annually

I would prefer to bill my sponsorship payment to my credit card ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Card Number: Expiration Date: / CVV No.

☐ I would prefer to charge my Credit Card according to my payment plan.

☐ Charge my card one time only.

Signature: _____

☐ I do not wish to sponsor a child now, but here is my gift of \$ _____

☐ Send me information on other HCEF programs

MAIL TO:
Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation
Child Sponsorship Program
6935 Wisconsin Avenue, 214
Bethesda, MD 20815
1-866-871-4233 - Toll Free

Your contribution is tax deductible to the full extent of the law. • HCEF is a nonprofit, charitable, 501(c)3 organization.

Or fill out an online application at www.hcef.org. • Email: esp@hcef.org



COURTESY PHOTO

Larry Sprinkle, weather anchor for 6News Today in Charlotte, presents a plaque to Maria Morrow, the first resident of Holy Angels in Belmont, during an open house ceremony Dec. 20, 2004.

Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Charlotte 704-334-6421

Pineville 704-544-1412

Mint Hill 704-545-4864

Derita 704-596-3291

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

The holidays for those who live alone

Solitude allows 'ownership' of life, guided by God

During the holidays I hear again from friends who live alone how lonely they feel at this time of year. I relate to what they are saying with empathy.

People live alone for many reasons. Some choose this lifestyle, but for many it is a situation imposed on them: A spouse dies, a child moves away.

Most of the time we don't think about the days to come when we will be without companionship in our home. Then that day arrives. We no longer have loved ones to talk with, eat with, quarrel with, pray with, work or laugh with.

We face a turning point and an at-first unknown future, but one that definitely will be different.

I went through this lifestyle change when all my children left home as they entered adulthood. I remember sometimes walking from room to room, feeling a loneliness that almost defied description.

I still had my job to go to every day, and that was good. It kept me too busy to keep focusing on my loneliness.

But the emptiness was there, and the quiet. I had no one to cook for, or argue with, or listen to. In all honesty, I think I felt my best usefulness was at an end.

Of course, living alone is not a situation unique to only few of us. In fact, 28 million Americans live alone. That information is found in a new book I grabbed recently because the title caught my attention, "A Party of One, Meditations for Those Who Live Alone," by Joni Woelfel. The best part of the book was the spirit of it.

Woelfel says it bluntly: "As in all stations in life, the unique dynamics of living alone bring their own challenges, lessons, joys and rewards."

Woelfel's situation arrived unexpectedly. After many years of marriage, and especially having to survive the sui-

The Bottom Line

ANTOINETTE BOSCO
CNS COLUMNIST



cide of a beloved son, she was given the surprising and terrifying news from her husband that he was leaving her.

They subsequently reconciled. But she learned so much from that time when she was suddenly thrust into aloneness that she found herself writing about it.

I found it amazing that she could stay so positive, actually even upbeat, when her life so sadly had plunged her into aloneness. When you have to live alone "for whatever reason," she tells readers, you can "take ownership" of your life if you remain confident that you are being guided and "upheld by God."

A word she speaks many times is "empowerment," and she tells how she found ways to get comfort, inspiration and eventually wisdom in her new and sudden situation of living alone.

Often I felt myself relating to her situation. One chapter, in particular, where she talks about getting sick with influenza, brought back memories.

She writes, "As a person living alone, there was no one to bring me chicken soup, a cup of tea or a word of encouragement." I could relate, especially when she admits so honestly there was nothing she could do "but float with the experience."

Yet, this somehow, paradoxically, gave her a sense of peace knowing she "was in God's hands, come what may."

Woelfel's advice was what I have learned — that those of us who live alone must take "ownership" for our lives, "confident in being guided and upheld by God."

Remembering that, we all can rejoice in this holiday season.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

Pope urges world to continue its fight against HIV/AIDS

BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — As the number of people affected by HIV/AIDS continues to rise, Pope Benedict XVI urged the world to persevere in its fight against the disease and offer needed assistance to those hit by the virus.

On the eve of the Dec. 1 World AIDS Day, the pope made the special appeal at the end of his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square.

The U.N.-sponsored day "aims to draw attention to the scourge of AIDS and invite the international community to a renewed commitment in the field of prevention and supportive assistance for those" affected by the virus, said the pope.

Approximately 40 million people live with HIV, and nearly 5 million people were infected by the virus in 2004 alone, according to figures released by UNAIDS, the joint U.N. program on HIV/AIDS. More than 3 million people died last year because of AIDS, it said.

Calling the latest statistics alarming, the pope expressed his solidarity with those suffering from AIDS and their families.

He encouraged the people who worked through "the many initiatives dedicated to overcoming this disease," especially the work carried out by the church.

"Closely following Christ's example, the church has always considered healing the sick an integral part of its mission," he said.

Some 23,000 pilgrims gathered under drizzling rain in St. Peter's Square for the pope's first general audience for the season of Advent.

The pope dedicated his catechesis to Psalm 137, recalling the exile of the Jews and their enslavement by the Babylonians.

He said the psalmist's image of the Jews weeping for their destroyed city of

The Pope Speaks

POPE BENEDICT XVI



Jerusalem while in the hands of their captors "by the streams of Babylon" was "almost a symbolic foreshadowing of the extermination camps" of the last century which were "an infamous operation of death that remain a permanent disgrace in the history of humanity."

Even though the psalmist expresses a longing for violent revenge against the Babylonians, the pope said, "God, who is the ultimate judge of history, will know ... how to read and receive even the cries of the victims beyond the bitter tones they carry at times."

He said St. Augustine taught that "even among the people of Babylon, there are people who work for peace and the good of the community" even though they may not believe in the God of the Bible.

God will lead these people of good will "toward the heavenly Jerusalem, rewarding them for their pure conscience," said the pope.

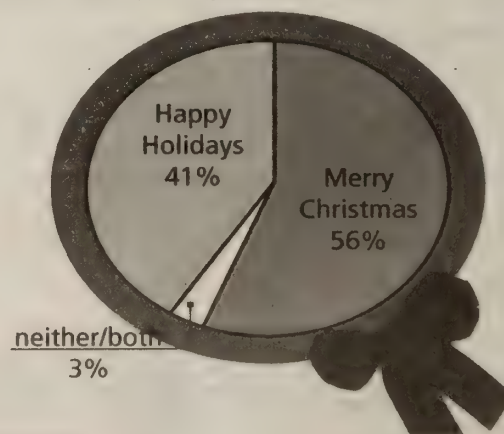
Though they may not know God, they possess "a sparkle of desire for the unknown and transcendent" which is "a form of faith" or belief in hope, he said.

This faith and longing for the transcendent is "really a journey toward the real Jerusalem (in heaven) and toward Christ," said the pope in remarks apart from his text.

The pope reminded Christians to remain open to God and the transcendent and to "not always become attached to material things and the here and now, but to be on the path toward God."

Christmas Greetings

During the holiday season, which greeting would you be more likely to give to someone you just met?



Source: 2004 Gallup Poll

©2005 CNS

Our Advent protagonist: St. John the Baptist

This season, we must ready ourselves for Jesus' coming

"Prepare a way for the Lord, make straight his path!"

Whose voice was this crying out in the desert? It was that of St. John the Baptist, who wore a garment of camel-skin and lived on locusts and wild honey, according to St. Mark's Gospel.

As we continue our journey through Advent, we see that St. John's message is not really easy. John did not make things easy for people. He called for radical change, not a superficial one.

Change, as we know it, is uncomfortable; it requires work and determination.

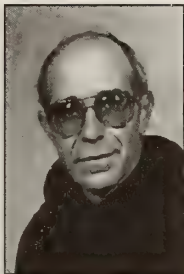
Have you ever done any painting? Not the kind of painting such as by Leonardo da Vinci or Pablo Picasso, but the ordinary painting of a wall, window or chair. If you have ever painted the proper way, you know that the most important, tedious and exhausting part is not applying the paint. It is preparing the surface to be painted: sanding, cleaning, scraping. Only then, after much work, can we paint.

Advent is like painting. You cannot apply new paint if the surface is not ready. Sometimes blaming society, the world or others is an easy way out, but the Gospel speaks to me and to you personally — John the Baptist is talking to us, as uncomfortable as it may seem.

He is the messenger, the prophet; he is not a fortune teller, spending time in horoscopes and palm readings. The prophet is

Guest Column

CAPUCHIN
FATHER JOHN
AURILIA
GUEST COLUMNIST



the one who speaks for God to us.

Guess what — we are supposed to be prophets. The Gospel reminds us: "Be on your guard, stay awake" (Mk.13:33). Spiritually, we have no time to sleep or to get tired. Time has a unique quality — if it is not used properly, it is lost for ever.

I read in a magazine once the following statistics: No matter how tired we may be, our exhaustion is fully justified, as can be proven by simple arithmetic. The United States has a population of some 200 million. Of these, 72 million are past retirement age, leaving 128 million in the work force.

When you subtract the 75 million people who are either too young or still in school, you get 53 million left to do the work. There are 24 million employed by the federal government, which leaves only 29 million in the work force.

Subtract from that 12 million in the military and the work force is down to 17 million.

Another 15,765,000 are in state and municipal offices; 520,000 in hospitals and mental institutions, and this reduces the work force to 715,000.

Of these, 462,000 are vagrants without jobs, leaving only 253,000 in the work force.

But there are 252,998 people incarcerated, leaving just two people — you and me! No wonder we are tired and burned out!

In our feverish activity of the busiest season of the year, we make a common and big mistake: we don't control the activity, the activity controls us. The Gospel guides us as it warns us to be awake and to be alert.

Yes, it is very healthy and peaceful to be awake to our loving process and to be alert to his message of faith and hope. The perfect image of this paradox is the running water, always clear, healthy and flowing, and yet still peaceful and joyful. In fact, what an inner peace you experience just watching for a few minutes the running water of a river or stream or the waves of the ocean.

In John's Gospel, there is an episode in which the first words spoken by "some Greeks" to the disciple Philip are, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus" (Jn.12:21). That is indeed the most sincere desire of our hearts: we wish to see Jesus and encounter him on a one to one relationship.

This Advent, let us prepare the surface and stay alert for Jesus' coming.

Capuchin Father John Aurilia is pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in Hendersonville.

Generosity, the true nobility

The Human Side

FATHER
EUGENE HEMRICK
CNS COLUMNIST



TO BE GENEROUS IS TO BE GODLIKE

"September's collection was for the victims of Katrina and Rita. It was followed by collections for earthquake victims and then by the Cardinal's Appeal! We're tapping out," someone said recently.

Numerous national disasters and the rising costs of recovery from them may leave us wondering when the limits of our giving will be reached.

In Latin, the word generous means "of noble birth," and the word noble means having elevated or high character. We don't have to be born into high-class nobility to be noble. Being noble implies that we believe in elevating the well-being of others and act to do something about this.

Nobility is selflessness. The noble person is the opposite of a self-centered miser.

Being a generous giver, however, goes beyond having noble character. To be truly generous requires imitating Christ incarnate, who divested himself of his divine powers to become one of us. Not only did Christ do all of that, but he took the form of a slave as well.

To show his enormous love, he died on the cross, literally pouring himself out whole and entire for us.

Ultimately, to be generous is to be Godlike by pouring ourselves out as Christ did. It often implies that we die to certain things that we love and cherish.

Christians who truly have poured themselves out for others are among our canonized saints. The contributions they made to society were awesome and often were considered beyond human imagination. Take, for example, the work of Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta in modern times.

When we honestly reflect on all the resources at our disposal, it leaves us with the feeling of being truly blessed. When the spirit of Christ's generosity and that of the saints takes hold of us, its nobility and inspiration override fears that we'll be tapped out, replacing them with a heartfelt desire to dig deep into our pockets for the unfortunate.

No doubt about it, many of us already are tightening our belts to the point of suffocating. If we live as noble Christians, however, we won't suffocate.

In fact, we will breathe a new, refreshing, intoxicating air.

At the end of the movie "Schindler's List," Schindler decries the fact that he could have done more to save Jewish lives.

We have been blessed more than we realize. We become even more blessed when we give to those who have less than us. More often than not, we don't miss what we have given.

Vatican II: 40 years later

An anniversary worthy of our attention

Dec. 8 marks the 40th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council's closing. During that gathering — the 21st ecumenical council in church history — more than 2,500 of the world's bishops approved 16 documents designed to enliven Catholic spirituality and make the church far more relevant to the modern world.

The most challenging and prophetic of these documents was the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World. It is arguably the most important document in the rich tradition of Catholic social teaching.

To label a document of an ecumenical council "pastoral" was in itself unique. The pastoral nature of this document meant that it was calling the Catholic world to serve the larger world — above all to serve humanity's suffering masses.

Its very first words powerfully illustrate this call: "The joys and the hopes, the griefs and anxieties of the men of this age, especially those who are poor or in any way afflicted, these too are the joys and hopes, the griefs and anxieties of the followers of Christ."

While speaking on behalf of the world's poor, hungry, war-torn and unborn, the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World confronts

the well-off and powerful. It challenges individuals; governments and corporations to turn from selfishness and seek the common good, saying:

"In many instances there exists a pressing need to reform economic and social structures. ... There must be an abolition of excessive desire for profit, nationalistic pretensions, the lust for political domination, militaristic thinking. ...

"Some nations with a majority of Christians have an abundance of this world's goods, while others are deprived of the necessities of life and are tormented with hunger, disease and every kind of misery. This situation must not be allowed to continue, to the scandal of humanity."

The world's Catholic bishops courageously confronted an increasing war mentality. They taught that the accumulation of weapons does not build genuine peace, it threatens it, and it does nothing to address the causes of war, such as economic inequalities.

Their document says: "The arms race is an utterly treacherous trap for humanity, and one which injures the poor to an intolerable degree."

Pressing forward, the bishops urged us to think outside the box. They said, "Let us find means for resolving our disputes in a manner worthy of man.

Making a Difference

TONY
MAGLIANO
CNS COLUMNIST



Divine Providence urgently demands of us that we free ourselves from the age-old slavery of war."

While many nations were preparing to launch full-scale war on the unborn and newly born, the council fathers declared, "From the moment of its conception, life must be guarded with the greatest care, while abortion and infanticide are unspeakable crimes."

Four decades have passed since the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World was approved, and the world largely has ignored its critical messages. Countless Catholics have also ignored these authoritative teachings.

How many more lives must be sacrificed to the gods of war, greed and indifference before we — especially the disciples of Jesus — stand up and cry out: "No more!"

At Vatican II's final public session, Pope Paul VI summed it all up with these inspiring words: "On the face of every human being, especially when marked by tears and sufferings, we can and must see the face of Christ, the son of man."

Holy Family Church a home for many Catholics in Forsyth County

In 1976, the significant growth of St. Leo the Great Church in Winston-Salem prompted the Diocese of Charlotte to purchase 10 acres of land to build a new church in Clemmons. At the same time, a home on the corner of Knob Hill Avenue and Peace Haven Road was purchased as a rectory and also served as a chapel for weekday Mass, office and meeting space and religious education classes.

Father James Solari, assigned to St. Leo the Great Church at the time, served as resident priest of what was known then as the Clemmons mission during the years 1977-78. Father John Vianney Hoover arrived to replace Father Solari at what was becoming known as "St. Leo's West" from 1978-79.

The first Mass was celebrated July 15, 1978 in the Clemmons Presbyterian Church by Msgr. Richard Allen, then-pastor of St. Leo the Great Church. While they had generously offered their hospitality, after two weekends of Masses, Catholics were overflowing their facility.

For the next five years, the Saturday evening Mass and religious education classes were held at the Clemmons Moravian Church and Sunday morning Masses were held at the Clemmons Vogler Funeral Home Chapel.

Paulist Father Robert Scott became the first pastor of Holy Family Church as a parish on Aug. 15, 1980, with St. Francis of Assisi Church in Mocksville named as its mission. Then-Bishop Michael J. Begley canonically established the parish under the patronage of the Holy Family.

The name was one of the choices proposed by the parishioners and was chosen based on the "Year of the Family." In that same year the first building committee was created with 170 registered families. Pastors succeeding Father Scott included Fathers Tom Clements, Cecil Tice, Tom Walsh, Frank J. O'Rourke and the current pastor, Father Michael Buttner.

In April 1981, plans were under way to build a 9,200-square-foot structure comprised of a worship area, reconcilia-



COURTESY PHOTO

Holy Family Church is the largest church in Clemmons and one of the largest in Forsyth County. More than 1,250 families worship each weekend at six Masses.

tion room, offices, nursery, kitchen and a concourse for social events, classes and overflow of the worship area. The following year, parish registration had grown to 329 families.

Bishop Begley conducted a groundbreaking ceremony for the new church building March 4, 1984 and the first Mass was celebrated in the new building in December. Parish registration had then grown to 550 registered families.

Then-Bishop John F. Donoghue dedicated the new Holy Family Church building March 10, 1985, his first dedication as Bishop of Charlotte.

A youth center was constructed in 2002 to provide space for a variety of youth-oriented educational and organization functions. Sunday evening classes

are conducted there for the youth ministry program. These programs help the parish meet the spiritual and educational needs of middle and high school youths.

By 2002, Holy Family Church was home to more than 1,500 registered families. Overcrowded Masses, lack of classroom space for faith formation programs and cramped office space inspired a plan to accommodate the continuing growth.

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

4820 Kinnamon Road
Clemmons, N.C. 27013
(336) 778-0600

Vicariate: Winston-Salem

Pastor: Msgr. Michael Buttner

Parochial Vicar: Father Brian Cook

Permanent Deacon: Deacon Gerard Schumacher

Number of Households: 1,600



Msgr. Michael Buttner

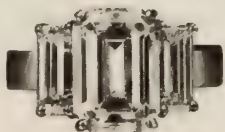
In September 2002, a capital campaign was initiated to raise \$3.2 million dollars to build a new church that will seat more than 1,200 parishioners and open up much-needed space for the growing faith formation programs.

On June 5, 2004 a new chapter in the history of Holy Family Church began at a groundbreaking ceremony for the new church. On Nov. 27, 2005, Bishop Peter J. Jugis celebrated the dedication Mass for the new Holy Family Church.

The new facility will support the growth of the parish and ensure adequate space for the worship and ministerial needs of the parish for many years to come. This day became a reality because of the hard work and generosity of Holy Family parishioners.

Staff writer Karen A. Evans contributed to this story.

Fabulous Christmas Gifts!



Featuring Colored Diamonds Exclusively

Malak Jewelers

At the Arboretum (St. Matthew parishioners)

We extend to you the very finest in Jewelry and Service...

Largest Selection - Best Quality & Prices Guaranteed

Certified Loose Diamonds
Platinum, Gold, Fine Jewelry
Sterling Silver and Watches
Estate Jewelry - Buy & Sell



Now featuring special
sterling silver medallion
of Pope John Paul II -
complimentary with
purchases over \$50
(one per purchase)

26 years of Integrity and Experience!

(704) 341-1188 www.malakjewelers.com
8042-800 Providence Rd., Charlotte

Tastefully Yours Catering
Delicious Menus for You and Your Guests
1401 S Church Street - Suite A - Charlotte, NC 28203
704.632.8040 • tastefullycarolina.com
Located in Charlotte's Southend

Full Service Caterer
Holiday Parties
Receptions
Rehearsal Dinners
Engagement Parties
Bridal Showers
Spa Parties
Visit our café for a sampling of the possibilities!
(Wedding tastings by appointment only)

The **Catholic** Company

Lake Norman Book Store
maryimmaculata.com

CAROLINA CATHOLIC
BOOKSHOPPE

Mon. thru Sat.
10 am - 6 pm



Jesus is the reason for the season!

Now 2 COMPLETE Catholic stores for

- Unique gifts & cards
- Books, rosaries, medals
- Previously read book section (at Lake Norman)
- Video rentals
- Artwork

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

Roman Catholic
Diocese of Charlotte



Established Jan. 12, 1972
by Pope Paul VI

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

Parish Profile:

Catholic spirit alive and
well at St. Francis of
Assisi Church

| PAGE 16

DECEMBER 9, 2005

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 15 No 10

Fighting for Life

**ABORTION IS CRIME
AGAINST SOCIETY, SAYS
POPE BENEDICT**

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Abortion is a crime of aggression not only against the unborn, but also against society, Pope Benedict XVI said.

"Children have the right to be born and to grow in the midst of a family founded on matrimony, where the parents are the first educators of children in the faith and where they can grow to full human and spiritual maturity," the pope said Dec. 3.

Meeting with the presidents

See **ABORTION** page 13

COVERAGE AND CARE

**Catholic agencies
keep eye on drug
plan's effects on
frailtest elderly**

BY NANCY FRAZIER
O'BRIEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — As seniors across the country struggle to decide whether to enroll in a Medicare Part D prescription drug plan and which plan to choose, Catholic health care and social-service organizations are working to ensure that the poorest and frailest are not left behind.

Both the Catholic Health Association and Catholic Charities USA are part of the Access to Benefits Coalition, coordinated by the National Council on the Aging and dedicated to

See **DRUGS**, page 13

Remembering the reasons



PHOTO BY ELLEN N. SIGMON

Cristian Cabra, portraying Joseph; Tracy Schell, portraying Mary; and Olivia Marois, portraying baby Jesus, re-enact the nativity during the sixth annual Crib at Greccio performance at the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory Dec. 4.

*Birth of Jesus,
life of St. Francis
re-enacted*

BY ELLEN NEERINCX
SIGMON
CORRESPONDENT

HICKORY — As the rain began to drizzle on the participants and spectators of the Crib at Greccio performance, many said they offered up petitions to God and St. Francis of Assisi to hold off the rain for a little while longer.

The rain soon stopped and the performance continued.

More than 120 people gathered for the sixth annual Crib at Greccio performance, held at the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory Dec. 4. It is presented each year by the Fraternity of Brother Francis of the Hickory-based Secular Franciscan Order and the youth group at St. Joseph Church in Newton.

The performance re-enacts

See **GRECCIO**, page 5

Love in the new millennium

*Stepsisters meet husbands through Catholic
dating Web site*

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — It is a well-known (if neither researched nor documented) theory that it is difficult (some might even say nearly impossible) to meet a like-minded Catholic spouse in this day and age.

That's why two stepsisters turned to the Internet to try to

meet similarly-minded men. One man used the same method to try to meet his wife. And as for his roommate, well, he just lucked out.

In October 2003, Bryant Jacome, a former seminarian, decided to move in with Matt Hanes, then-director of reli-

See **LOVE**, page 8



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Stepsisters Cheryl Jacome (far left) and Jane Hanes (far right) met their husbands, Bryant Jacome (second from left) and Matt Hanes (second from right) through a Web site for Catholic singles. Also pictured is Cheryl Jacome's daughter, Kayla.

#BXNPDVO.....3-DIGIT 275
#420836#
NC COLLECTION
UNC
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001

Combating poverty

CCHD grants available;
Hunger Banquet raises funds

| PAGES 4-5

Culture Watch

'Narnia' film worth wait;
C.S. Lewis inspires many

| PAGES 10-11

Perspectives

Church tradition of infant
baptisms; accepting the cross

| PAGES 14-15

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

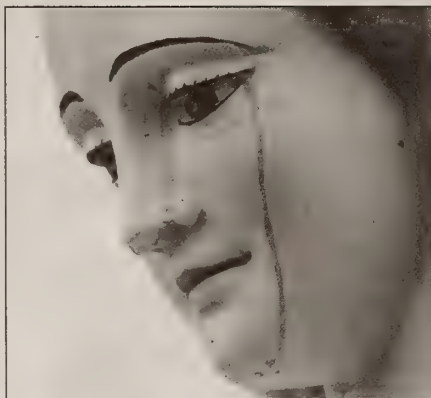
TEARS OF SUBSTANCE



CNS PHOTOS FROM REUTERS

Above: Rosaries hang on a fence in front of a statue of the Virgin Mary at a Catholic church on the outskirts of Sacramento, Calif., Dec. 1. A red substance that some say is blood has been dripping from the statue's eyes, drawing hundreds of visitors in recent weeks.

Right: The red substance is visible dripping from the statue's eyes.



No church inquiry, for now, into statue of Mary some say is weeping

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (CNS) — The Diocese of Sacramento has no plans to investigate an alleged apparition in which a statue of the Virgin Mary outside a Catholic church has been reported to weep blood.

The statue has drawn hundreds of visitors to Vietnamese Catholic Martyrs Church in Sacramento since parishioners first noticed reddish streaks near the eyes of the white concrete statue in mid-November.

Father James Murphy, rector of Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, said he had discussed the matter with Sacramento Bishop William K. Weigand and told local media that the diocese was "letting it sit for now."

An inquiry involving field investigators and lab analysts could be initiated later, Father Murphy said, if the

phenomenon continues.

"There's no rush," he told The Sacramento Bee newspaper. "The church thinks in terms of centuries, not tomorrow's news."

In Catholic teaching, an apparition is a supernatural manifestation of God, an angel or a saint to an individual or group of individuals. Church investigations into reported apparitions usually focus on the moral, spiritual and psychological character of the visionary or visionaries, the consistency of any messages with church teachings and other spiritual effects connected with the event.

If the church makes an affirmative judgment on an alleged apparition, it says it is "worthy of belief," but it does not require Catholics to accept any such private revelations as a matter of faith.

Bush, Rice urged to protect poor in trade negotiations

U.S. bishops seek to work with government

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Religious leaders' concerns that trade agreements take into account the effects of globalization on the poor were the topic of meetings Dec. 1 between religious leaders, President George W. Bush and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

In the first meeting, Washington Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick met with Bush at the White House. He then joined an interfaith delegation of a dozen religious leaders at the State Department to encourage Rice to push for trade agreements that will reduce hunger and poverty in the developing world.

After his White House meeting, Cardinal McCarrick said he encouraged the president to protect the interests of the poor around the world who have too little access to the negotiating table.

Of particular concern as the World Trade Organization's Dec. 13-

18 conference on trade approached was the emphasis on agricultural policies in that part of the Doha Round of negotiations. The ongoing round of trade talks carries the name of the site of the original meeting in Doha, Qatar, in November 2001.

"President Bush has proposed major changes in the U.S. agricultural policies that are important for establishing a more just global trading system," Cardinal McCarrick said, adding that it was "a courageous and necessary step in the right direction."

However, he added, the U.S. bishops' conference would seek to work with the administration and Congress to see that reforms in the next U.S. agriculture funding bill "substantially reduce, if not eliminate, trade-distorting federal subsidies while protecting small and medium-sized farms in the United States."

Diocesan planner

BOONE VICARIATE

SPARTA — St. Frances of Rome Church, Hendrix and Highlands Rds., sponsors the *Oratory of Divine Love Prayer Group* in the parish house the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 1 p.m. Call (336) 372-8846 for more information.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — A *Blood Give-In* will take place in the Parish Center Gym of St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., Dec. 18, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Donors will be required to provide identification such as a driver license or Red Cross blood donor card. Appointments are encouraged and will be honored. Walk-ins are welcome, but will be taken as time permits. For more information, call Ed Nenninger at (704) 366-6637.

CHARLOTTE — The Hispanic Ministry and the choir "Alegria Hispana" from St. Gabriel Church will present *Las Posadas* Dec. 20 at 6:30 p.m. at the church, 3016 Providence Rd. This traditional Hispanic family festivity is a re-enactment of the Holy Family's search for lodging in Bethlehem. For more information, call the church office at (704) 364-5431.

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., will celebrate a *Polish-language Mass* Jan. 1 in the Daily Mass Chapel. Reconciliation will be offered at 2 p.m. and Mass will be celebrated at 3:30 p.m. For more information, call Elizabeth Spytowski at (704) 948-1678.

CHARLOTTE — *Christians in Career Transition*, a support group for those whose job status is causing them to seek employment. Sessions

include interactive discussions on networking, resumes and interview skills. The group meets the first and third Monday of each month, 7-9 p.m., in room 132 of the New Life Center at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy. Please call Jack Rueckel at (704) 341-8449 for more information.

CHARLOTTE — *Pathfinders*, a peer-led support group for separated and divorced adults, offers education, support and fellowship through the divorce process. The group meets Tuesdays, 7:30-9 p.m., in St. Gabriel Church's Ministry Building, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, call Nancy at (704) 752-0318.

CHARLOTTE — The *Society of Mary and Martha* meets the third Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd. For more information, call Peggy Pohlheber at (704) 588-7311.

CHARLOTTE — *TGIF on Wednesday* is a support group for separated or divorced women and men. All are welcome to join us for encouragement and discussion with others making similar journeys at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. in the New Life Center, Room 114. If you have any questions, call Bonnie Motuz at (704) 543-8998.

MINT HILL — *G.E.M.S. Daily* is a prayer/support group for mothers of children with disabilities. The group meets the second Wednesday of each month, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., at St. Luke Church, 13700 Lawyers Rd., to share concerns, praise and prayers. For details, call Michelle Roth at (704) 321-1717.

CHARLOTTE — *The Healing Prayer Group* will pray with you in the name of the Lord Jesus for your healing, be it mental, spiritual or physical. Come and know the gentleness and unconditional love of the Lord. We meet the third Monday of each month in the St. Matthew Chapel, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., at 7:30 p.m. For

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-mail: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

DECEMBER 9, 2005
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 10

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Culture of disbelief among threats to religious freedom, says pope

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI said religious freedom is threatened in parts of the world, sometimes by religious and political factors and sometimes by a prevailing culture of disbelief.

The pope made the remarks at his Sunday blessing Dec. 4, speaking to thousands of pilgrims in St. Peter's Square.

He noted that 40 years ago the Second Vatican council issued its Declaration on Religious Freedom ("Dignitatis Humanae"), which said religious freedom is a right that stems from the dignity of each person.

The council, the pope said, was reaffirming traditional church teaching that every person, as a spiritual being, has the right and duty to seek the truth and that religious freedom must be given to each individual and community.

"After 40 years, this teaching of the

council remains of great relevance today," the pope said.

"In fact, religious liberty is far from being effectively guaranteed everywhere: In some cases, it is denied for religious or ideological reasons; at other times, although recognized on paper, is it obstructed in reality by political power or, in a more deceitful way, by the cultural domination of agnosticism and relativism," he said.

"Let us pray that every person can fully realize the religious vocation that he carries inscribed in his being," he said.

The pope did not name countries where religious freedom is not respected, but recent publicized cases have involved Catholics in China.

Three days before the pope made his remarks, the Vatican strongly condemned the beating of several nuns in central China and the continued arrests of underground Catholic priests.

more information, e-mail Barbara Gardner at chlt5nc@aol.com.

CHARLOTTE — The 50+ Club of St. John Neumann Church, 8451 Idlewild Rd., meets the second Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. with a program and lunch in the parish hall. For reservations and more information, call Lucille at (704) 537-2189.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians of Guilford County will have a *Christmas Tea* Dec. 17 at 3 p.m. at the O. Henry Hotel, 624 Green Valley Rd. Please call Marilyn Conte for information at (336) 632-1340.

GREENSBORO — The *Coffee Talk for Adults Advent Series* will meet Dec. 11 and 18, 10:30-11:15 a.m., in the Youth Room of St. Pius X Church, 2210 North Elm St. For more information, call the church office at (336) 272-468.

GREENSBORO — If you have a special need for prayers, or would like to offer your time in prayer for others' needs, please call the *Prayer Chain* at Our Lady of Grace Church. The Prayer Chain is a sizable group committed to praying for your needs and the needs of your family and friends on a daily basis. To request a prayer or to participate in the Prayer Chain, call the church office at (336) 274-6520, ext. 10 and leave your name, address and phone number.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

SYLVA — Knights of Columbus Council 9722 will sponsor an *American Red Cross Blood Drive* at St. Mary Church, 22 Bartlett St., Dec. 16, 1-5 p.m. For more information, call Allen or Anne Thurston at (828) 586-0432 or (828) 507-0594.

WAYNESVILLE — *Adult Education Classes* are held the first three Wednesday evenings of each month beginning at 6:45 p.m. in the St. John the Evangelist Church Social Hall, 234 Church St. For more information, call Charles M. Luce at (828) 648-7369 or e-mail luce54@aol.com.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

WINSTON-SALEM — *Spend Advent with Mary*. Join us for four weeks with Mary as guide, model and companion during the Advent season. The

retreat meets at Portiuncula Franciscan Spiritual Center, 211 W. Third St., Dec. 14 and 21, 7-8:30 p.m. For additional information, call Sister Kathy Ganiel at (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

WINSTON-SALEM — St. Benedict the Moor Church, 1625 East 12th St., hosts a 12:15 p.m. prayer service, *Veni Sanctus Spiritus*, the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. All are welcome to reflect on God and refresh the spirit in the middle of a day. For more information call Sister Larretta Rivera-Williams at (336) 725-9200.

KERNERSVILLE — Holy Cross Church, 616 S. Cherry St., hosts a *Senior Coffee House* the first and third Mondays of each month, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., in Salesian Hall in the Child Development Building. Call the church office at (336) 996-5109 ext. 12 for directions or information.

WINSTON-SALEM — The *Compassionate Care-Givers* meet the first, third and fifth Thursdays of each month at St. Benedict the Moor Church, 1625 East 12th St. This group provides affirmation, support and prayer for people who have cared for and are caring for loved ones living with Alzheimer's and any other chronic illnesses. For more information call Sister Larretta Rivera-Williams at (336) 725-9200.

WINSTON-SALEM — The *Healing Companions* is a grief support group for the bereaved that meets the first and third Thursdays of the month in conference room B at St. Leo the Great Church, 335 Springdale Ave. For further details, call Joanne Parcel at (336) 924-9478.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Dec. 11 — 11 a.m.

Mass

St. Patrick Cathedral, Charlotte

Dec. 12 — 7 p.m.

Mass in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe
St. Aloysius Church, Hickory

Pope, Palestinian prime minister discuss peace process, challenges

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In Pope Benedict XVI's first meeting with Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas, the two leaders discussed the Middle East peace process and the difficulties Palestinian Christians face in the territories.

At the end of a private audience Dec. 3 in the Vatican, the Palestinian leader also invited the pope to visit the Holy Land, saying the pontiff would "be very welcome in Jerusalem and all the holy places."

The pope thanked Abbas for the invitation while another member of the Palestinian entourage gave the pope a special entry permit for the West Bank town of Bethlehem.

The Palestinian minister of tourism, Ziad al-Bandak, told the pope that the document was a gift from the people of Bethlehem and that it made the pontiff an honorary citizen of the town where Jesus was born.

During the "cordial meeting" the

pope and Abbas surveyed "the situation in the Middle East," according to Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls.

"In particular, the need to integrate all segments of the Palestinian people in the peace process was underlined," Navarro-Valls said, and "the difficulties of Catholics in Palestine and their contribution to Palestinian society" were also discussed.

Abbas told reporters after the meeting that the pope could play an important part in promoting peace in the Middle East. With his "symbolic weight in the international community," the pope "can carry out a decisive role for peace," he said.

Abbas said Christians in Bethlehem "live in difficult conditions" and are under "various kinds of pressure" which "impel them to leave their land."

The pope also received a formal invitation to visit Israel when he met with Israeli President Moshe Katsav in a private audience in November.

Protesting the penalty



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

Scott Langley, who is the death penalty abolition coordinator for Amnesty International in North Carolina, participates in a protest against the scheduled execution of Kenneth Lee Boyd in front of Central Prison in Raleigh, N.C., Dec. 1. Boyd was executed by lethal injection Dec. 2 for shooting his wife and father-in-law in 1988 in front of two of his children. It marked the 1,000th execution in the United States since the Supreme Court reinstated the death penalty nearly 30 years ago.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IS KEY, VATICAN OFFICIAL TELLS FOREIGN MINISTERS

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Freedom of religion is key for creating peaceful coexistence and respect in today's multiethnic and multicultural communities, a top Vatican official told European foreign ministers.

Archbishop Giovanni Lajolo, the Vatican's foreign minister, said "human rights are not negotiable."

"The Catholic Church reproves, as foreign to the mind of Christ, any discrimination against people or any harassment of them on the basis of their race, color, condition in life or religion," he said.

He made his comments Dec. 6 as head of the Vatican's delegation to the annual session of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe held Dec. 5-6 in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

The organization addresses European security issues and crisis management.

Efforts against prejudice and discrimination must be continued, he said.

"Concrete measures of assistance are needed to alleviate the suffering" of trafficked women and men or migrants and "to re-establish respect for their human dignity," Archbishop Lajolo said.

Lasting legacies

Catholic Heritage Society members honored

CHARLOTTE — Catholic Heritage Society members were honored recently.

Nearly 80 people attended the Mass celebrated by Bishop Peter J. Jugis at St. Matthew Church in Charlotte Nov. 20. A reception, dinner and individual photo sessions with the bishop followed.

The Catholic Heritage Society was formed in 1994 to recognize those who have indicated that they intend to leave gifts in their wills and estate plans to a parish, school, the Diocese of Charlotte, the diocesan Foundation or other Catholic organization in the diocese.

There are nearly 600 members of the society across the diocese, and many more Catholics have remembered entities of the diocese in their estate plans without disclosing that information.

"We appreciate the generosity of all our Catholic Heritage Society members who have demonstrated their love of the church with a legacy gift," said Judy Smith, director of planned giving for the diocese. "What a wonderful example of stewardship they provide for all of us."

Some gifts received from society members have been designated to the Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte. Currently the foundation has more than \$12.8 million in assets.

Contributions may be designated for a specific parish, school, foundation or organization, or undesignated gifts to the Diocese of Charlotte, said Smith. Most of the 131 endowments in the foundation

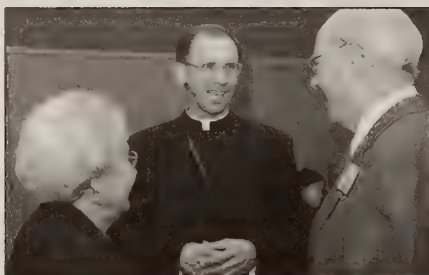
are designated for parishes.

"Through their gifts, members of the Catholic Heritage Society will leave a legacy that will help meet the needs of individuals in the Diocese of Charlotte for generations to come," said Jim Kelley, director of development for the diocese and executive director of the Foundation.

"More and more parishioners in the diocese are following the example society members by remembering the church in their current and estate plans," he said.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information about planned giving or the Catholic Heritage Society, contact Judy Smith at (704) 370-3320 or e-mail jmsmith@charlottediocese.org.



COURTESY PHOTO BY CHARLOTTE IMAGE PHOTOGRAPHY INC.

Bishop Peter J. Jugis chats with Mr. and Mrs. James Williams of Queen of the Apostles Church in Belmont at the annual Catholic Heritage Society members' dinner in Charlotte Nov. 20.

FIFTY YEARS OF JUBILATION



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Sister of St. Joseph Helene Nagle celebrates her golden jubilee at St. Ann Church in Charlotte Nov. 5. Bishop David Foley, bishop emeritus of Birmingham, Ala., and a close friend of Sister Nagle, presided at the Mass. Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin; Msgr. Mauricio West, vicar general and chancellor; Father Conrad Hoover, pastor of St. Ann Church; and Father Joseph Dinh, parochial vicar at St. Ann Church, were concelebrants.

Sister Nagle entered the order of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Chestnut Hill, Pa., in September 1955. She taught seventh- and eighth-graders at St. Leo School in Winston-Salem for three years before becoming principal at St. Ann School 15 years ago.

*Enjoy God's peace
and beauty in the
foothills!*

*Share the blessings
of this opportunity*

- Four riverfront homesites offered for sale, all with gated access and private drive
- In the Appalachian foothills, 1 hour west of Charlotte and 40 minutes from Asheville
- Designed by nature, home to abundant wildlife with majestic riverwalk
- Very large lots, 6 to 12 acres each all with access to community barn
- Frontage on Second Broad River, with beautiful forest land and nature trails all accessible by foot and/or horseback
- Deeded access to 40 acres of pasture and more than ½ mile of riverfront
- Our Lady of the River grotto and Stations of the Cross



A unique opportunity, this property of 110 acres will be used as a retreat ranch for children suffering from cancer, and their families. Held by the Padre Pio Land Trust, it is being developed by Michael and Robin Hunter, Parishioners of Immaculate Conception in Rutherfordton and trustees of Janua Coeli Cancer Foundation. If you are interested in an ideal spot for your vacation home, or have any questions regarding this property, please contact Mike or Robin at (828) 429-8544, (828) 286-1998, or online at www.januacoelicanccerfoundation.com

Nativity, life of St. Francis of Assisi re-enacted in Hickory

GRECCIO, from page 1

the live nativity originated by St. Francis in Greccio, Italy, in 1223. St. Francis had petitioned Pope Honorius III to allow him to stage the live nativity to show the villagers of Greccio the actual conditions under which Jesus was born.

Ruth Thoni, minister of the fraternity, said the reason they present the program each year is to remind people of the real "reason for the season," the true meaning of Christmas, and not the increasing commercialism of the holiday.

In addition to the nativity, the Secular Franciscans portray scenes from the life of St. Francis. This year, Brian Mulligan of the St. Joseph Church youth group led the St. Joseph Church choir, singing three songs to represent the conversion of the young St. Francis from soldier and knight to brother and follower of Christ.

St. Francis is "a great example of what we can do as servants if we are faithful to God," said Deacon Scott Gilfillan, permanent deacon at St. Joseph Church.

Twenty live animals were used in this year's re-enactment, so the production's reflections, songs and skits were frequently punctuated by the mooing of a cow, the bleating of a sheep or the braying of a donkey. Goats, horses and a llama made up the rest of the livestock.

Denny Schell played the part of the

St. Francis is 'a great example of what we can do as servants if we are faithful to God.'

older St. Francis, reciting the account of Jesus' birth from Luke's Gospel and St. Francis' remarks on the "Our Father" prayer. Two of Schell's children, Tracy and Terri, played the parts of Mary and Sir John of Velita, respectively.

Members of the Schell family have been participating in the program for all six years.

Colin and Neil Barrett played Pope Honorius III and Cardinal Ugolino. Olivia Marois, granddaughter of Brady and Linda Robinson, who are both secular Franciscans, filled in for the baby Jesus. Cristian Cabra played the part of Joseph.

The Secular Franciscans dedicated the program to two newly-professed members, Dr. James and Sue Taylor, as well as to the memory of Ellie Obrist, a member of the order who died this past March.

WANT MORE INFO?

The Fraternity of Brother Francis in Hickory meets the second Sunday afternoon of each month. For more information, contact Marilyn Dunphy at (828) 757-9611 or Frank Cogger at (828) 256-1453.



PHOTOS BY ELLEN N. SIGMON

Denny Schell, portraying St. Francis of Assisi (kneeling), leads his religious brothers to see Pope Honorius III, portrayed by Colin Barrett (sitting), to get approval for his Franciscan order and to re-enact the birth of Jesus at Greccio, Italy. Neil Barret(left) portrays Cardinal Ugolino. The performance was part of the sixth annual Crib at Greccio, held at the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory Dec. 4.



Children and livestock participate in the sixth annual Crib at Greccio, held at the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory Dec. 4.

TASTEFULLY YOURS
CATERING
Delicious Menus for You and Your Guests

Tastefully Yours Catering
1801 S Church Street • Suite A • Charlotte, NC 28203
704.632.8040 • tastefullycarolina.com
Located in Charlotte's Southend

Full Service Caterer
Holiday Parties
Receptions
Rehearsal Dinners
Engagement Parties
Bridal Showers
Spa Parties

Visit our cafe for a sampling of the possibilities!
(Wedding tastings by appointment only)

Let stairs be our problem... not yours!

Ask about our Stairway lifts.

- Easily attached to steps (not walls)
- Folds out of the way
- Fits most stairways (straight & curved)
- Very affordable (rent or buy)
- We install

Chair & Equipment Rentals & Sales, Inc.
800 Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC • (800) 333-8431
Member of St. Thomas Aquinas

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Come and see our special Christmas Gifts!

- Books
- Nativity sets
- Cards
- Videos
- Jewelry
-and more!

336-760-1673

New Covenant Bookstore
304 Upton St.,
Winston-Salem, NC
www.newcovenantbookstore.com

AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING

A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles
Licensed & Insured
FREE ESTIMATES
www.avroofing.com
704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Combating poverty

Applications invited for local CCHD grants

**\$500 TO \$5,000
AVAILABLE TO LOCAL
ORGANIZATIONS**

CHARLOTTE — The Catholic Campaign for Human Development in the Diocese of Charlotte is accepting grant applications for the 2006 funding year.

CCHD makes small grants from \$500 to \$5,000 to organizations without regard to religious affiliation. Applications must be postmarked by Feb. 15, 2006.

Established in 1970 as the U.S. bishops' domestic anti-poverty, social justice program, CCHD is a response to the biblical call for justice for those who are poor. Its mission is to address the root causes of poverty through the promotion and support of community-controlled, self-help organizations and education.

"CCHD was a program originally designed to alleviate poverty," said Terri Jarina, program director for parish social ministry for the Office of Justice and Peace, Catholic Social Services, and diocesan director for CCHD.

"Over time, the U.S. bishops realized poverty is a bigger problem than originally thought, and their focus shifted to breaking the cycle of poverty," she said.

The Diocese of Charlotte CCHD

Committee solicits programs and projects that:

- seek to affect the root causes of poverty in the target community;
- involve active participation of the people served in the planning and decision-making of the sponsoring organization;
- indicate potential for institutional change, empowerment of the people and community involved, and the development of local leadership;
- conform to Catholic social teaching.

"CCHD looks at how money awarded through grants can help keep people from sliding back into poverty," said Jarina.

WANT TO APPLY?

In order to apply for a CCHD grant, all applications must be postmarked by Feb. 15, 2006.

For more information or an application, contact Terri Jarina at (704) 370-3234. An application and sample grant are available on the Catholic Social Services Web site at www.cssnc.org/justicepeace.

To obtain the application as an e-mail attachment in an MS Word document, send an e-mail request to thjarina@charlottediocese.org.

After the feast



COURTESY PHOTO

Volunteers clean dishes after the annual Thanksgiving dinner at Queen of the Apostles Church in Belmont Nov. 20. More than 270 people attended the event, which also celebrated the 40th anniversary of the parish and 40 years in the priesthood for Oblate Father Joseph Zuschmidt, pastor. Abbot Placid Solari of Belmont Abbey blessed the meal that included 10 turkeys.

"Since I have attended Queen of the Apostles, this was the largest event we have hosted," said Walter Baranowski, a member of the parish council. "It was very well-received and enjoyed by all."

The local Knights of Columbus presented Father Zuschmidt with a plaque in appreciation for his service to the parish and community.

"It was indeed a day of gratitude," said Father Zuschmidt.

**125,000 people will read
these words this week**



Shouldn't they see YOUR COMPANY'S name here?

LOW ad rates - easy for small businesses and individuals, too!

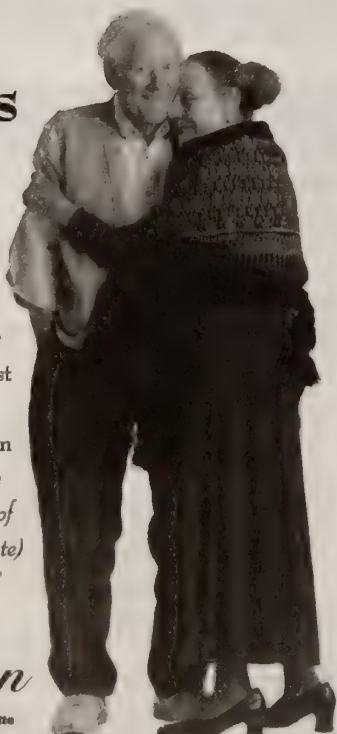
Call (704) 370-3332 now!

THE
CATHOLIC
NEWS & HERALD

Remember God's Will In Yours

You can take care of your family and your church through your will. You can express your commitment to your Church by making a bequest to the Diocese of Charlotte or to your parish. Simply have the following statement included in your will: "I leave to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte (or _____ parish, city) the sum of \$_____ (or _____ percent of the residue of my estate) for its religious, educational and charitable works."

The Foundation
of the
Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte



To receive the free booklet "Better Estate Planning" contact Judy Smith, Director of Planned Giving, 704-370-3320; 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203. jmsmith@charlottediocese.org.

**St. Patrick
Cathedral**

The Very Rev. Paul Gary
Rector
Rev. Mr. Nicholas Fadaro
Deacon

Rev. Robert Conway
Parochial Vicar
Rev. Mr. Carlos Medina
Deacon

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES
4 p.m. - Children's Mass
6 p.m. - Family Mass
Midnight - Bishop Peter Jugis

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES
8 a.m., 9:30 a.m.
11 a.m. - Bishop Peter Jugis
12:30 p.m.

NEW YEAR'S EVE MASSES
5:30 p.m. - Vigil
Midnight Mass
Doors open at 11:00 p.m.
Bishop William Curlin

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES
8 a.m., 9:30 a.m.
11 a.m. - Bishop Peter Jugis
12:30 p.m.

1621 Dilworth Road East
Charlotte, NC 28203 (704) 334-2283
Visit our website at www.stpatrickscath.org

**Come
celebrate the
Birth of
Our Savior.**



Kitchen blessing



COURTESY PHOTO

Father Thomas Selvaraj, pastor of St. Joseph of the Hills Church in Eden, blesses the renovated parish hall kitchen area, which was completed a day before the parish's Thanksgiving dinner Nov. 20. The renovations were achieved through the efforts of numerous volunteers and contributors.

Please Give Generously

Retirement Fund for Religious

Since 1988, you have donated more than \$460 million to help alleviate unfunded retirement liability at Catholic religious institutes. Regrettably, the costs for assisted living and skilled nursing care for elderly religious exceed this amount *each year*. Please remember our faithful women and men who have dedicated their lives to prayer and service.



- Today, almost 39,000 sisters, brothers, and order priests are past age 70.
- In 2004, the Fund awarded grants to 528 religious institutes, including 91 monasteries where prayer is the primary ministry.
- Less than five percent of donations are used for administration, education, and promotion.

Give at your local Catholic parish.

Make your check payable to:
Retirement Fund for Religious.

Or, donate by mail:

National Religious Retirement Office
Attn: RFR
3211 Fourth Street NE
Washington DC 20017

View our annual report online: www.usccb.org/nrro

Dining with class

Hunger Banquet raises awareness, funds for hunger

BY CAROLE MCGROTTY
CORRESPONDENT

ASHEVILLE — In the school gymnasium, “police” circulated among the second- and third-class diners, ready to “arrest” someone for the slightest infraction.

One officer carried a sign that read, “If you ask for rice, you’ll be arrested.”

Third-class, or lower-class, citizens, were seated on cardboard mats on the floor. Their meal consisted of two ounces of rice, the amount a refugee typically receives in a day. They stood in line for their allotment of rice and water, and were treated rudely by those providing the nourishment.

The dining experience was part of Asheville Catholic School’s Hunger Banquet, held at the school Nov. 9. The banquet gave students and their parents an idea of how people of the world eat, while it raised funds for impoverished people.

“The Hunger Banquet tries to make a tangible reminder of what the world situation is like,” said Father John Schneider, pastor of St. Eugene Church and administrator of Asheville Catholic School.

Last year’s banquet raised \$500. This year’s banquet topped \$1,100.

Manna Foodbank in Asheville, which distributes food to needy people in western North Carolina, received \$100. The remainder went to Catholic Relief Services in Haiti.

Patrick Fidelia, a native of Haiti, spoke to the students and parents about what life is like for the poor in Haiti.

“What you are doing here is very important,” said Fidelia. “Don’t ever for-

get this night. It will make a lasting impression on your heart.”

Fifth-grade teacher Andrew Weatherly served as the banquet’s master of ceremonies, with fifth-grade students serving as both meal police and waiters, depending on what class area they were in.

Second-class citizens sat at tables and ate rice, beans, juice and water. They were not allowed seconds.

Only a few people were seated at the first-class tables, which had white tablecloths and came with a full meal consisting of lasagna. The fifth-grade waiters hovered nearby to fulfill their dining wishes.

Everyone paid the same amount for the meals.

Parent Ann Williams was a third-class citizen seated on the floor.

“I wanted to be at the table with the tablecloths. This isn’t what I was hoping for, but I’m (playing) a refugee from Bolivia, where my life is mining gold and silver,” said Williams.

Still hungry after finishing her allotment of rice and water, Williams said she had become more aware of what people in Third World countries have to endure.

Student Montana Weatherly was seated in the second-class section. He asked for salt, even though he knew that would get him arrested.

“It will be worth it, because when I get out, I’ll have salt,” he said.

Many diners were still hungry after finishing their small meals.

“Go beyond tonight,” said Fidelia to the group. “What do you have at home that you can give?”



PHOTO BY CAROLE MCGROTTY

Students and their parents portraying “third-class citizens” sit on the gymnasium floor to eat their meals of rice and water during Asheville Catholic School’s Hunger Banquet Nov. 9. The banquet gave participants an idea of how people of the world eat, while also raising funds for impoverished people.

FROM THE COVER

Stepsisters meet husbands online

LOVE, from page 1

gious education at St. Stephen Church in Sanford in eastern North Carolina. The roommates instantly bonded with their shared love of the Catholic Church.

That same month, two stepsisters, Cheryl Turner and Jane Valencia, moved into a house in Charlotte. After being away from each other for more than a decade, they were eager to resume their relationship as close stepsisters.

Although 160 miles separated the two pairs, they all had been praying to find a spouse, especially to St. Raphael and Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

The quest begins

Jacome's cousin recommended a matchmaking Web site for Catholics. Jacome was hesitant at first, and Hanes said he would wait to see how things worked out for his roommate before exploring the world of Internet dating.

The Turner's mother, a third-order Carmelite, also encouraged them to try the Internet.

In early January 2004, Jacome, Valencia and Turner posted their profiles on the same Catholic dating site.

"I had always wanted to marry a theologian, or someone deeply involved in the Catholic Church," Turner said. Jacome's profile as an "ex-seminarian" intrigued her.

"I got an e-mail from Cheryl stating her interest in my seminary experience," Jacome said. They exchanged e-mails for a few days, and on Jan. 16, exactly one week after he posted his profile, Jacome nervously called Turner on her cell phone.

When Turner got the call from Jacome, she and Valencia were driving to Buies Creek, N.C. to visit their mother, just 25 miles from where Jacome and Hanes were living.

Jacome asked Turner to meet him that night.

"My reaction was, 'Can I bring my sister?'" said Turner.

"And my reaction was, 'Can I bring my roommate?'" Jacome said. Hanes reluctantly agreed to tag along on what was

now a double blind date.

Soon the four young adults were in a pool hall, looking for each other, with no idea was their counterparts looked like, other than the clothing descriptions they had exchanged.

Guided by the Holy Spirit

While it wasn't love at first sight, the two couples instantly connected on a spiritual level. They all knew the same Catholic prayers and saints. Valencia recognized the medal Hanes wore as St. Benedict. Turner quizzed Jacome about his time in the seminary.

The four of them talked about their Catholic faith until 2 a.m.

Turner invited Jacome and Hanes to attend Mass with them the next day, but never called to confirm the plans.

"I thought 'rejected again,'" Jacome said.

Hanes' reaction was, "so much for that."

The stepsisters, however, thought nothing of the sort. After all these years, of running into dead-end relationships and not being able to find anyone "remotely faithful and spiritually mature," they had found two men with whom they were "in sync" on faith issues.

The next week, Turner e-mailed Jacome, asking Hanes to call her stepsister. At that point, Jacome was certain he had struck out.

Over the next two weeks, Turner and Jacome continued to talk via e-mail.

"Cheryl would write, 'Didn't Matt and Jane connect?' and I would say, 'Yeah, they connected really well,'" Jacome said laughingly.

Jacome said that as the "main communicators," he and Turner were more cautious in their conversations.

"But they really liked each other all along," Valencia said.

They all soon decided to go on another date. The men met the Turner's mother, Emmie, and attended Mass together.

"(Matt and I) both knew then that God was already strongly in our midst and the feeling of being blessed never left me the whole night," said Jacome. "Afterward, we had another awesome night of sharing our faith and our experiences."

Spiritual pairings

The two couples consider Mary and the Holy Spirit to be their guides throughout their dating experiences.

"The best thing we did was that we started praying early and often together," said Hanes.

"We always involved God in our dates: going to eucharistic adoration before dates and going on spiritual retreats," said Valencia.

Both couples agreed that double dating made the process easier; when one person ran out of things to say, there were three other people to keep the conversation going.

"It was great that God had all of us together in the beginning, because Matt and I are both shy," Valencia said.

"In the past, it always seemed so hard to be in a relationship," said Hanes. "But with Jane, it was just peaceful and easy."

Emmie Turner had been preparing her daughters for marriage since they each turned 15, teaching them about the importance of finding a holy spouse and having a holy marriage.

"We were amazed that we all looked at marriage as a way to bring each other to heaven," Jacome said. "In knowing that, a great trust was formed. To love a person so much to care for their soul as to desire heaven for them was our goal."

"Everything that we had in common, wasn't coincidence — it was the Holy Spirit," said Hanes.

Wedded bliss

As time grew on, it became clear the two couples were meant to be together. This became clearest to Hanes first. On March 30,

2004, only two-and-a-half months after they met, he proposed to Valencia.

They were married Sept. 4, 2004. Matt and Jane Hanes spent their honeymoon at the National Shrine of the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. and at Catholic shrines in Emmitsburg, Md.

Turner decided to move out of the house to give the couple a home of their own. So she bought a house — next door to the one she and her sister had been sharing.

In December 2004, Jacome proposed in the adoration chapel at St. Gabriel Church in Charlotte.

"I felt it only appropriate to get our Father in Heaven's blessing first," said Jacome.

Bryant and Cheryl Jacome were married July 9, 2005, and are expecting a baby in May 2006.

Both couples married at Sacred Heart Church in Dunn, N.C. — the church where they first attended Mass together. The Haneses are members at St. Patrick Cathedral, while the Jacomes split their time between St. Thomas Aquinas and Our Lady of the Assumption churches, all in Charlotte.

Several months after that first Mass they attended together, Emmie Turner shared something with her daughters.

She had sat behind the two couples, and during the Mass, Emmie Turner felt the presence of the Virgin Mary blessing Turner, Jacome, Valencia and Hanes.

"It is truly amazing what God has planned for you when you ask and say 'yes,'" said Jacome. "To be blessed to find spouses with such faith for the rest of our lives is tremendous, especially to know it is heavenly blessed."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

The **Catholic** Company
Lake Norman Book Store
maryimmaculata.com

Mon. thru Sat.
10 am - 6 pm

CAROLINA CATHOLIC BOOKSHOPPE

Jesus is the reason for the season!

NOW 2 COMPLETE Catholic stores for

- Unique gifts & cards
- Books, rosaries, medals
- Previously read book section (at Lake Norman)
- Video rentals
- Artwork

704-655-9090
19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)

704-342-2878
4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

\$5 OFF
Any Purchase
of \$35 or More
Present coupon. Not valid with any
other offers. Expires 12/24/05

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

***** Now with 3 locations to serve you *****



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels.

Asheville 828-665-3944	Charlotte 704-549-4010	Mooresville 704-663-1065
----------------------------------	----------------------------------	------------------------------------

3rd Annual North Carolina Black Catholic Conference



THE LOVE OF CHRIST IMPELS US...

Sponsored by Diocese of Raleigh
African Ancestry Ministry & Evangelization

June 23-25, 2006

Sheraton Capital Center Hotel
421 S. Salisbury Street, Raleigh

Opening Keynote Speaker
Deacon Alex Jones
Archdiocese of Detroit, Michigan

Workshop Subjects:

- Spirituality
- Youth and Young Adults
- Racism
- Catholic Education
- Parish Life
- HIV/AIDS
- Africa
- Social Justice

For information contact:

Martha Carter Bailey,

Director of African Ancestry Ministry & Evangelization
919-821-9762 or email: Martha.bailey@raldioc.org

2006 North Carolina Black Catholic Conference • Registration Form

Please Print.

Please check one: ☐ Youth age (8-18) age _____ ☐ Young Adult (19-35) age _____ ☐ Adult
☐ I will attend the Youth Track

Name _____

Ministry Position(s) _____

Parish/Diocese _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____ Email _____

Full Conference Includes: • Attendance to all sessions and workshops • Vendor Exhibits
• Conference Materials • Breakfast Buffet - Saturday - Sunday
• Recognition Banquet - Saturday

NCBC Conference Registration Fees:

Please check appropriate items:	Registration by 5/13/06	Registration by 6/17/06
_____ Full Conference per person	\$100.00	\$125.00
_____ Family of 4 Full Conference	\$270.00	\$290.00
_____ Saturday Registration & Banquet	\$90.00	\$90.00
_____ Onsite Registration per person	\$135.00 (Cash Only)	
_____ Bill Parish (Please confirm with your Parish)		

For Office Use Only:	Date Received	Check #	Check Amount
-------------------------	---------------	---------	--------------

Make Checks Payable To: NCBC Conference
Please mail Registration To: Diocese of Raleigh
715 Nazareth Street
Raleigh, NC 27606

Phone: 919-821-9744 • Fax: 919-821-9712 • Email: register@raldioc.org

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Chronicling a legend

C.S. Lewis biographer sees boom in interest in writer's works, life

BY MARK PATTISON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — John Ryan Duncan was a C.S. Lewis fan before it was cool to be a C.S. Lewis fan.

Lewis has always had fans — none of the prolific Christian writer's books has ever gone out of print — but a bandwagon for him has begun to roll in anticipation of the Dec. 9 release of the movie "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe," based on a Lewis novel.

Duncan filmed a documentary and wrote a companion book, both titled "The Magic Never Ends: The Life and Work of C.S. Lewis" and released in 2001. The documentary is getting played again on PBS stations throughout the country, and the book is being republished.

"The interest in C.S. Lewis is pretty astounding," Duncan said. "His readers are passionate readers — passionate not only about the content, but the entertainment value."

In a telephone interview with Catholic News Service, Duncan said that despite the research that went into the book and documentary, "I think it would be overreaching to say that I am capable of getting into the mind of C.S. Lewis."

Still, he gave it a try.

"While he (Lewis) was not an avid reader of current events — he was not someone who paid terribly close attention to world affairs — he had more of an epic sensibility about the nature of good and evil and the way those things played out in life and in literature," Duncan said.

"You're able to see that in a lot of his works. His life experiences, especially in World War I, really informed a lot of his work," Duncan said.

"The same with (J.R.R.) Tolkien, (a friend of Lewis'). I really think Tolkien's work was really impacted by World War I," he said. "They both understood the horrors of war, and so the themes of good and evil permeated their work."

Lewis embraced the use of allegory in his seven-book Narnia series, but only to a point, according to Duncan.

"A lot of people would look at 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' and say, 'Oh, look, this is an allegory for the story of Christ.' Lewis himself said no, it's not an allegory, because there's no 1-to-1 ratio. 'This' is not really 'this,' 'that' is not exactly 'that,'" Duncan said.

"But he coined the phrase 'supposal,' and his version of that term, the way he defines it, is that 'The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' is supposal," Duncan said.

"Suppose there was another land called Narnia, and suppose there was a character in Narnia named Aslan who

had the characteristics of Christ, and suppose there were a story (with) elements in it that were similar to the story of Christ. That's how he gets away with the allegory."

To a non-Christian, the allegory is not overt, but the Christian reader sees "what Lewis wants you to see — the story of Christ," Duncan said, cautioning against any religious tradition appropriating Lewis for its own devices.

Lewis was raised an Anglican, became an atheist in young adulthood, and later renewed his belief in God — but professed Christianity without embracing the tenets of any one Christian religion.

"I am always afraid of C.S. Lewis being co-opted by any one denomination or any sect of any kind," Duncan said.

"I think C.S. Lewis speaks universally to people around the world and specifically to Christians," Duncan said. "I don't think he is any less relevant to evangelicals than he is to Catholics. He is equally relevant to both."

Lewis was a popular author in his native England, but he died in relative obscurity. On the day he died, the hugely popular Beatles released their second album in England. On the same day — Friday, Nov. 22, 1963 — President John Kennedy was assassinated.

Until Duncan's documentary no one had ever done a film biography of Lewis. In assembling material for the documentary, Duncan said there were apparently "no motion picture images of C.S. Lewis anywhere."

However, he got the cooperation of Douglas Gresham, Lewis' stepson, in making the film.

Gresham has worked with Lewis' estate since 1973, and assisted with the upcoming movie. Taking a cue from Lewis' own spirituality, Gresham became a minister; he and his wife operate a nondenominational Christian house of ministry that specializes in counseling and seminar hosting.

30 YEARS EXPERIENCE



ALICE & THE PYANO MAN

Henry C. Rozell III

2nd Generation

Piano Tuner/Technician
Piano Tuning, Repairs, Refinishing

Pianos Bought and Sold

FREE ESTIMATES

704-321-5843

Cell: 704-562-5394

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: DEC. 18, 2005

Dec. 18, Fourth Sunday of Advent

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
Psalm 89:2-5, 27, 29
- 2) Romans 16:25-27
- 3) Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

Like Mary, we are all called by God

BY JEAN DENTON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

"Who, me?" is certainly the theme of this weekend's Gospel, as Mary is told she has been chosen by God for a special role in God's plan for the world.

Although we may not have the benefit of an angel bringing us the message (and we don't know how obvious this actually was to Mary either), many of us have been called by God to a specific mission at one time or another. Like Mary, our first reaction is: "Who, me? How could it be me?"

Here's how just such an incident played out with a couple of my friends.

Tim was chair of the church justice and peace committee. One day Elaine, a parishioner, telephoned him to say one of her children had met a newly arrived refugee student at school and learned that the family had nothing but the clothes in their suitcase.

They need food and basic furnishings, she said. "Is there something you can do?"

Tim, noting that he didn't have an organized, ready-made group for such a task, asked her, "Can you do something for them?"

"Me?" Elaine said, surprised.

She was very active in many ministries of the parish, but the justice and peace committee wasn't one of them.

"I mean our church needs to do something for them," she told Tim. "You're called to this. I'm not called to this."

"Did you find out about these people from your child?" Tim asked. "I'd say you've just been called."

So it goes. Even the most faithful people sometimes are surprised by a special call from God. Often, as it was with Mary and Elaine, we initially don't believe it because it doesn't fit our expectations or our image of ourselves.

God's call to Mary is a good reminder to us that God knows things about us that we don't know, and God has plans for us that are even greater than we can imagine. The hope is that our response will be the same as Mary's (and Elaine's, by the way): "Let it be done to me according to your word."

Questions:

When was a time you were called by God for a specific task or role that surprised you? How did you react? Why were you surprised?

Scripture to Illustrate:

"She was deeply troubled by his words, and wondered what his greeting meant" (Luke 1:29).

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF DEC. 11 - 17

Sunday (Third Sunday of Advent), Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11 Luke 1:46-50, 53-54, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24, John 1:6-8, 19-28; Monday (Our Lady of Guadalupe), Zechariah 2:14-17, Luke 1:26-38; Tuesday (St. Lucy), Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13, Matthew 21:28-32; Wednesday (St. John of the Cross), Isaiah 45:6-8, 18, 21-25, Luke 7:18-23; Thursday (Advent Weekday), Isaiah 54:1-10, Luke 7:24-30; Friday (Advent Weekday), Isaiah 56:1-3, 6-8, John 5:33-36; Saturday (Late Advent Weekday), Genesis 49:2, 8-10, Matthew 1:1-17.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF DEC. 18 - 24

Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Advent), 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16, Romans 16:25-27, Luke 1:26-38; Monday (Late Advent Weekday), Judges 13:2-7, 24-25, Luke 1:5-25; Tuesday (Late Advent Weekday), Isaiah 7:10-14, Luke 1:26-38; Wednesday (St. Peter Canisius), Song of Songs 2:8-14, Luke 1:39-45; Thursday (Late Advent Weekday), 1 Samuel 1:24-28, 1 Samuel 2:1, 4-8, Luke 1:46-56; Friday (St. John Kanty), Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24, Luke 1:57-66; Saturday (Late Advent Weekday), 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-11, 16, Luke 1:67-79.

<p>'TIS THE SEASON FOR YOU TO GET A LOW RATE!</p>	<p>30-Year Fixed:</p> <p>5.875%</p> <p>As mortgage brokers, we work with a variety of lenders to find the best loan and rates for your needs & goals!</p> <p>NEW WORLD MORTGAGE A Lender For Life</p> <p>1930 Camden Rd. Suite 2010 Charlotte, NC 28203</p> <p><small>Rates subject to change. Certain restrictions on loan size apply. APR varies on loan placement.</small></p>	<p>Jayne McGonnell Parishioner of St. Thomas Aquinas 704.549.4600 x1028 877.402.4600 (tollfree) 704.516.9682 (cell)</p> <p>Debra Young Parishioner of St. Matthew 704.549.4600 x1027 877.402.4600 (tollfree) 704.771.6251 (cell)</p>
--	---	--

'Narnia' film worth visiting

BY DAVID DiCERTO
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW YORK (CNS) — It has taken more than 50 years for a live-action version of Christian author C.S. Lewis' beloved children's fantasy, "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe," to make it to the big screen. After viewing Disney's captivating \$150 million adaptation, it's safe to say it was well worth the wait.

First published in 1950, "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" is the first in a seven-volume series known as "The Chronicles of Narnia."

Produced in partnership with faith-friendly Walden Media, the movie not only stays reverently true to the story and spiritual subtext of Lewis' tale, but is a cinematic work of extraordinary beauty that, much like the title's enchanted armoire, transports viewers to a wondrous world of adventure, heroism and religious symbolism.

Set in World War II-era England, the story centers on four young siblings: Peter, the eldest of the Pevensie brood; sensible sister Susan; duplicitous Edmund; and plucky little Lucy. Evacuated from blitzkrieg-bombarded London, the children are left in the safekeeping of an elderly and eccentric professor.

While playing hide and seek, Lucy happens upon an old wardrobe through which she stumbles magically into Narnia — a fairy-tale realm populated by talking animals and mythical creatures — and she later returns along with her brothers and sister.

Their appearance foretold by an ancient Narnian prophecy, the children set out to rescue an imprisoned faun arrested for fraternizing with Lucy.

Their quest eventually leads them to fight alongside Narnia's regal lion king Aslan against the evil White Witch, Jadis,

who holds the land under an icy spell of eternal deep freeze.

From the moment Lucy first sets eyes on the snow-blanketed Narnian glade, fans of the book will know that they are in sure hands with director Andrew Adamson, who never allows spectacle to overshadow the story's emotional core.

He also captures both the childlike wonder and indefinable, melancholic nostalgia for a world beyond our own that underscores all seven books.

The film uses fairy-tale and mythic motifs to explore larger themes of good and evil, sin and redemption, and death and resurrection.

This is best illustrated by the clearly allegorical Christ-figure of Aslan, "a willing victim ... killed in a traitor's stead" only to come back to life in glorified form. (Though gentle at times, Aslan is not "tame," but a wild and dangerous lion of Judah.)

Told with symbolic strokes, the deeply poignant sequence unmistakably traces Christ's passion from Gethsemane to his dying on Calvary, here a stone table upon which Aslan is ritualistically slain. Those first to witness the "resurrected" Aslan are women, and afterward Aslan "breathes" a new spirit of life into those Narnians turned to stone by the White Witch's magic, echoing both Pentecost and the harrowing of hell.

Though a few of the processed shots are obvious, overall the special effects are impressive, including a majestic — and amazingly realistic — computer-rendered Aslan.

The climactic battle may be too intense for young children, as may be scenes involving a pack of vicious wolves serving as Jadis' henchmen. Hardest of all to watch is Aslan's atoning death, surrounded by hellish legions. His apparent "defeat" is trumpeted by Jadis'

victory cry, "So much for love."

Some parents may feel it inappropriately upsetting for a "family film," but Lewis himself argued that it was proper not to shield children from knowledge that they are "born into a world of death, violence, wounds, adventure, heroism and cowardice, good and evil."

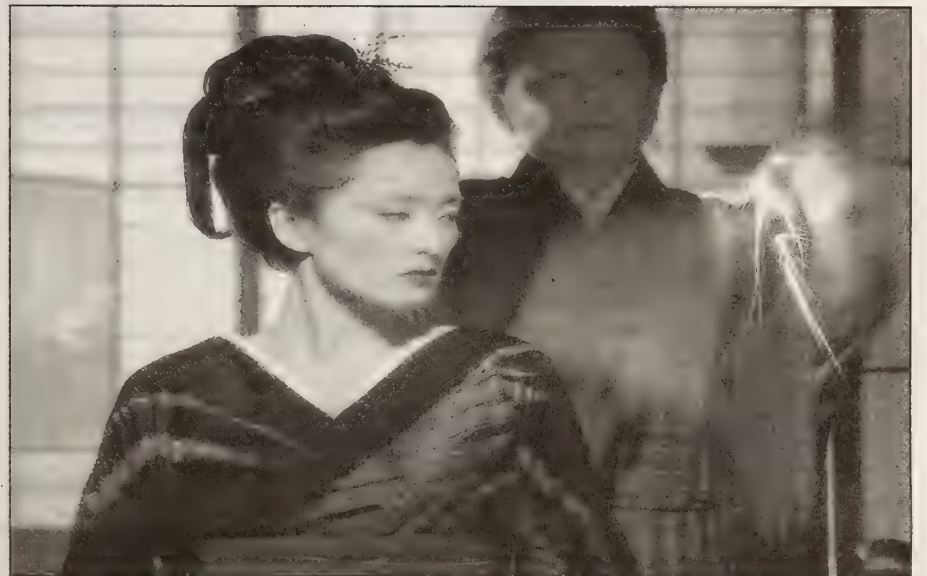
Unlike Lucy at the end, you won't be left wondering if they'll ever find passage

back into Narnia; with six more movies planned, the door is, thankfully, left ajar!

The film contains some battlefield violence, intense scenes of child peril and menace, and several frightening sequences. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested.

DiCerto is on the staff of the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

'Memoirs' a compelling story



CNS PHOTO FROM SONY/COLUMBIA

Gong Li stars in a scene from the movie "Memoirs of a Geisha," a beautifully filmed and finely acted adaptation of Arthur Golden's best-seller about a girl (Ziyi Zhang) sold by her family into being a geisha in pre-World War II Japan, and her over-the-years love for a businessman (Ken Watanabe) who bought her ice cream as a child.

Director Rob Marshall has crafted what is basically an unrequited romance of the kind Hollywood used to make, though one must make cultural allowances for the concept of a geisha — strictly speaking, a woman trained to converse with and entertain men with dance and music — but there is a discreetly portrayed sexual component to the story as related here.

Some sexual banter and discreetly filmed sexual situations, including a sexual assault, and a couple of violent episodes. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

Many Annuity Owners Lose Money. Will YOU?

Some annuity owners lose money because they didn't know what questions to ask when they bought, and their salesperson did not volunteer any information.

If you own an annuity or are considering taking advantage of their many benefits, my **FREE** report, "Using Guaranteed Annuities to Help You Survive Your Retirement," will tell you what questions to ask.

The report is **FREE** and shows you how to get more benefits from your existing assets and help preserve your annuity value.

Call 800-800-4960, ext. 7405 (24 hours)

for your **FREE** report!

Dr. Richard Pucciarelli

Certified Senior Advisor

Member of Asset Protectors and Advisors Group



TAKE YOUR EVENT somewhere unusual...

The Catholic Conference Center offers the exuberance of nature in a celestial environment unlike any you've ever been to before. Eight meeting rooms. Fifty hotel-style lodging rooms. Bountiful dining and a staff ready to serve you in style! All this and more on 172 beautifully landscaped acres offering that special "retreat" environment in a modern conference setting.

1551 Trinity Lane, Hickory, NC 28602
(828) 327-7441 or Toll-free (888) 536-7441



**The Catholic
Conference
Center**

Check out our website
www.catholicconference.org
info@catholicconference.org

Eye for excellence



COURTESY PHOTO

Allie Cross, a sixth-grader at Our Lady of Mercy School in Winston-Salem, stands with her one of her award-winning photographs at the Dixie Classic Fair in Winston-Salem in October. Two of the three photographs Allie entered in the fair received awards. Her photo of a space shuttle taken at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C., won first place in the sixth-through-eighth-grade "color photos — other" category and the "judge's choice — color" award. Her photo of an orange tamarind monkey taken at the Washington Zoo won second place in the sixth-through-eighth-grade "color photos — animals" category.

Author, illustrator visit schools



COURTESY PHOTO BY LORI THOMPSON

Leah Butler, a Charlotte children's author, reads her new book, "Owen's Choice," to third-, fourth- and fifth-graders at St. Ann School in Charlotte Oct. 25. After the reading, Butler spent time answering the students' questions about her writing process. Butler's books are used as teaching tools for parents in helping their children make wise decisions regarding peer pressure.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

The Archdiocese of Atlanta seeks an experienced principal to lead Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School, a SACS accredited college preparatory high school; co-educational, with 258 students and 35 faculty members. The School offers a challenging academic and co-curricular program to a diverse student body: 43% African American, 46% Caucasian and 11% other ethnic groups. Located in Fairburn, Georgia, 20 miles south of downtown Atlanta. Position requirements:

- Practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church;
- Educational Leadership Certification;
- Minimum of 3 years of successful Catholic secondary administrative experience;
- Excellent communication skills;
- Collaborative leadership style;
- Experience in fiscal management and institutional advancement;
- Commitment to teaching;
- Fair and consistent disciplinarian.

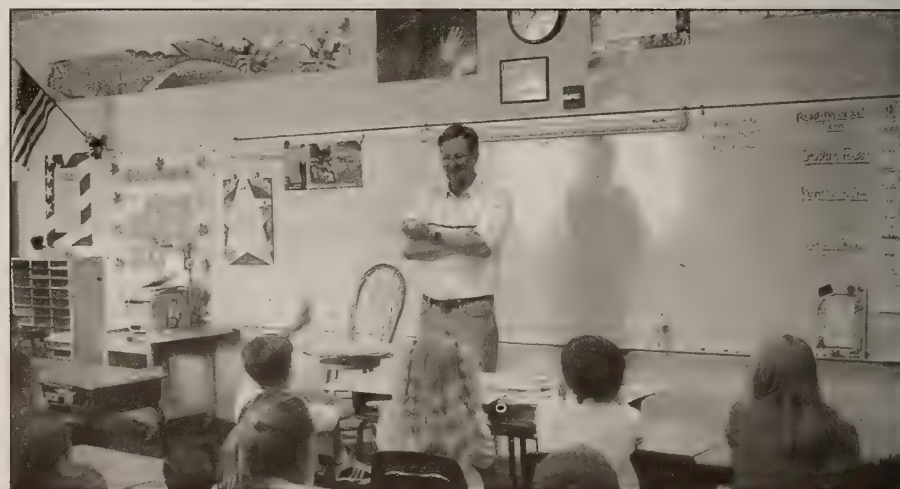


Negotiable and competitive salary; excellent benefits. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled. Send letter of interest, resume, university credentials, and names, addresses and telephone numbers of at least five references to:

Ruprecht and Associates
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811

Phone: 218-727-5150

E-mail: mruprecht@cpinternet.com



COURTESY PHOTO

Gary Palmer, illustrator of "T is for Tarheel" and "Wright Numbers" and a North Carolina native, talks to fourth- and fifth-grade students at St. Matthew School in Charlotte Nov. 8. Palmer discussed illustrating books and posters; his visit helped kick off the school's book fair.

Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT

COMMUNITY GROUP HOME MANAGER: (adults) — Live in (7 days on, 7 days off). Prepare/serve meals, transportation, recreation, cleaning, med treatments, work goals. Requirements: HS/GED & group home & MR/DD experience. Holy Angels, Inc., 6600 Wilkinson Boulevard, Belmont, N.C. 28012. (704) 825-4161

SERVICES

EMERALD HOME REMODELING: NC Licensed General Contractor. Kitchens, Baths,

Additions, Handyman services, etc. All size jobs completed. (704) 684-0301(T); (704) 719-0808(cell) for free consultation

PIANO TUNING & RESTORATION: Hi-Quality Used Pianos. PIANO CRAFT (336) 454-2000. Al Guecia, formerly of Steinway & Sons. IHM Parishioner.

FOR RENT

VACATION CABIN: Lake Lure. Mountain views! A great holiday get-away! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, fully furnished. Reasonable rates. Call 828-299-3714.

Classified ads bring results! Over 125,000 readers! Over 49,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Seeking Director of Human Resources for a Southeast Catholic Archdiocese to develop policy and direct and coordinate human resources activities for an organization of 3000. Responsibilities include recruitment and employment of management and non-management employees; compensation and benefit programs; employee relations; training and development programs; regulatory compliance in employment practices; employee and management counseling; and committee and project work. **REQUIREMENTS:** **Education.** BA in Human Resource management, psychology or business, and/or equivalent experience. **Experience.** Ten or more years experience in Human Resources at a professional level, including at least five years in a broad management position. Experience in working with teams and committees, and in a hierarchical structure. **Knowledge.** Broad, in-depth working knowledge of human resources laws and regulations, standard policies, practices, and procedures. Knowledge of budgeting and strategic planning. A practicing Catholic. **Skills/Abilities.** Participative/collaborative management style that is supportive of team development. Excellent communication (oral and written), interpersonal, and organizational skills. Excellent negotiating and problem-solving abilities. Strong service orientation. Good quantitative and analytical skills. Ability to use tact, sensitivity, and discretion. Ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously. Computer literacy, including skills in human resource software and timekeeping systems.

Send resume to: **Ruprecht & Associates**
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811-5018,
Email: mruprecht@cpinternet.com
Telephone: 218-727-5150



FROM THE COVER

Catholic agencies watching drug plan's effects on elderly

DRUGS, from page 1

helping Medicare beneficiaries with limited income and resources understand and utilize the prescription drug program.

Julie Trocchio, senior director for continuing care ministries at CHA, said the new benefit was "very much needed" to help Medicare beneficiaries pay for drugs prescribed to supplement the medical treatment they receive. But "whether (Medicare Part D) will do what it is intended to do remains to be seen."

The new drug benefit program was created under the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003. Unlike Medicare itself, Part D will be administered not by a government agency but by hundreds of private plans that contract with Medicare.

In 2006, Medicare beneficiaries are projected to number more than 43 million, but fewer than 30 million were expected to enroll in Medicare drug plans by the May 15 deadline, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. For those who enroll by the end of 2005, coverage begins Jan. 1.

Those who delay enrolling could face hefty penalties; for some people, premiums will go up 1 percent for each month of delayed enrollment and will remain higher as long as they stay in the drug benefit program.

But it could be an equally costly mistake for people who already have certain kinds of prescription drug coverage to enroll in a Medicare Part D plan, according to the Virginia-based American Society of Consultant Pharmacists, which notes, "You could not only lose your drug benefit coverage from the other source, but all other health care benefits you may be receiving from that other source."

About one-third of Medicare beneficiaries — some 14 million people — will be eligible for government subsidies of their drug costs because their incomes are less than 150 percent of the federal poverty level.

Of those, 7 million or so will be automatically enrolled in a prescription drug plan; the other half will need to apply for the subsidy at the Social Security Administration or state Medicaid office and then enroll in a Medicare Part D plan.

But CHA officials and other members of the Access to Benefits Coalition fear that even those automatically enrolled in a prescription drug plan might lose needed coverage if the medications they use are not covered under their new plan.

Although the federal government sets certain standards for coverage, each plan offers a different set of drugs under its formula, or list of drugs for which it will pay, and a different set of provider pharmacies.

Because existing drug coverage available to low-income seniors under the joint state-federal Medicaid program is to end

Dec. 31 and the new Medicare drug benefit to begin Jan. 1, advocates for the elderly and disabled worry that gaps in coverage might not surface until it is too late.

"Even short disruptions in drug regimens can have catastrophic consequences for individuals with chronic conditions, such as HIV/AIDS, mental illness and seizure disorders," said a report by the Institute for Health & Aging at the University of California, San Francisco.

Also at risk of losing necessary drug coverage are the residents of long-term care facilities, a group that CHA described in its 2004 comments on the proposed Medicare Part D regulations as "the most frail and ill of all seniors in this country."

"A large number of long-term care residents have eight or more chronic conditions," CHA said. "To treat these conditions, most long-term care residents receive seven or more medications in a given day. The stability of their health is dependent on medication regimen."

Among the potential problems cited by CHA and other organizations were:

— Participating plans will be allowed to drop particular drugs with 60 days' notice, but beneficiaries can only change plans once a year.

— The complexity of choices and enrollment procedures for the elderly.

— The likelihood that long-term care facilities will be required to deal with a large number of different pharmacies to obtain the medicine their residents need.

But the full effects of the new program will remain unclear until well after its Jan. 1 inauguration. "We're not going to know how it works until it starts working," said Trocchio.

Abortion is a crime, says pope

ABORTION, from page 1

of Latin American bishops' committees for the family and for life, the pope urged them to share the programs and approaches that are most successful in their countries.

"Children are the major richness and the most precious good of a family," he said. "For this reason, it is necessary to help all people to be aware that the intrinsic evil of the crime of abortion, which attacks human life at its beginning, is also an aggression against society itself."

Legalized abortion has laid the groundwork for acceptance of the destruction of embryos in scientific research, he said. The result is that human life is reduced "to an object or a mere instrument. When it reaches this level, society itself suffers and its foundations shake, with all classes at risk."

The key to addressing the situation, he said, is to strengthen and defend the traditional family. The entire church must focus on efforts to "safeguard the fundamental values of marriage and the family, which are threatened by the current phenomenon of secularization."

The family must be defended from "the pressure of unjust laws" that do not recognize the rights and needs of the family and "disfigure it with false understandings of marriage and the family that do not respect the original plan of God," he said.

ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO THE HARVEST?

Then he said to His disciples, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers for His harvest." (Mt 9:37)

I am praying that you will join me in responding to our Lord's request for more "laborers" in harvesting the abundant fruit to be found at Belmont Abbey College. Over 125 years ago the Benedictine Monks came south in response to God's call to begin His work in the vineyard of North Carolina.

He is calling you to place your hands upon the same bricks that were formed and put in place by these holy monks so long ago. I am looking for strong, dedicated, Catholic students to help realize our vision of excellence and virtue. Belmont Abbey is your Catholic College and God is calling you to the "harvest."

Dr. William K. Thierfelder
President



BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED



☐ I WANT TO HELP BUILD OUR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY. PLEASE SEND ME A STUDENT REFERRAL PACKAGE.

If you would like to help Belmont Abbey College by referring or becoming a new student, please fill out this form and send it to us or go online to BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu and click on Referral Package in the Quick Links. We will send you our complete referral/information package with detailed information about the Abbey and all it has to offer!

Your Name _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____
Email _____
Phone _____ No. of Packages Requested _____

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
100 BELMONT-MT. HOLLY ROAD
BELMONT, NC 28012-1802
BELMONTABBEYCOLLEGE.EDU

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Searching for Christmas

IS TRUE MEANING LOST AMIDST
MEDIA, COMMERCIAL INFLUENCE?

I have this recurring dream of the search for the true meaning of Christmas.

I am in a "big box" store shortly after midnight on the day after Thanksgiving. The store is packed with searchers like me. I am angry in this dream because as I reached for the last Xbox 360, an 8-year-old girl distracted me with the words, "Happy holidays," while her father swooped in to grab the electronic prize.

Next I am wrestling with a lady over the last Tickle Me Elmo doll. I have the head, she has the feet and Elmo is laughing as we stretch his seams. "Happy holidays!" I shout, but she doesn't ease her grip. And then I wake up.

It's an odd dream for me since I loathe shopping and would never be faked out by an 8-year-old. But it does make me think about the search for the true meaning of Christmas.

For the searchers, media influence is at its annual zenith with a Santa's bag of choices. Holiday programs offer music, dance and drama. News stories begin with words such as, "Just a few days before Christmas this unfortunate family ..."

We are saturated with commercial messages about the newest toy and the most expensive gadget. Enough already!

Personally I favor Easter because, even though our Lord is the reason for the Christmas season, let's face it — everyone is born, but only Jesus was resurrected.

What I like about Christmas is the surprise birthplace of the King of Kings, in a manger with only a couple of shepherds hanging around. I don't know when it happened, but sometime during the last 2,000 years all of that humility has morphed into wretched excess.

How did we get from the haunting beauty of "Silent Night" to the "Xmas Fun Songs" CD featuring, and I'm not making this up, "Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer"?

Everyone seems to have a list for the holidays. How about a list for the search-

Catholics & the Media

DAVID HAINS
GUEST COLUMNIST



ers? What do you suggest for someone who is looking for the true meaning of Christmas? Share yours via e-mail and I may include it in an upcoming column of The Catholic News & Herald.

There is no rush. One of the great things about our faith is that the Christmas season doesn't end when the stores close on Christmas Eve. We celebrate the nativity of our Lord until the Sunday after the Epiphany. This year that is Jan. 8.

Here is a short list for starters:

1. Combine the joy of holiday gatherings with prayers of thanks. I've noticed people in restaurants doing this more and more, and why not? Combining a prayer with a special meal or occasion brings a greater meaning to both.

2. Watch the movie, "A Christmas Carol." My favorite version of this Dickens classic was made in 1983 and starred George C. Scott as Ebenezer Scrooge. I rent a DVD so I can watch it several times during December.

My favorite line is Jacob Marley's admonition to the misguided Scrooge, who thought being a good man of business is all that mattered. "Mankind was my business!" Marley thundered. "The common welfare was my business; charity, mercy, forbearance and benevolence were all my business."

3. Give a gift anonymously.

4. Give the people you love the gift of time. This present can be unwrapped everyday. It is worth more than anything Neiman Marcus has to offer.

And remember, it's "Merry CHRISTmas, not "Happy holidays."

David Hains is director of communication for the Diocese of Charlotte. Contact him at dwhains@Charlottediocese.org.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

Should we focus just on abortion?

Specializing in one area offers distinctions, importance to overall mission

The Catholic Church is one body with many parts. The eye is not the hand, and those who focus on establishing soup kitchens are not the same as those who save babies at abortion mills.

Each individual and group has a specific vocation and has a right — indeed, a duty — to focus on it.

So why belabor the obvious?

Because for some, it's not so obvious. Many of us who focus on abortion are told that we can't give a pro-life talk unless we mention all the life issues, or can't hold a pro-life event if it's going to focus just on abortion.

Excuse me, but why not?

Obviously, there are many life issues, and we are all called to see the connection between them. But seeing that connection, we are still free to focus. To have an event or preach a homily today on abortion means we also have the freedom to have an event or preach a homily next week that focuses on world peace.

Cardinal Joseph Bernardin is often invoked for his firm articulation of the consistent ethic of life. Yet he, too, made it clear that it is perfectly legitimate to focus on a particular issue.

On one occasion he asked, "Does this mean that everyone must do everything? No! There are limits of time, energy and competency. There is a shape to every individual vocation. People must specialize; groups must focus their energies."

"The consistent ethic does not deny this. But it does say something to the Church: It calls us to a wider witness to life than we sometimes manifest in our separate activities" (address at Seattle University, March 2, 1986).

When the U.S. bishops write about the consistent ethic of life, they say the following:

"Among important issues involving

Guest Column

FATHER
FRANK PAVONE
GUEST COLUMNIST



the dignity of human life with which the Church is concerned, abortion necessarily plays a central role. Abortion, the direct killing of an innocent human being, is always gravely immoral (The Gospel of Life, no. 57); its victims are the most vulnerable and defenseless members of the human family. It is imperative that those who are called to serve the least among us give urgent attention and priority to this issue of justice.

"This focus and the Church's commitment to a consistent ethic of life complement one another. A consistent ethic of life, which explains the Church's teaching at the level of moral principle — far from diminishing concern for abortion and euthanasia or equating all issues touching on the dignity of human life — recognizes instead the distinctive character of each issue while giving each its proper place within a coherent moral vision" (USCCB, Pastoral Plan for Pro-life Activities, 2001).

We are all called to be concerned about every life issue, and to say so. But it is the Catholic Church as a body that is called to carry out the many works of justice, with each part of the body doing its appointed task rather than being made to feel it must do the task of everyone else.

Father Frank Pavone is national director for Priests for Life.

Parental Consent and Notification Laws by State

In 35 states, minors must notify or get consent from a parent or guardian to have an abortion. Similar laws in 9 states are on hold pending legal challenges. Six states have no laws on the topic.



The miracle of our Christmases

Accepting the cross helps overcome solitude

Christmas is a very special time for Christians. That we all know! But I would wager that for many of us, this miraculous event is personally momentous because of events in our lives that connect us with the child from heaven.

Last Christmas Eve was a time of pain and joy for my family. That day we buried my mother, a woman who talked always of the Lord, went to daily Mass and died peacefully at age 96.

Of course, I had tears, but I knew they were not just for Mom. Her passing brought on pangs of pain remembered, for the Christmases I have spent, as any mother who has lost a child does, wishing my three sons, Peter, John and Sterling, were at our earthly table instead of their heavenly one.

I'd found a book called "Christ in Poetry" around the time Peter, the youngest of my seven children, died. In it was a poem written by Edwin McNeill Poteat titled "Mary Pondered All These Things."

I read it, and I could relate: "Mother Mary's mind — a repository — cherished every kind of event and story. ... Mothers still, it seems, keep their hearts like Mary — full of words and dreams — like a reliquary."

I related in a different way to a poem by an early Christian mystic, Angelus

The Bottom Line

ANTOINETTE BOSCO
CNS COLUMNIST



Silesius. "Though Christ a thousand times, in Bethlehem be born," he wrote, "if he's not born in thee, thy soul is still forlorn."

And he linked the birth of this child to the gift of the cross. His words seemed to be advice from heaven for me at that time: "The cross in thine own heart, alone can make thee whole."

That Christmas message — that if I accepted the cross, I never would be alone — spurred me to dry my tears that Christmas and celebrate Peter as he always had been — our jolly elf, who made us laugh. Christmas became a time for bringing back the good memories of Peter, and in years to follow, of John and Sterling too.

It just about became a tradition in the family to recall Peter — stories, with lots of laughter. Now and then there would

be a subtle tear in someone's eye.

This is some of what was going on at our dinner table last Christmas. As we finished our joyful feasting, my son Paul went into the family room to play monopoly with the young children; and my son Frank went into the living room adjoining the dining room to set up a board game for later play.

As is not unusual in a family where the mother, like me, has Italian roots, we women — myself, two daughters and two daughters-in-law — still sat at the table enjoying tea and conversation, which, of course, included stories and memories of our deceased loved ones.

Rather unexpectedly we were all somewhat startled when we heard a call: "Mom!" I turned, facing the room where Frank was setting up the board game, and said: "Yeah, Frank. What do you want?"

My son looked at me and answered: "Mom, I heard that, too. It wasn't me."

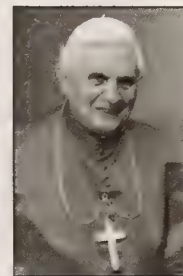
In the quiet moment that followed, we each were left with our private thoughts. I knew, of course, it was Peter — his way of letting us know that he and his other two brothers were sharing Christmas joy with us.

Do miracles happen? Oh yes, and, thanks to that Mother and Child, especially at Christmastime.

World leaders, citizens must use their power to aid poor, says pope

The Pope Speaks

POPE BENEDICT XVI



BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — World leaders, governments and citizens must use their power to come to the aid of the poor and oppressed, Pope Benedict XVI said in his weekly general audience.

God who lives on high chooses to side with the lowly and humble, turning his attention to them "with affection while he turns his gaze away from the pompous as a sign of rejection and judgment," said the pope.

"God, therefore, makes the choice to align himself in defense of the weak, the victims," a choice that is "made known to the kings" and "to all governments, to all of us that we, too, must know which side to choose ... that of the humble, the least, the poor and weak," he said in remarks apart from his text.

In his Dec. 7 general audience in St. Peter's Square, the pope dedicated his catechesis to Psalm 136, a hymn of thanksgiving for the everlasting kindness of the Lord.

The psalmist gives thanks and praises the Lord for his mercy that "endures forever." He knows that the Lord "will never abandon him" even in the face of all future trials that await him, the pope said.

God "will reach out his hand to hold and guide us," he said. He will "revive the spirits of the dejected" and "revive the hearts of the crushed," the pope said, citing the Book of Isaiah.

The faithful must be confident that no matter how burdensome "and stormy the trials will be that await us, we will never be abandoned" and left alone, the pope said.

Everyone must believe in the everlasting love and mercy of God, he said.

God is "omnipotent, and this is the final explanation for our trust" in God, that "he will use his power (to show) mercy" on his people, he said.

The pope also encouraged priests to dedicate their lives to God and saving people from sin.

At the end of the general audience, the pope greeted those taking part in a Vatican-sponsored congress commemorating the 40th anniversary of the promulgation of the Second Vatican Council Decree on the Ministry and Life of Priests.

He said the document "marked a step of fundamental importance in the life of the church" with its reflections on the nature of the priestly ministry, which "links priests to Jesus Christ, head and shepherd of his people."

History of the church's tradition of infant baptisms

Q. After your recent column on infant baptism, some evangelical Protestant friends described their church's view that babies should not be baptized at all. Baptism should come only when people are old enough to profess personal belief in Jesus as their savior.

The Bible, they claim, only speaks of the baptism of adults, not of infants. When did the baptism of young children or babies begin? (Missouri)

A. The New Testament makes clear that, from the beginning, baptism was the common way to become a Christian. It is true that, according to our earliest biblical records (as in Acts 2, for example), perhaps only adults were baptized, though we can't be sure of that.

Soon afterward, however, infants were apparently included as whole families were brought into Christian communities.

All Eastern and most Western churches consider infant baptism as having been the norm from the beginning of the Christian era. The great theologian Origen, for example, about the year 280, and St. Augustine, about 400, considered infant baptism a "tradition received from the apostles."

St. Polycarp, bishop of Smyrna, said at the time of his martyrdom in the year 155 or 156 that he had been "Christ's

servant" for 86 years.

St. Irenaeus, one of the foremost early Christian writers and theologians (died about the year 200), was a close friend of St. Polycarp, who in turn knew St. John and the practices followed by the apostles. Christ, writes Irenaeus, gives "salvation to those of every age" who are reborn through him, and he explicitly includes "infants and little children" among them.

Certainly by the third century the common tradition was that children born to Christian parents were baptized as infants, a practice which continued until the Reformation.

In the 16th century, the Anabaptist movements, and later the Baptists and Disciples of Christ, renounced infant baptism in favor of ministering this sacrament, as you note, only after one is able to make a personal act of Christian faith.

The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church notes that the New Testament never suggests that children will need to seek baptism later. It positively hints, in fact, that infant baptism was the practice even in the time of the apostles.

Children are told they must obey their parents "in the Lord" (Col 3:20). Paul speaks of baptism as the Christian counterpart of Jewish circumcision, by which boys were admitted to the covenant com-

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



munity shortly after birth (Col 2).

Beyond this, evidence is lacking for infant baptism. The lack of evidence is not surprising, however, the Oxford reference says, since the New Testament is concerned mainly with the expansion of the church into the non-Christian world and hardly at all with the natural growth of membership among persons of Christian parents and upbringing.

There is, in other words, overwhelming support for the ancient Christian practice of baptizing infant children.

The psychological and spiritual bond of the family as a Christian community was recognized very early. Though children may be too young to believe on their own, the parents knew they were what St. Paul called them, a "new creation" in Jesus Christ (2 Cor 5:17).

Interestingly, the discoveries of modern psychology concerning the deep psychological and religious connections between parents and children seem to strengthen the wisdom and validity of that tradition.

Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address, or e-mail: jjdietzen@aol.com.

Catholic spirit alive and well in Davie County parish of St. Francis of Assisi

MOCKSVILLE — The community of St. Francis of Assisi Church, considered a parish in its own rights several times during its history, traces its beginnings to the 1950s. In November 1958, Holy Rosary Church in Lexington (now Our Lady of the Rosary Church) assumed pastoral responsibility for a group of about 15 Catholics in Mocksville.

Father James Keenan, then-pastor of Holy Rosary Church, celebrated Mass in homes of Mocksville parishioners until April 1959, when the former National Guard Armory became the primary place of worship.

The site of the present church in Mocksville was purchased in 1960, and the mission was placed under the patronage of St. Francis of Assisi.

Church life in Mocksville during the 1960s was a formative period. In the latter half of the decade, the chapel was renovated and enlarged, and the Ladies Guild was established. In 1968, pastoral care of the mission was given to Sacred Heart Church in Salisbury.

The mission status was underscored in 1970, when a change in pastoral responsibility returned St. Francis of Assisi Church to the care of Holy Rosary Church. Despite the frequent changes, the Mocksville faith community continued to grow. The number of families worshipping there grew from 17 in 1970 to more than 50 five years later.

In 1975, with the help of a \$17,000 bequest to the church by Gertrude Dann of Norwich, Conn., the families sought permission to build a multipurpose facility to be used for liturgical celebrations, religious gatherings and social functions. The facility was constructed and then-Bishop Michael J. Begley of Charlotte dedicated the structure in October 1975.

Expansion continued the next year when the church community purchased four acres adjacent to its property. A house on the site became a rectory, and the congregation had room for future additions.

In 1980, St. Francis of Assisi Church welcomed its first resident pas-



PHOTO BY GEORGE COBB

St. Francis of Assisi Church in Mocksville, the only Catholic church in Davie County, is a growing parish, currently comprised of more than 300 families.

tor, and with him came parish status. Friars of the Atonement Father Noel McSweeney was assigned in October of that year and served until 1983, when the church again was relegated to mission status.

Sacred Heart Church in Salisbury once more took on duties in Mocksville until 1987, when the church's pastoral needs were met by Holy Family Church in Clemmons. From that point until now, sacramental obligations have been carried out by a number of pastors from Holy Family and Sacred Heart churches and, for a time, St. Francis of Assisi Church itself.

The mission label was removed once more in 1991, when Father Bernard Manley became pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Church. He remained in Mocksville until 1996, when Mercy Sister Anita Sheerin was appointed

parochial administrator.

In November 1999, Franciscan Father Andrew Draper, a priest of the Third Order Regular of St. Francis, was assigned to be pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Church.

Following Father Draper's arrival, a dramatic growth began. During the first four years of his pastorate, the parish grew from 84 families to 184. The next two years saw the church's population

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH

862 Yadkinville Rd.
Mocksville, N.C. 27028
(336) 751-2973

Vicariate: Salisbury

Pastor: Franciscan Father Andrew Draper

Permanent Deacon: Deacon John Zimmerle

Number of Households: 300



Franciscan Father Andrew Draper

increase to 300 families.

This growth prompted the construction of a new worship space. On Dec. 15, 2002, Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin presided over a Mass dedicating the new building.

The church now seats 300 people, replacing the older, less-accommodating building, which is now used as a parish hall.

"It was the parishioners who kept the church going," said Father Draper at the dedication. "They had a dream — they wanted a new church building."

Father Draper noted that despite the bigger parish and church, "We've kept the family atmosphere."

Staff writer Karen A. Evans contributed to this story.

Give the unforgettable gift! Enrich your own spiritual life!

Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise —

"The Footsteps of Paul"

Greece and Turkey — May 11-21, 2006

Space is limited—register now!



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,849 for inside cabin (before 1/31/06) — includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

Istanbul — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace

Mykonos — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels

Patmos — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation

Kusadasi & Ephesus — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites

Rhodes — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith

Crete — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion

Santorini — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.

Fabulous Christmas Gifts!

Featuring Colored Diamonds Exclusively



Malak Jewelers

At the Arboretum (St. Matthew parishioners)

We extend to you the very finest in Jewelry and Service...
Largest Selection - Best Quality & Prices Guaranteed

Certified Loose Diamonds
Platinum, Gold, Fine Jewelry
Sterling Silver and Watches
Estate Jewelry - Buy & Sell

26 years of Integrity and Experience!

(704) 341-1188 www.malakjewelers.com
8042-800 Providence Rd., Charlotte



Now featuring special
sterling silver medallion
of Pope John Paul II -
complimentary with
purchases over \$50
(one per purchase)

Roman Catholic
Diocese of Charlotte



Established Jan. 12, 1972
by Pope Paul VI

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

DECEMBER 16, 2005

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 15 No 11

Celebrating culture and Catholicism

*Feast day
recognized with
bilingual Mass,
fiesta*

BY DEACON GERALD
POTKAY
CORRESPONDENT

REIDSVILLE — For many parishioners of Holy Infant Church in Reidsville, Our Lady of Guadalupe holds special significance.

"Her heart is so large that it is easy for us to love her a great deal," said parishioner Fructuoso Mata. "Therefore, we celebrate this day on which she gave her image to St. Juan Diego."

The Dec. 12 celebration of the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe included recitation of the rosary, a bilingual Mass and a fiesta complete with

See GUADALUPE, page 7

Defending human rights

RELIGIOUS GROUPS,
RETIRED GENERAL
BACK ANTI-TORTURE
AMENDMENT

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Policies that are unclear about the torture of prisoners damage U.S. international interests and credibility and are an offense against human rights, said panelists who included a retired Army general, a former adviser to the departments of State and Defense and representatives of Jewish and Catholic organizations.

See TORTURE, page 8



PHOTO BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY

San Juana Bravo and her children, Jennifer and Eric, along with Ulani and Uriel Aruizu, children of Uriel and Maria Aruizu, dress in costumes of their native Mexico during a bilingual Mass celebrating the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe at Holy Infant Church in Reidsville Dec. 12.

Christmas behind bars

Parishes combine to host party for prisoners

TAYLORSVILLE — Christmas came early to the incarcerated this year.

Three parishes combined their prison ministry efforts and hosted a Christmas party for inmates at Alexander Correctional Institute in Taylorsville Dec. 5.

Fourteen volunteers from St. Joseph Church in Newton, St. Therese Church in Mooresville and Holy Trinity Church in Taylorsville brought

home-baked sweets and snacks, juice and soda — the kind of goodies the inmates rarely see.

Once the tables were set, Deacon Scott Gilfillan, permanent deacon at St. Joseph Church, led the volunteers in prayer.

"It is good to share the holiday spirit with inmates,"

See PRISON, page 5



COURTESY PHOTO

Walter Magnuson, Tony Gagliardo and Leo Fahey set up drinks before the Christmas party for inmates at Alexander Correctional Institute in Taylorsville Dec. 5.

Living the Faith

More than 200 babies and counting for foster mother

| PAGE 16

VATICAN II

Pope says Vatican II reminded church to be like Mary

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Celebrating the 40th anniversary of the conclusion of the Second Vatican Council, Pope Benedict XVI said the council reminded the church to be like Mary: obedient, prayerful and courageous in times of trouble.

Marking the anniversary on the Dec. 8 feast of Mary's Immaculate Conception, Pope Benedict also said the traces of original sin are seen in the common assumption that being holy is boring and that sinning occasionally is what makes one human.

In his homily, the pope — who served as a theological expert at the council — said he remembers the moment when Pope Paul VI declared Mary "Mother of the Church."

"Spontaneously the (council) fathers sprang to their feet

See COUNCIL, page 9

In God's service

Three retirees honored
by bishop, pope

| PAGE 4

Culture Watch

Catholic magazine for girls;
'Kong' is king

| PAGES 10-11

Perspectives

Making room for Jesus,
putting peace first

| PAGES 14-15

#BXNPDVQ*****3-DIGIT 275
#420836#
NC COLLECTION
UNC
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001

S241 P2

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

ALL ABOUT THE FAMILY



CN S PHOTO BY THERESA LAURENCE, TENNESSEE REGISTER

The Wilson children, who founded the Web-based Holy Family Scapular Co. in Nashville, Tenn., are (clockwise from upper left) Joe, Nick, Jim, Mary Grace and Isabelle. The oldest sibling, Jake, is not pictured. The scapulars the Wilsons sell are a tangible reminder of family members' love and devotion to one another, especially those separated by distance or who are facing illness.

Tennessee scapular company seeks to strengthen families, aid children

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (CNS) — Like many families who visit the Holy Family Chapel, a log cabin nestled in the hills of rural middle Tennessee, the Wilsons of St. Henry Church in Nashville draw strength from the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus.

To help "spread the message of family," Joe Wilson, a high school junior, and his five siblings recently started a Web-based business, the Holy Family Scapular Co.

Their aim is to help a wider audience rediscover the values of faith, love and sacrifice needed to preserve families.

A scapular is made up of two small pieces of cloth joined by ribbon or cord, and is worn on the chest and back beneath one's clothes as a sign of religious devotion.

The Wilsons' scapular is bigger than a traditional scapular; one side is embroidered with the image of Joseph and Mary holding the infant Jesus and the other contains an Irish prayer dedicated to the Holy Family.

The Holy Family scapulars were originally commissioned to be given to terminally ill children when they visited the Holy Family Chapel, a privately owned, nondenominational chapel that hosts hundreds of people, including more than 500 children, seeking respite from the rigors of medical treatments.

The Wilsons — Steve, Sarah and

their six children, ages 6 to 19 — serve as the primary caretakers of the chapel. Through their involvement, the Wilson children have seen up close "how people's lives are messed up from sickness, and it makes you grateful to have a close family to hold onto if you can," said Nick Wilson, 14, a freshman.

Wearing the scapular reminds him that "families are really important and will always be there when everyone else shuts you out," he said.

The Holy Family scapulars have always been offered free of charge to chapel visitors, but so many people had begun requesting them for extended family and friends that continuing to give them away was becoming too costly.

So the Wilsons started the Holy Family Scapular Co. to meet increased demand, but the business is a labor of love for the children. They hoped the scapulars will help sick people and healthy families alike draw on the strength of its message.

The Wilsons are not in business to make a profit, but to "spread the news about Jesus while helping other children," as Jim Wilson puts it.

One dollar from the sale of each scapular is given to charities.

In the company's first six weeks, the Wilsons received nearly 400 orders through their Web site.

Don't let society define some as nonpersons, speaker urges conference

ROCKVILLE CENTRE, N.Y. (CNS) — The unborn, people with certain disabilities and the dying are all in danger of being defined as nonpersons, bioethicist Wesley Smith warned at the annual Respect Life Convocation in the Rockville Centre Diocese Nov. 19.

Quoting prominent bioethicists and mainstream medical journals to illustrate a trend toward dividing humanity into persons and nonpersons, Smith said the "most important question facing us in the 21st century is this: Does human life have ultimate intrinsic value simply and merely because it is human?"

In his keynote address on "Bioethics: Creating a Disposable Caste," Smith said that for those who do not uphold all human life as sacred there are two other popular redefinitions of what it means to be a person — to feel pain or to be self-aware.

If a person is a person because he or she experiences pain, this would include most humans as well as animals but ex-

clude the unborn in the earliest stages before they have developed a central nervous system.

When a person is deemed a person because he or she is self-aware, the unborn, infants, those with certain mental disabilities, the dying and many others are easily labeled nonpersons, losing the unalienable rights protected by the government, he said.

Smith cited examples of journal articles that view humanity in this way.

"Persons who want to live are wronged by being killed because they are thereby deprived of something they value. Nonpersons or potential persons cannot be wronged in this way because death does not deprive them of anything they can value," Smith said. "If they cannot wish to live, they cannot have that wish frustrated by being killed."

"In other words," he said, "this is telling us whom we can kill and get a good night's sleep."

Diocesan planner

ASHEVILLE VICARIATE

ASHEVILLE — The St. Martin de Porres Dominican Laity Chapter meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the rectory building at the Basilica of St. Lawrence, 97 Haywood St. Inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Beverly Reid at (423) 6338-4744 or bebereid@adelphia.net.

HENDERSONVILLE — The St. Francis of the Hills Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order meets the fourth Sunday of each month, 2:30-4:30 p.m., at Immaculate Conception Church, 208 7th Ave. West. Visitors and inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Joanita Nellenbach, SFO, (828) 627-9209 or jnell@dnet.net.

BOONE VICARIATE

NORTH WILKESBORO — A Catholic Scripture Study group meets at St. John Baptiste de La Salle Church, 275 CC Wright School Rd. Visit www.catholicscripturestudy.com for more information. Classes meet Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m. Please call Rob Hicks at (336) 957-7193 for more information or if you plan to attend.

SPRUCE PINE — A Rosary of Intercession for Priests is recited each Friday at St. Lucien Church, 695 Summit St., before the 9 a.m. Mass. Prayers are offered for bishops, priests and deacons, and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. For more information, call the church office at (828) 765-2224.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — The Hispanic Ministry and the choir "Alegría Hispana" from St. Gabriel Church will present *Las Posadas* Dec. 20 at 6:30 p.m. at the church, 3016 Providence Rd. This traditional Hispanic family festivity is a re-enactment of the Holy Family's search for lodging in Bethlehem. For more information,

call the church office at (704) 364-5431.

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., will celebrate a Polish-language Mass Jan. 1 in the Daily Mass Chapel. Reconciliation will be offered at 2 p.m. and Mass will be celebrated at 3:30 p.m. For more information, call Elizabeth Spytkowski at (704) 948-1678.

CHARLOTTE — An inquiry class for the St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order will meet the second Saturday of each month, 12-2 p.m., beginning Jan. 14, 2006. Classes take place at Our Lady of Consolation Church, 2301 Statesville Ave. Those interested in learning more about the SFO and the Franciscan way of life are invited to attend. The order also gathers the first Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. at Our Lady of Consolation Church. For more information, call Tom O'Loughlin at (704) 947-7235.

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., will host a Christian Coffeehouse Jan. 7 at 7:30 p.m. Single and married adults are invited for an evening of contemporary Christian music, food and fellowship. For more information, call Kathy Bartlett at (704) 400-2213.

CHARLOTTE — The Evangelization Committee of St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd., will offer the *Catholics Returning Home* program Thursdays, Jan. 19-Feb. 23, 2006. Catholics Returning Home is a welcoming program for Catholics who have been away from the church. Topics include concerns, the Mass, changes since Vatican II, reconciliation, and Catholic beliefs, prayer and spirituality. For more information, call the St. Gabriel Parish Office at (704) 364-5431.

HUNTERSVILLE — Elizabeth Ministry is a peer ministry comprised of St. Mark Church parishioners who have lost babies before or shortly after birth. Confidential peer ministry, information and spiritual materials are offered at no cost or obligation to anyone who has experienced miscarriage, stillbirth or the death of a newborn. For details, call Sandy Buck at (704) 948-4587.

CHARLOTTE — The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, St. Brigid Division 1, an Irish-Catholic group of women dedicated to their faith,

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-mail: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

DECEMBER 16, 2005
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 11

The Catholic News & Herald, USPS 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Pope says Christmas season being spoiled by 'commercial pollution'

Christ's poverty enriches world, says pope

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI said the contemporary Christmas season is being spoiled by "commercial pollution" that obscures the true meaning of Christ's humble birth.

People need to remember that Christ was born in a manger, in a sign of poverty, the pope said Dec. 11 as he greeted pilgrims from his apartment window.

Later, keeping up a tradition of Pope John Paul II, he blessed Nativity creche figurines of baby Jesus held up by thousands of Italian children in St. Peter's Square.

The custom of putting up Nativity scenes in the home is a simple and effective way of bringing back the real meaning of Christmas, the pope said.

"In modern society, this time of year unfortunately suffers a type of commer-

cial 'pollution' that risks altering its authentic spirit, which is characterized by reflection, solemnity and a joy that is not external but personal," he said.

The Christmas creche, he said, helps people understand "the secret of the real Christmas, because it illustrates the humility and merciful goodness of Christ, who for our sake 'became poor although he was rich.'"

"His poverty enriches those who embrace it," the pope said.

He said Christmas brings true joy and peace to those who, like the shepherds at Bethlehem, recognize the sign of "an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger."

"This remains the sign, even for us, men and women of the 2000s. There is no other Christmas," he said.

country and Irish heritage, meet the third Wednesday of each month. Anyone interested in membership, call Jeannarie Schuler at (704) 554-0720.

CHARLOTTE — The Ancient Order of Hibernians, Sons of Erin Mecklenburg County Division, the oldest and largest order of Irish Catholic men, is seeking Irish Catholic men to join them for meetings, community activities and social events. Contact Tim Lawson at (704) 522-9728 or e-mail ncaoh@aol.com for more information including meeting times and location.

CHARLOTTE — New Creation Monastery invites you to a day of silence and solitude in the presence of Almighty God. The monastery offers private spiritual retreats for lay people. Write to Father John Vianney Hoover at New Creation Monastery, 11517 Spreading Oak Ln. Charlotte, NC 28226, stating why you want to go on retreat and when. For more information, call (704) 541-5026.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — The book club of St. Pius X Church, 2210 North Elm St., will read "The Five People You Meet in Heaven" by Mitch Albom. Discussion dates are Jan. 8 at 12:45 p.m. with a buffet lunch and Jan. 9 at 7 p.m. with a dessert bar. For more information, call the church office at (336) 272-468.

GUILFORD COUNTY — The Ancient Order of Hibernians, Guilford County Division, the oldest and largest order of Irish Catholic men, is looking for more Irish Catholic men to join them for meetings, educational seminars and social events. Contact Michael Slane at (336) 665-9264 for time and location.

HICKORY VICARIATE

HICKORY — Father Robert Ferris leads a Lectionary Bible Study at St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St., Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. This study prepares participants for the following Sunday's Mass by reading and studying the liturgical readings for the next week. For more information on this study, contact Kathy Succop at (828) 327-2341 or stalscoordinator@charter.net.

HICKORY — St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St. NE, is offering a weekly Catholic Scripture Study. Catholic Scripture Study is a program whose members not only learn the Scriptures, but come to a deeper understanding of their faith in a setting that

builds Christian fellowship. Evening and daytime classes meet at the church, Wednesdays, 6:45-8:30 p.m., and Thursdays 9:30-11:15 a.m. For more information, call Ann Miller at (828) 441-2205, or e-mail stalscss@charter.net.

NEWTON — The Little Flowers Catholic Girls' Group is for all Catholic girls ages five and up. The group meets the fourth Monday of each month at St. Joseph Church, 720 West 13th St., at 4 p.m. in the Holy Family Hall. For more details, call Debbie Vickers at (828) 495-2039.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

SALISBURY — Elizabeth Ministry is a peer ministry comprised of Sacred Heart Church parishioners who have lost babies before or shortly after birth. Confidential peer ministry, information and spiritual materials are offered at no cost or obligation to anyone who has experienced miscarriage, stillbirth or the death of a newborn. For details, call Renee Washington at (704) 637-0472 or Sharon Burges at (704) 633-0591.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

CLEMMONS — The Knitting Ministry of Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd., meets Monday evenings, 6:30-8 p.m., to pray, learn to knit, reflect on life's lessons and reach out to others in our community. Opportunities exist for the beginner to the experienced as we knit and purl Prayer Shawls, Premie Blankets or Squares for Survivors. Please contact Rosemary at (336) 766-2315 or Carmel (336) 766-0650 for more information.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Continuing tradition, pope prays at Marian statue in Rome

ROME (CNS) — Continuing a tradition, Pope Benedict XVI went to the center of Rome Dec. 8 to pray at the foot of a statue of Mary.

Located near the Spanish Steps in a crowded district of upscale shops, the statue was erected to commemorate Pope Pius IX's formal declaration in 1854 of the dogma of Mary's Immaculate Conception.

Local businesses, the Rome city council and families and groups leave flowers at the base of the statue on the Dec. 8 feast of the Immaculate Conception, while Rome firefighters hang a flower wreath from Mary's arm.

Pope Benedict offered a huge basket of pink roses draped with a white and yellow ribbon — the Vatican colors.

"Carrying with me the worries and hopes of humanity today, I place them at the feet of the heavenly Mother of the Redeemer," the pope said.

The pope told the crowd that this year's feast day is especially important because it marks the 40th anniversary of the conclusion of the Second Vatican Council.

He said that in closing the council Pope Paul VI placed the trust of the

church in Mary for the "fruitful application of the council's decisions."

Pope Paul's trust, he said, was well founded. Pope Benedict thanked Mary and turned to her with prayers inspired by "Lumen Gentium," the council's Dogmatic Constitution on the Church.

Addressing Mary, he prayed, "You who embraced the divine will without reservation, you who consecrated all your energies to the person and work of your son teach us to ponder in our hearts and meditate in silence on the mysteries of the life of Christ as you did."

Praying to Mary who stayed with Jesus through his suffering and death on the cross, Pope Benedict said, "Make us always feel how close you are to us at every moment of our existence, especially in times of darkness and of trial."

Finally, the pope said the faithful echo the prayer of the council in asking Mary to intercede with Jesus so that all people, "whether they are honored with the title of Christian or whether they still do not know the savior, may be happily gathered together in peace and harmony into one people of God for the glory of the most holy and undivided Trinity."

Recovery and rebuilding

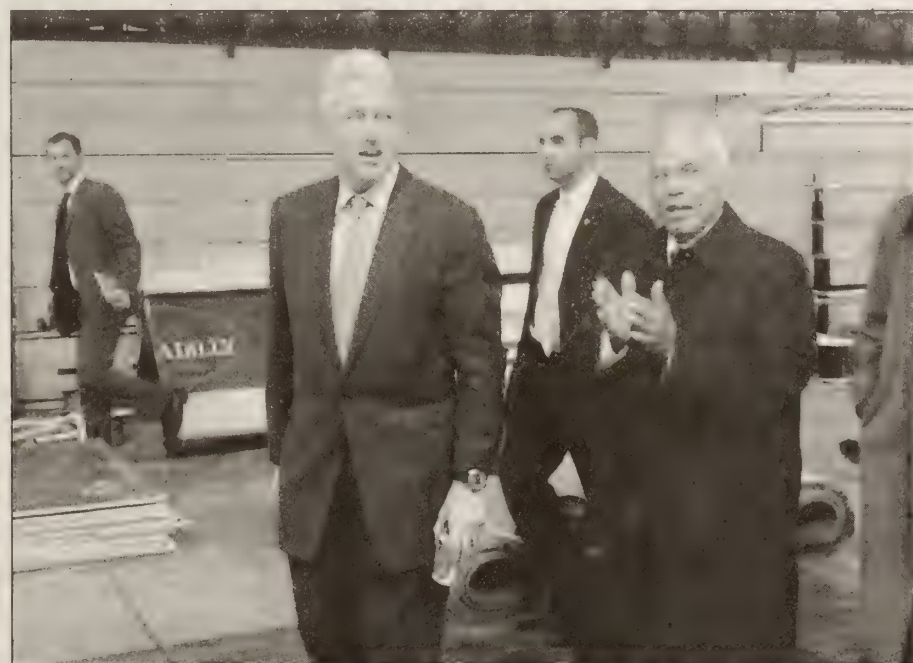


PHOTO BY FRANK J. METHE, CLARION HERALD

Xavier University president Norman Francis (right) walks with former President Bill Clinton through the battered Xavier gym Dec. 7 in New Orleans. Clinton said that a third of the \$90 million that he and former President George H.W. Bush raised for Hurricane Katrina relief would go to institutions of higher learning in the affected areas. Xavier plans to reopen its campus in January.

Knights of Columbus campaign to 'keep Christ in Christmas'

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (CNS) — Local councils of the Knights of Columbus kicked off the Christmas season in early December by participating in "Light Up for Christ" programs, organized to increase awareness of the true meaning of Christmas.

Councils were encouraged to hold a Christmas tree or Nativity scene lighting ceremony on the first Tuesday of December to commemorate Christ's birth.

In addition, the Knights of Columbus provides public service announcements to radio and television stations nationwide urging people to keep Christ in Christmas.

"In a modern society that is increasingly commercial and secular, it is all too easy to lose sight of the true meaning of Christmas," said Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. "It is a message that the world needs now more than ever."

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Dec. 25 — 12 a.m.
Christmas Eve Midnight Mass
St. Patrick Cathedral, Charlotte

Dec. 25 — 11 a.m. Christmas Day Mass
St. Patrick Cathedral, Charlotte

Jan. 1 — 11 a.m. New Year's Day Mass
St. Patrick Cathedral, Charlotte

AROUND THE DIOCESE

In the service of the Lord

Three retirees honored by bishop, pope

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Bishop Peter J. Jugis honored Aloha Torrents, Mary Lou Hildreth and Madelyn Sullivan with the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Cross Dec. 7. The women were all longtime employees of the Diocese of Charlotte until their retirements in 2005.

The Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Cross (for Church and Pope) was founded by Pope Leo XIII on July 17, 1888 and is bestowed on lay people and clergy who have given extraordinary service to the Catholic Church.

"The three individuals we honor today responded to the call of Bishop Michael J. Begley in those early years, and entered the service of the diocesan church," said Bishop Jugis. "Through their positions in the bishop's office, the chancery and the tribunal, their service also went beyond the diocesan church and put them in touch with the universal church as well."

Torrents began serving as then-Msgr. Begley's part-time secretary in 1968, when he was director of Catholic Social Services for the Diocese of Raleigh. She was chosen to be his secretary when he was appointed the residential bishop in 1971.

Torrents served continuously as secretary in the bishop's office and in the chancery from 1972, when the Diocese of Charlotte was founded, until her retirement this year.

Torrents also served as secretary to Archbishop John F. Donoghue, Chancellor and Vicar General Msgr. Mauricio West, and the diocesan administrators, Msgr. John McSweeney in 1993 and Msgr. West in 2003.

"Being a part of the 'formative' years was exciting ... just watching the rapid growth of the Catholic population and the establishment of so many diocesan offices and ministries," said Torrents. "Bishop Begley's involvement in so many areas of social justice was, for me, an education in itself. I enjoyed watching him try to make things better for the disenfranchised."

Hildreth responded to Bishop Begley's request for help in setting up the tribunal in 1972. From that time, Hildreth served continuously, directing the tribunal office and assisting each of the judicial vicars in turn — Father Justin Pechulis; Benedictine Father Bernard Rosswog; then-Father Jugis; and Father John Putnam.

Her position necessitated attendance at annual canon law conventions and workshops around the country, and regular contact with canon lawyers and their writings, to keep the diocese up to date with the most current insights in ecclesiastical jurisprudence.

"It was a lucky strike for me, because I had never worked before," Hildreth said. "I was educated — (the diocese) sent me to school two or three times a year."

Sullivan began serving in the diocesan chancery in 1978, responding to Bishop Begley's request for more help as



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Bishop Peter J. Jugis honors Mary Lou Hildreth, Aloha Torrents and Madelyn Sullivan with the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Cross at the Pastoral Center in Charlotte Dec. 7. The women were all longtime employees of the Diocese of Charlotte until their retirements in 2005. The Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Cross is bestowed on lay people and clergy who have given extraordinary service to the Catholic Church.

diocesan operations continued to expand. She served continuously from that year, assisting each of the chancellors in turn — Msgr. Joseph Showfety, Msgr. Joseph Kerin, Msgr. McSweeney and Msgr. West.

Her position required careful attention to the voluminous record keeping for the diocese: marriage dispensations and records; property transactions; reports of diocesan statistics to national and Vatican offices; and financial transactions with parishes and other entities, to name a few.

"The chancellor had his telephone and there was another one in the adjacent office," said Sullivan. "This was the (diocesan) business office — there were no finance or development offices then. The annual Bishop's Appeal and all the financial transactions were handled by the chancellor and the bookkeeper."

"I don't think anyone ever dreamed that someday the diocesan offices would expand to what they have become today," Sullivan said.

"You have each given outstanding continuous service to the church from the earliest years of the Diocese of Charlotte," said Bishop Jugis to the recipients. "We are proud to confer this honor on you, on behalf of our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI."

Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Charlotte 704-334-6421

Pineville 704-544-1412

Mint Hill 704-545-4864

Derita 704-596-3291

Celebrating the season



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree Assembly 25431 from St. Michael Church in Gastonia take part in the Gastonia Christmas parade Dec. 4. Pictured (from left): Charles Dow, Stephen Toth, Gene Courtemanche and Michael Sullivan.



COURTESY PHOTO BY JULIE KISER

Students, parents and staff of St. Michael School in Gastonia participate in the 59th annual Gastonia Christmas parade Dec. 3.

St. Patrick Cathedral

The Very Rev. Paul Gary
Rector

Rev. Robert Conway
Parochial Vicar

Rev. Mr. Nicholas Fadero
Deacon

Rev. Mr. Carlos Medina
Deacon

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

4 p.m. - Children's Mass
6 p.m. - Family Mass
Midnight - Bishop Peter Jugis

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

8 a.m., 9:30 a.m.
11 a.m. - Bishop Peter Jugis
12:30 p.m.

NEW YEAR'S EVE MASSES

5:30 p.m. - Vigil
Midnight Mass
Doors open at 11:00 p.m.
Bishop William Curlin

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES

8 a.m., 9:30 a.m.
11 a.m. - Bishop Peter Jugis
12:30 p.m.

1621 Dilworth Road East
Charlotte, NC 28203 (704) 334-2283
Visit our website at www.stpatricks.org

**Come
celebrate the
Birth of
Our Savior.**



International pen pals

OLG students reach out to our troops in Iraq



COURTESY PHOTO

Kindergarten teacher Belinda Hawley and her students at Our Lady of Grace School in Greensboro display envelopes containing their Christmas greetings for U.S. Marines stationed in Iraq.

The school has "adopted" Hawley's son, Staff Sgt. Travis Hawley, and his squadron of 23 Marines, and each grade has been sending cards and letters to their new pen pals. For Christmas, the students raised money to buy phone cards that will enable the Marines to call loved ones for the holidays.

African-American Affairs Ministry of the Diocese of Charlotte

Calendar of Events

Annual Martin Luther King Celebration

Saturday, January 21, 2006, 8:00 am – 7:00 pm

The Hilton-University, I-85 and WT Harris Blvd, Charlotte

THEME: "Making and Accepting Change – One World, Many People"

Featuring: Msgr. Thomas Hadden, Diocese of Raleigh
Rev. Dr. Shelton Shipman, Greenville Memorial AME Zion Church, Charlotte
The Perpetual Hope Gospel Choir, Our Lady of Consolation Church, Charlotte
Bo Taylor – The Cherokee Nation, Cherokee, NC
The Hmong Community, Newton, NC
Golden Angels Choir, North Charlotte House of Prayer
The Walsh School of Irish Dance, Charlotte
La Comunidad, High Point
The OLA African Choir, Charlotte
And many other cultural groups from across the Diocese of Charlotte

Cost: \$20 per person includes all programs, activities, breakfast and lunch.

Advance registration with payment required by January 14th.

Mail name, address, number attending, and check or money order to cover all attendees at \$20 per person, payable to: AAA-M/MLK Registration. Send to:
AAA-M, Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 S. Church Street, Charlotte, NC 28203.

May 5-7, 2006 — AAA-Ministry Adult Retreat

Living Waters Retreat Center, Maggie Valley, NC

A weekend for adults to come together for spiritual renewal and commitment to our faith journey!

Cost: \$100 per person, all inclusive

Theme and more details to follow in Spring of 2006

For information, contact the Diocese of Charlotte
Office of African-American Affairs Ministry at 704-370-3267.



Parishioners host party for prisoners

PRISON, from page 1

said Ann Callahan from St. Therese Church.

The volunteers piled high with food the plates of the inmates; many inmates cycled through the line until all the food and drinks were gone.

Alexander Correctional is a 1,000-cell, close-custody (maximum security) prison facility. Since opening in 2004, the facility has invited churches to sponsor Christmas parties for the inmates.

Dan Redding, a chaplain at Alexander Correctional, made contact with Deacon Gilfillan last year. The deacon had helped him in a variety of activities, including being on the rotation for the facility's Sunday Christian services, visiting inmates and leading a Catholic Bible study.

"It seemed like a big undertaking. I knew I couldn't do it alone, so I floated the idea out to a few people on our community life commission and was surprised with the response," said Deacon Gilfillan. "I saw a great desire to bring Christ into one of the darker places in our world."

The parish's Prime Timer group baked homemade cakes, said Deacon Gilfillan.

Deacon Gilfillan approached Callahan about visiting the inmates.

"We had been struggling to get our prison ministry up and running," she said. "This gave us an opportunity to actually get inside a prison and talk to inmates."

Micki Earp of Holy Trinity Church

'Out of all the groups that came last year, the inmates enjoyed the Catholic party the most.'

had toured the prison before it opened. As a leader of her parish's community life commission, she saw a great opportunity to get involved in ministry at the nearby prison.

"We are the closest church (to the facility). This Christmas party gave our commission a chance to look at starting some type of prison ministry here," said Earp.

Both the inmates and volunteers benefited from the experience.

"Out of all the programs that we offered last year, this was the one that was best received by the inmates," said Redding. "Out of all the groups that came last year, the inmates enjoyed the Catholic party the most."

After the feast, Kris Mulligan, faith formation and music director at St. Joseph Church, led the assembly in Christmas songs. Afterward, many of the inmates went back through the serving line — this time to thank volunteers.

Speaking to Deacon Gilfillan, one inmate said, "You have been a blessing to us. Your just being here will be one of our greatest Christmas gifts."

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information about prison ministry in the Diocese of Charlotte, contact Deacon James Johnson at (828) 437-3461 or Bill Matevie at (704) 336-8236.



COURTESY PHOTO

Volunteers from three parishes hosted a Christmas party at Alexander Correctional Institute in Taylorsville Dec. 5. Pictured: (standing from left) Walter Magnuson, Kevin Magnuson, Marilyn Magnuson, Barbara Lyman, Deacon Scott Gilfillan, Tony Gagliardo, Jenny Baxter, Kris Mulligan, Kathy Mott and Leo Fahey; (seated from left) Judy Abernethy, Micki Earp, Ann Callahan and Barbara Nesbitt.

Hispanic youths discuss needs at encounter

Event to guide talks at regional, national meetings

BY MANUEL ALIAGA

SPECIAL TO
THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

MOORESVILLE — More than 250 people participated recently in the first diocesan Encounter for Hispanic Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

The event, sponsored by the diocesan offices of youth ministry, young adult ministry, Hispanic ministry and Hispanic youth and young adult ministry, was held at St. Therese Church in Mooresville Dec. 3. Themed "Weaving the Future Together," the encounter's logo was the fisherman's net, a reminder of Jesus' invitation to be fishers of men.

The encounter was the culmination of months of effort to identify the needs and contributions of Hispanics in the diocese's parishes. The process will continue at the first regional encounter in Atlanta, Ga., in March 2006 and the first national encounter at University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind., in June 2006.

The central goal of the nationwide initiative is to help both Hispanic youths and the leadership working in Hispanic youth and young adult ministries to empower Hispanic youths into a more active, enthusiastic and influential participation in the life and mission of the Catholic Church.

A large percentage of the Hispanic population is composed of youths or young adults but only a small number of them are involved in organized church groups, said Alejandro Aguilera-Titus, associate director of the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Hispanic Affairs.

"The main reason is that it was assumed that Hispanic youths would just assimilate into existing English-language groups," he said.

But this has not happened, he added.

Aguilera-Titus said that "Hispanic youths fell between the cracks of a Hispanic ministry that is basically for adults and a church youth ministry that is basically for descendants of Europeans."

The bishops are aware of the situation and hope that the 2006 meeting will help the church tap into this large potential for active church members, said Aguilera-Titus.

Plans call for 2,000 delegates to attend. The delegates will be Hispanics under 30 years of age chosen from dioceses throughout the United States, including the Diocese of Charlotte.

Aguilera-Titus cited the bishops' 2002 statement, "Encuentro and Mission," as the call to action for the national conference, co-sponsored by the university and the Hispanic affairs secretariat. An additional 15 Catholic groups involved in Hispanic and/or youth ministry are helping organize the conference.

"The traditional model of parish youth ministry does not, for the most part, reach Hispanic young people because of economic, linguistic, cultural, age and educational differences," said the bishops in 2002. "Generally speaking, the majority of parish youth ministry programs serve a population that is

mostly European white, mainstream, middle-class and English-speaking."

A principal aim of the 2006 meeting is to find out what parish models are working in attracting Hispanic youths, said Rey Malave, president of the National Catholic Network de Pastoral Juvenil Hispana (of Hispanic Youth Ministry) and chairman of the conference. The fact that the network's title is half in English and half in Spanish is deliberate.

The conference wants to get an idea of what the realities are for Hispanic youths, why they are not participating in church groups and what they want from the church, he said.

A major challenge cited by experts in Hispanic youth ministry is the diversity among Hispanic youths.

Background materials prepared for the conference note that the population includes both immigrants as well as U.S.-born Hispanics whose families have lived in the United States for several generations.

In the Diocese of Charlotte, several preparatory sessions took place between June and November 2005 to consult with and analyze the needs of Hispanic youths. Hispanic youth groups from throughout the diocese who work at the parish level met again during the first diocesan encounter.

During the meeting, they worked with participants from other parishes to further refine the diagnosis prepared thus far.

Bishop Peter J. Jugis participated in some of the group discussions during the encounter.

The daylong event ended with Mass celebrated by the bishop. Afterward, the bishop blessed the 23 delegates elected to take part in the regional encounter in March.

Manuel Aliaga is a volunteer with the diocesan Hispanic ministry office.

Catholic News Service contributed to this story.

CHARACTERISTICS OF HISPANIC YOUTHS

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that, in 2003, 56 percent of the nation's Hispanic population of 40 million was under 30 years of age.

The population includes immigrants and U.S.-born Hispanics whose families have lived in the United States for several generations.

Other characteristics cited include:

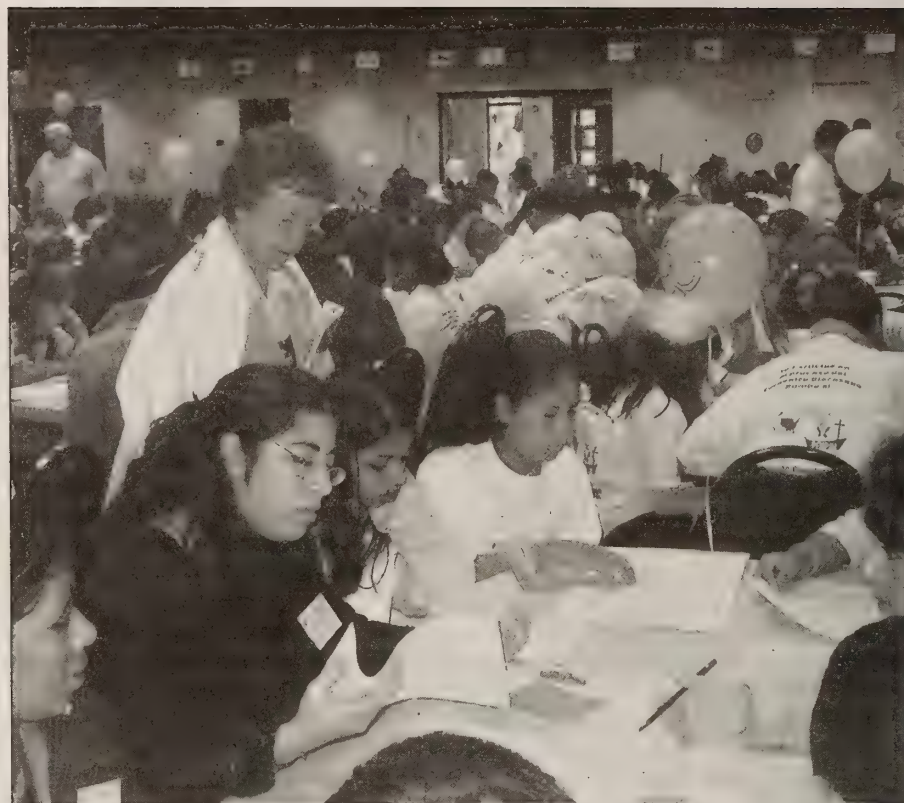
— Linguagewise, some are monolingual in Spanish, some speak only English and some are bilingual.

— Economically, most are either working class or middle class.

— Racially, they are white, black or mixed race.

— Most go to public schools.

— A significant number have low educational attainment, with fewer than 20 percent going to college.



COURTESY PHOTO

Franciscan Sister Andrea Inkrott, director of diocesan Hispanic ministry, follows a group discussion during the diocese's first Encounter for Hispanic Youth and Young Adult Ministry, held at St. Therese Church in Mooresville Dec. 3.

Local Hispanic leader honored

CHARLOTTE — Hilda Gurdian, a parishioner of St. Gabriel Church in Charlotte, was honored recently for her community efforts.

Gurdian, publisher and chief executive officer of the Charlotte-based La Noticia newspaper, was among the Hispanic leaders from the Charlotte area recognized at the National League of Cities' Congress of Cities in Charlotte Dec. 9-10.

The group was honored for its efforts in helping advance Hispanic communities in the Charlotte region.

During the two-day congress, participants explored the effects of immigration on local government, explored ways local officials could support immigration populations and discussed ways to communicate with non-English-speaking communities.

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

***** Now with 3 locations to serve you *****



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels. 

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Our Lady of Guadalupe celebrated at Masses, fiestas

GUADALUPE, from page 1

Mexican food and a mariachi band.

The feast day recalls the appearance of Mary to an Aztec peasant, Juan Diego, on Tepeyac Hill near Mexico City on Dec. 9, 1531. Through several appearances Dec. 9-12 and a series of miracles, Mary converted 9 million Aztecs to Catholicism.

Hispanic people throughout the United States and Latin America continue to celebrate the event each Dec. 12. In Mexico, people make pilgrimages to the Basilica of Guadalupe in Mexico City on that day.

"Being raised in a strong Polish Catholic tradition, I learned that it was always 'to Jesus through Mary' and we celebrated many Marian feasts," said parishioner Joan Zdanski.

Mary, said Zdanski, is the vessel who carried Jesus, who is our way to salvation.

"Therefore, Our Lady of Guadalupe has a special significance because she is the patroness of all the Americas," she said. "Mary has always manifested herself to the humble. The telling of the story of St. Juan Diego emphasizes the simplicity of this peasant."

Father Luis Osorio, pastor of Holy Infant Church, said his first exposure to Our Lady of Guadalupe did not occur until he came to the United States from Colombia 15 years ago.

"The Mexican community has had a very strong devotion to our Holy Mother for centuries," said Father Osorio. "Every year, on the anniversary of the appearance of Mary to St. Juan Diego and the miracle of the image of Guadalupe, they spend much time praying and bringing roses."

"We who are Hispanic, especially Mexican, identify ourselves very much with Mary of Guadalupe," said Eneidino Aquino, coordinator of Hispanic ministry in the Greensboro Vicariate.

"For our suffering people, who are oppressed by the powerful and who find ourselves separated from our fatherland, we feel like outsiders and Mary represents everything we love," said Aquino. "Thus, we feel more at home when we celebrate our traditions and venerate her in union with our living God."

"I grew up in a little town in Michoacán, Mexico, where we have a very strong tradition and culture surrounding the celebration on Dec. 12," said parishioner Manuel Rodriguez.

"Even as she changed the lives of the natives with her appearances, she has also changed my life," he said. "The Virgin Mary is the one who said 'yes' and now shows us the way to follow Jesus."

Parishioner Mike Hooker noted the feast day occurs during Advent.

"It is the perfect time of the year because Our Lady of Guadalupe brings us so much hope and joy," he said.

Contact Correspondent Deacon Gerald Potkay by calling (336) 427-8218 or e-mail gpotkay@triad.rr.com.

The history of Our Lady of Guadalupe

It was Mary's appearances to Juan Diego (canonized July 31, 2002) and the resulting miracles that Hispanic people throughout the United States and Latin America celebrate on Dec. 12.

Passing Tepeyac Hill near Mexico City on his way to Mass on Dec. 9, 1531, Juan Diego, a peasant and convert to Christianity, heard a beautiful woman dressed as an Aztec princess call his name.

Diego climbed the hill to the woman, who told him to tell the bishop in Mexico City that she wanted a temple built on the hill. It took three trips and a miracle to convince the bishop.

After his second visit to the bishop, Diego found Castilian roses and other flowers growing on frozen Tepeyac Hill. He gathered the flowers in his tilma (cape) and carried them to the bishop. Diego related the events of the day on Tepeyac and then opened his tilma to allow the flowers, mingled with the Castilian roses for which the bishop had secretly prayed, to fall to the floor. At the moment they looked up, the image of Our Lady appeared on the tilma.

When Diego returned home, he found that his uncle, who had been ill, was well, as Mary had promised. The uncle said that Mary had told him that she wanted to be called the "Ever Virgin, Holy Mary of Guadalupe."

This further astounded the bishop. Guadalupe had no meaning in Mexico. It was the name of a famous Marian shrine in Spain.

Bishop Zumarraga, a Franciscan friar, would have known the shrine well, since a Franciscan monastery had been built there to enshrine a statue of Mary holding the child Jesus.

Word of the miraculous cape spread, and 9 million Aztecs converted to Catholicism.

The tilma is preserved in the Basilica of Guadalupe in Mexico City. Normally, cactus-fiber capes last about 20 years, but this tilma is intact 473 years after the image appeared upon it.

Our Lady of Guadalupe was named "Patroness of the Americas" in 1946.

Compiled by Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach.



PHOTOS BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Traditional dance, song honor Our Lady

Above: Children perform traditional dances at St. Margaret of Scotland Church in Maggie Valley during the celebration for the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Dec. 12. About 100 people from the parish and throughout Haywood County attended the Mass and festival.

Below: Augustinian Father Robert Dueweke, Hispanic minister at St. Margaret of Scotland Church, gathers children in the church as everyone sings "las mañanitas" on the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Dec. 12. The songs are traditionally sung early in the morning to awaken the Virgin Mary. This was the first Our Lady of Guadalupe festival at the church.



We Love Blessed Sacrament Academy !!



Call now to guarantee your child's enrollment.

Space is LIMITED! 704-841-2292

Visit us on the web: www.blessedsacramentacademy.org

Located behind Windsor Square in Matthews, NC. Independent of Charlotte diocesan schools. Member of NARCIS

- ◆ A classical curriculum in the Catholic tradition
- ◆ Latin, French, Music & Art
- ◆ Grades K-8
- ◆ Excellent scores on standardized tests



Tastefully Yours Catering

1401 S Church Street - Suite A - Charlotte, NC 28203

704.632.8040 • tastefullycarolina.com

Located in Charlotte's Southend

Full Service Caterer

Holiday Parties
Receptions
Rehearsal Dinners
Engagement Parties
Bridal Showers
Spa Parties

Visit our cafe for a sampling of the possibilities!

(Wedding tastings by appointment only)



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice addresses the media during a NATO foreign ministers' meeting at NATO headquarters in Brussels, Belgium, Dec. 8. European allies of the United States said they were satisfied with new assurances by Rice that U.S. treatment of detainees adhered to international law.

Many back anti-torture amendment

TORTURE, from page 1

As the House prepared to take up an amendment to the Defense Department appropriations bill banning "cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment" of prisoners and spelling out what that means, supporters of the McCain amendment on torture and abuse rallied backers from diverse backgrounds.

Steve Colecchi, director of the Office of International Justice and Peace of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said the bishops support the amendment because the church teaches respect for fundamental human rights and dignity.

"The many reports of prisoner abuse by members of the U.S. armed forces tarnish the reputation of our country," Colecchi said at a Dec. 7 media briefing sponsored by Human Rights First.

But, he said, they also "make it less likely that other countries and people will collaborate with us in the struggle against terrorism, and they compromise the moral standing of our nation as we seek to win the hearts and minds of others."

He said respect for the dignity of every individual, whether ally or enemy, must be the foundation of the pursuit of security, justice and peace.

"There can be no compromise on the moral imperative to protect the basic human rights of any individual incarcerated for any reason," Colecchi said. "In a time of terrorism and great fear, our obligation to respect basic human dignity and human rights, even of our worst enemies, gains added importance."

Cruel and unusual

The briefing came on the same day Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said at a news conference in Kiev, Ukraine, that existing prohibitions on cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment extend to all U.S. personnel in the United States and elsewhere.

The Bush administration has been criticized around the world recently for how prisoners are treated in the name of combating terrorism. Last year's reports of abuse of prisoners at Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq have been followed more recently by news stories about secret prisons operated by the United States in Eastern Europe and others alleging mistreatment of prisoners who were being transferred aboard clandestine flights.

The amendment introduced by Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., would make the Army Field Manual on interrogation the standard for questioning anyone in military custody. The manual prohibits techniques such as mock executions, electric shock, abnormal sleep deprivations and any form of beating.

The amendment passed the Senate by a 90-9 vote. The House-passed version of the Defense appropriations bill did not include the McCain amendment.

A House vote on the provision was expected before Congress recesses for Christmas.

Defining the rules

At the Dec. 7 briefing, Rabbi Brian Walt, director of Rabbis for Human Rights, said Jews are particularly sensi-

tive to the issue of state-sponsored torture because of their history of being victims of torture. One of the readings used annually during the high holy days recounts the fate of 10 rabbis who were tortured under Roman authorities, he explained.

Rabbi Walt said only an absolute ban on such treatment is acceptable. A letter from more than 500 rabbis to President George W. Bush and members of Congress notes that Jewish tradition calls for humane treatment even of one's adversaries and that rabbinic texts strongly prohibit acts of humiliation.

Retired Brig. Gen. David R. Irvine, who taught interrogation and military law for 18 years at the Sixth Army Intelligence School, said the McCain amendment is necessary because, while the Army field manual is clear in what it means by prohibited torture and abuse, "individuals in high positions have very deliberately changed the definition of torture."

Under a recent Defense Department memorandum to define how much pain interrogators can inflict, a questioner could go so far as to break a subject's fingers one by one without violating the directive, Irvine said.

"This fuzzifying of definitions can only be overcome by a strong statement from Congress that a bright line is there" to define how prisoners must be treated, he said.

William Howard Taft IV, former legal adviser to former Secretary of State Colin Powell and a former deputy Defense secretary, said military personnel themselves have been unclear what the rules are because they regularly receive different advice.

No exceptions

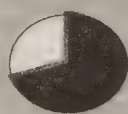
Stephen Rickard, director of the Washington office of the Open Society Policy Center and a longtime human rights activist, said Rice's comments in Kiev "have to be parsed incredibly carefully to see if there's even a change" from current U.S. policies he said are ambiguous.

In light of ambiguous directives from the Defense Department, he said, and the news about Abu Ghraib and secret prisons, Rickard said, "this administration doesn't have any credibility" when it argues that Congressional action is not necessary.

Colecchi said he heard that as House, Senate and White House negotiators try to come up with a version of the amendment all are willing to support, the possibility has been raised of including exceptions for when torture might be permitted.

"Any exception says people are expendable, that some people's human rights don't count," he said. "There is no exception to a fundamental moral principle."

Views on Torture



70% of U.S. adults believe American troops or government officials have tortured prisoners in Iraq or other countries.



38% would be willing to have torture used against suspected terrorists if they may know details about future terrorist attacks against the U.S.

Army Prohibited Techniques

The Army Field Manual on intelligence interrogation states that U.S. policy "prohibits acts of violence or intimidation," including, but not limited to...

- electric shock
- infliction of pain through chemicals or bondage
- forcing an individual to stand, sit or kneel in abnormal positions for prolonged periods
- food deprivation
- any form of beating
- mock executions
- abnormal sleep deprivation
- chemically induced psychosis
- coercion

Source: Gallup, Army Field Manual FM34-52 (1992)
©2005 CNS

125,000 people will read these words this week!



Shouldn't they see **YOUR COMPANY'S** name here?

LOW ad rates - easy for small businesses and individuals, too!

Call (704) 370-3332 now!

THE
CATHOLIC
NEWS HERALD

Vatican II reminded church to be like Mary, says pope

COUNCIL, from page 1

and stood applauding, paying homage to the Mother of God, our mother, the mother of the church," he said.

In its teaching about the role of the church and its members in the world, the council pointed believers "to 'the great believer' who, full of faith, placed herself in God's hands, abandoning herself to his will," the pope said.

The council pointed them to "the humble mother who was part of her son's mission when that was required and, at the same time, to the courageous woman who, when the disciples ran away, stood under the cross," he said.

Reciting the Angelus after the Mass, the pope said, "in a special way, we pray today for all mothers. Through Mary's intercession may they foster love and holiness in their families."

In his Angelus address, he called the Second Vatican Council "the greatest church event of the 20th century."

The pope said he wanted to have a solemn celebration "to give thanks to God for the gift of the Second Vatican Council. I also want to give thanks to most holy Mary for having accompanied these 40 years of church life rich in events."

Mary, he said, watched over the pontificates of his predecessors, each of whom guided the church with pastoral wisdom in the renewal called for by the council.

The major part of Pope Benedict's homily during the morning Mass focused on original sin and what it means to say that Mary was kept free from all sin from the moment of her conception.

The Genesis story of Adam and Eve being tempted to disobey God and to eat the forbidden fruit so they would have knowledge and be like gods "describes not only the story of the beginning, but the story of all times," the pope said.

"All of us bear in ourselves a drop of the poison of that way of thinking," he said.

"We call this drop of poison 'original sin.'"

While Catholics honor Mary, who was free from sin, Pope Benedict said, "we have a suspicion that those who do not sin at all are basically boring."

Unless they sin, he said, they seem to be missing something important, "the dramatic dimension of being autonomous."

Like Adam and Eve, the pope said, people suspect that God wants to limit their freedom, that "God's love creates dependency and that it is necessary to rid oneself of this dependency in order to be fully oneself."

However, the life of Mary demonstrates that "love is not dependency, but the gift that allows us to live" and that freedom can grow only when "we live in a just way with one another and for one another."

"If we live against love and against truth — against God — then we will destroy ourselves and our world," Pope Benedict said.

People think "that part of being truly human is the freedom to say no, to descend down into the darkness of sin and to want to do things by oneself; that only then can one fully experience the vastness and depth of being human, of being truly ourselves; that we must put our freedom to the test even against God," he said.

"In a word, we think that evil basically is good, that we all need at least a little of it in order to experience the fullness of being," the pope said.

However, Pope Benedict said, "looking at the world around us, we can see that it is not that way, that evil always poisons; that it does not raise man up, but lowers and humiliates him; that it does not make him greater, purer and richer, but damages and diminishes him."

The feast of the Immaculate Conception is a call to all believers to realize that the person who "totally abandons himself in God's hands does not become God's puppet, a boring, spineless person," he said.

"Only the one who trusts totally in God will find true freedom, the great and creative vastness of the freedom of goodness," he said.

"You will see that with him your life will become vast and enlightened — not boring, but full of infinite surprises because the goodness of God can never be exhausted," the pope said.

Claim your reward.

At Pennybyrn, you'll be the winner.

Success tastes sweet, especially when it means you've achieved your dream: an innovative retirement lifestyle in a charming neighborhood setting. With first-class dining. Wonderful neighbors. And a plan for the future. Pennybyrn at Maryfield, coming soon to High Point, North Carolina. Here's to you!

Call (336) 886-4103 or
toll-free (866) 627-9343.

Sponsored by the Sisters of The Poor Servants of The Mother of God

PENNYBYRN
at MARYFIELD
A Continuing Care Retirement Community

1315 Greensboro Road
High Point, NC 27260
www.maryfieldliving.org



SPECIAL CHRISTMAS GIFTS

**Come and see
our special
Christmas Gifts!**

- Books
- Nativity sets
- Cards
- Videos
- Jewelry
-and more!

336-760-1673

New Covenant Bookstore
304 Upton St.,
Winston-Salem, NC
www.newcovenantbookstore.com



AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles
Licensed & Insured
FREE ESTIMATES
www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Magazine for Catholic girls aims for truer image of young femininity

BY STEVE EUVINO
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

MICHIGAN CITY, Ind. — Brandi Lee and Stephanie Murphy had some time on their hands and an idea: creating a magazine for girls that features fashions that won't break their teen budgets and won't reveal most of their young bodies.

Their idea will take fruition when True Girl magazine hits mailboxes in early 2006.

True Girl is a faith-based publication. Readers won't find photos or advertising about the most revealing fashions, or see photos of the "coolest boys" from around the country.

According to Lee and Murphy, who are both Catholic and live in the Gary Diocese, readers will find stories and photos for and about girls — ages 12-18 is the target market — that reflect a realistic view of young femininity, based on church teachings, not sexy trends or horoscopes.

"You are in charge of your own destinies," Lee told middle-school girls at St. Stanislaus Kostka School in Michigan City during an afternoon visit to promote the magazine Dec. 2.

True Girl will be mailed in late January 2006 for its debut February-March issue. The bimonthly periodical will not be heavy on advertising.

True Girl will offer advice on affordable, appropriate clothing and jewelry, often sold by Catholic women who, Murphy said, "provide an example ... working hard, making it happen."

"We want to focus on educating and inspiring," Lee said, adding the magazine is "not about gossip, but about real girls."

The first issue will include a story about a girl now residing in Indiana who

was displaced by Hurricane Katrina and who, despite losses from the storm, has grown in her faith.

As to beauty and dating tips, Lee and Murphy said the magazine will focus on "taking advantage of all God's given us and how we can be examples to others."

Any comments on dealing with the opposite sex, the women said, will come from a Catholic perspective.

Lee is officially the editor, while Murphy's title is publisher. However, the two women wear many hats and are learning to wear even more.

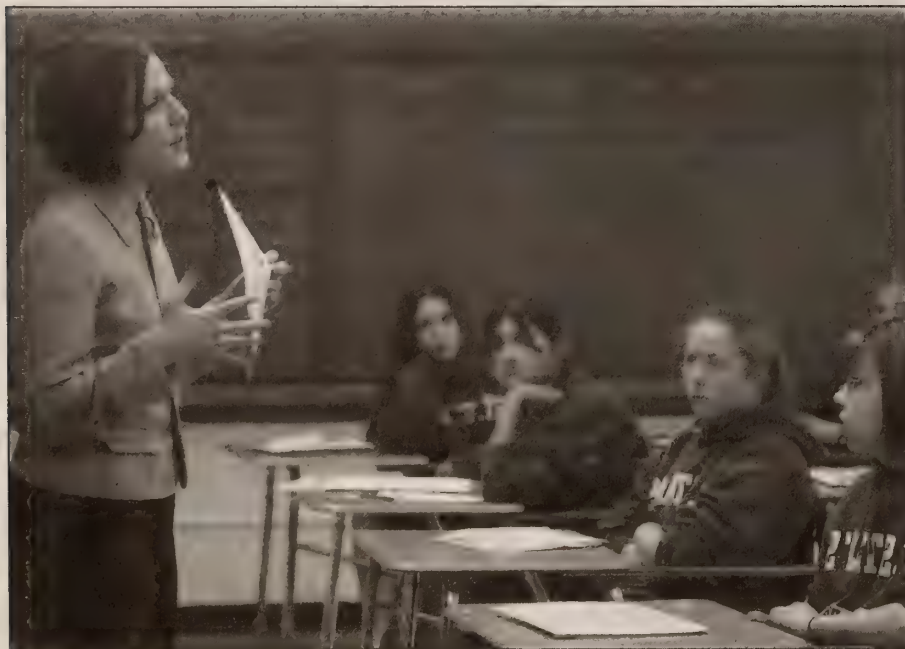
Regular features will include "Ask Aunt Sarah," a column from a Catholic grandmother; features on women living their vocations — married, single, or religious; a rosary reflection; appropriate fashions; alternating film, book, or music reviews; and features on real girls living their faith.

A press release said the magazine is being funded by Murphy, a mother of five. In addition to subscriptions, she and Lee plan to distribute the magazine to Catholic schools, youth groups and youth conventions across the country.

Therese Hullinger, an eighth-grader at St. Stanislaus Kostka, is the "cover girl" for the premiere issue of True Girl. Involved at school and in her community, the 14-year-old was looking forward to the magazine — and not just seeing her picture on the cover.

"This is really a great thing for girls," Hullinger said. "It's hard for us to be perfect like other magazines say we can be."

Editor's note: More information on the magazine is available online at: www.truegirlonline.com.



CNS PHOTO BY KAREN CALLAWAY, NORTHWEST INDIANA CATHOLIC

Brandi Lee, editor of True Girl magazine, discusses the new periodical with middle-school girls at St. Stanislaus Kostka School in Michigan City, Ind., Dec. 2. Lee and Stephanie Murphy, two Catholic women from northwest Indiana, have created True Girl, a faith-based publication for girls ages 12-18.

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: DEC. 25, 2005

Dec. 25, the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Isaiah 52:7-10
Psalm 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6
- 2) Hebrews 1:1-6
- 3) Gospel: John 1:1-18

Christmas is time to know God, Jesus

BY DAN LUBY
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

The express lane shopper silently counted his purchases, making sure he was below the limit, when he heard someone call his name. It was an acquaintance from church, and cradled in his arms was a framed portrait of the late Elvis Presley.

As always when talking about the famous singer, the first man told his "brush with fame" story about having been to a high school dance at which the then unknown Presley performed. The effect on his listener was electric.

As a devoted fan he had read many books, scholarly and popular, about Elvis. He had watched all of his movies. He had listened lovingly to all of Presley's countless recordings, from the early rock-a-billy songs with twangy guitars to the modern standards with full orchestral backing.

"I know a lot about him," he lamented, "but I never saw him in person."

We can learn something — even something important — about people from a distance. We can read biographies telling their life story. We can discover in their letters, poems, memos or grocery lists some telling truths about their deepest values and dearest longings, about their inner lives.

But that's never the same as personal contact.

The difference between knowing about someone and knowing someone personally is what the feast of the Incarnation — Christmas — celebrates.

The second reading for the Mass of Christmas Day, from Hebrews, reminds us that God entered fully into the human family by becoming one of us. We no longer know God partially and indirectly, through the testimony of the prophets.

In Jesus, God speaks his word in person. He invites us to know him, not as fans of a celebrity or as scholars of some obscure ancient figure, but as someone real and present in the believing community of the church and in the deepest chambers of our own hearts.

Questions:

What is one specific way I can enter into deeper conversation with Jesus during this Christmas season? Who among my circle of family and friends might profit from hearing about my personal experience of Jesus?

Scripture to be Illustrated:

"And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory" (John 1:14).

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF DEC. 18-24

Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Advent), 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16, Romans 16:25-27, Luke 1:26-38; **Monday (Late Advent Weekday)**, Judges 13:2-7, 24-25, Luke 1:5-25; **Tuesday (Late Advent Weekday)**, Isaiah 7:10-14, Luke 1:26-38; **Wednesday (St. Peter Canisius)**, Song of Songs 2:8-14, Luke 1:39-45; **Thursday (Late Advent Weekday)**, 1 Samuel 1:24-28, 1 Samuel 2:1, 4-8, Luke 1:46-56; **Friday (St. John Kanty)**, Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24, Luke 1:57-66; **Saturday (Late Advent Weekday)**, 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-11, 16, Luke 1:67-79.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF DEC. 25-31

Sunday (The Nativity of the Lord), Isaiah 52:7-10, Hebrews 1:1-6, John 1:1-18; **Monday (St. Stephen)**, Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59, Matthew 10:7-22; **Tuesday (St. John)**, 1 John 1:1-4, John 20:1-8; **Wednesday (Holy Innocents)**, 1 John 1:5-2:2, Matthew 2:13-18; **Thursday (St. Thomas Becket)**, 1 John 2:3-11, Luke 2:22-35; **Friday (The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph)**, Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14, Colossians 3:12-21, Luke 2:22-40; **Saturday (St. Sylvester)**, 1 John 2:18-21, John 1:1-18.

Groce
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

1401 Patton Ave. 72 Long Shoals Road
Asheville, NC Arden, NC
(828) 252-3535 (828) 687-3530

**Assuring
Absolute
Integrity**

Asheville's Catholic Funeral Directors
Dale Groce • John Prock

Toll-free (888) 874-3535

Pre-arrangements and obituaries on-line at www.grocefuneralhome.com

'Family' worth visiting during Christmas holidays

BY HARRY FORBES
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW YORK (CNS) — The credits suggest an up-to-date riff on the picture-postcard opening of "Meet Me in St. Louis," and the initial shot of the family's New England house has something of the old-fashioned solidity of the Smith homestead in the MGM musical.

But even though the earlier film — and Judy Garland's rendering of "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" — provide a poignant counterpoint here, "The Family Stone" (20th Century Fox) is dealing with more complex issues than the family Smith's upheaval from Missouri to New York.

This bittersweet Christmas comedy-drama concerns New York businessman

Everett Stone (Dermot Mulroney), who brings his professionally assured but socially awkward fiancée, Meredith (Sarah Jessica Parker), home to New England to meet the folks.

They include mother Sybil (Diane Keaton) and father Kelly (Craig T. Nelson), sisters Amy (Rachel McAdams) and Susannah (Elizabeth Reaser), brothers Ben (played by a warmly sympathetic Luke Wilson) and Thad (Ty Giordano), who — in one of several contrivances — just happens to be deaf. And gay. And living with an African-American partner (Brian White). (In fairness, the very likable Giordano is a deaf actor.)

Sensing (not without cause) that everyone — especially Amy — dislikes

her, Meredith invites her sister, Julie (Claire Danes), to join her for moral support, leading to romantic complications. There's an immediate and genuine chemistry between Julie and Everett that is missing from the latter's spiky relationship with the controlling yet insecure Meredith.

Ben, for his part, takes an immediate shine to Meredith, and sees in her something endearing beyond the foot-in-mouth persona. Along the way, we learn that Sybil has had a bout with some illness, presumably cancer, and that it's come back again, though the family doesn't know.

Angry Amy will soften when the boyfriend (Paul Schneider) with whom she was once involved comes back into her life, and Meredith will come to terms with her own anxieties, and win acceptance by the family.

Though most of what happens is predictable, the payoff is satisfying.

Writer-director Thomas Bezucha's low-keyed film takes its sweet time getting started, and the easy pace doesn't at first yield much in the way of dramatic dividends, but about midway through the

story grabs you, and tugs at the heart, building to a moving life- and family-affirming fade-out.

The performances are all excellent. Parker is a high-powered Manhattan career gal, but a far cry from the self-assured Carrie Bradshaw on "Sex and the City." Keaton radiates genuine maternal qualities and, given Sybil's underlying condition, a resigned sadness.

Flaws and all, this is a worthy and ultimately touching addition to that ever-popular genre, the Christmas movie.

This film contains some profanity and crude language, light sexual banter, partial nudity, a same-sex couple and their adopting a child, premarital situations, and drug references.

The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

Forbes is director of the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

FEBRUARY 17 - MAY 29, 2006

The Dead Sea SCROLLS

2000 YEARS
IN THE JUDEAN DESERT
100 DAYS IN CHARLOTTE

Discovery Place presents the oldest surviving manuscripts of the Bible in a monumental exhibition that gives visitors the opportunity to experience the most remarkable archeological discovery of the 20th century.

Tickets on sale now: call 877.TIX.4DSS (877.849.4377) or order online at www.discoverscrolls.org. Tickets are also available from Ticketmaster at www.ticketmaster.com. Charge-by-phone at 704.522.6500.



DISCOVERY PLACE

Presented By
THE LEON LEVINE FOUNDATION
SANDRA AND LEON LEVINE

Also Sponsored By
THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER
WSOC-TV Channel 9

In association with the Israel Antiquities Authority, The Dead Sea Scrolls Foundation and Pacific Science Center

This 'King' reigns supreme



CNS PHOTO FROM UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Naomi Watts and Adrien Brody star in "King Kong," a visually staggering remake of the 1933 classic about a giant ape smitten by a blonde-haired beauty (Watts), captured from his lost world island home by a maverick filmmaker (Jack Black) and taken in captivity to New York, where his rampage climaxes atop the Empire State Building.

Director Peter Jackson's storytelling masterfully blends stunning action sequences, humor and pathos-tinged emotion, paying reverent homage to the original while fleshing out the tragic story and raising the movie-magic bar to dazzling new heights.

The film includes a jaw-dropping centerpiece where Kong faces off against three tyrannosauruses (Jackson upped the ante from the original's one-on-one death match).

Few images in American cinema are more iconic than Kong battling biplanes high above the New York skyline, here dazzlingly executed with heightened drama. What gives the scene its heartbreaking poignancy are the tender moments between Kong and Darrow that bookend the aerial assault.

The film has an old-time Hollywood feel with no sex or profanity, though elements push the envelope of its PG-13 rating.

Intense action violence, some frightening and disturbing images, fleeting burlesque images and a few instances of profanity make it inappropriate for younger adolescents.

The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

Teacher included in Who's Who publication

CHARLOTTE — Lisa Horton, technology instructor at St. Ann School in Charlotte, was nominated and accepted as one of the 2005 Who's Who Among America's Teachers.

Horton has been teaching at St. Ann School for 11 years and during that time has been awarded a Grant for Education Excellence from the Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools education foundation and Lead Teacher Award from WeatherBug Achieve.

Horton was nominated for the ninth edition of Who's Who Among America's Teachers by a former student as a teacher who has shaped and inspired the student's current achievements.

Students are requested to nominate one teacher from their academic experience who made a difference in their lives by helping shape their values, inspire in-

terest in a particular subject and challenge them to strive for excellence.

All of the 114,000 teachers honored in the publication were nominated by former students who themselves are currently listed in Who's Who Among American High School Students, Who's Who Among American High School Students — Sports Edition or The National Dean's List.

"There is no greater honor teachers can receive than to be recognized by former students for their excellence and dedication," said Parke Davis, national academic affairs chairman for Educational Communications Inc., which publishes the Who's Who publications and The National Dean's List.

"In this publication, we clearly have the best teachers in America selected by the best students," said Davis.

From Russia for ideas



COURTESY PHOTO

Doris Melson, media specialist at Our Lady of Grace School in Greensboro, presents educators from Russia with copies of "G is for Grace," a book written by students in honor of the school's 50th anniversary. More than a dozen educators from Russia visited the school and other Greensboro-area schools to study school administration ideas as part of the Productivity Enhancement Program.

The program, implemented by the San Francisco-based Center for Citizen Initiatives, helps educators with practical training in school administration and free-market principals to encourage a stable economy and civil society in Russia. The center's programs also foster cooperative partnerships and relations between Russia and the United States.

During the visit, Libby Jones, guidance counselor, presented the educators with information on student services; Shirley Kinlaw, assistant principal, presented information on admissions policies; Gary Gelo, principal, presented information on marketing Catholic schools and finances.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

The Archdiocese of Atlanta seeks an experienced principal to lead Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School, a SACS accredited college preparatory high school; co-educational, with 258 students and 35 faculty members. The School offers a challenging academic and co-curricular program to a diverse student body: 43% African American, 46% Caucasian and 11% other ethnic groups. Located in Fairburn, Georgia, 20 miles south of downtown Atlanta. Position requirements:

- Practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church;
- Educational Leadership Certification;
- Minimum of 3 years of successful Catholic secondary administrative experience;
- Excellent communication skills;
- Collaborative leadership style;
- Experience in fiscal management and institutional advancement;
- Commitment to teaching;
- Fair and consistent disciplinarian.



Negotiable and competitive salary; excellent benefits. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled. Send letter of interest, resume, university credentials, and names, addresses and telephone numbers of at least five references to:

Ruprecht and Associates
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811

Phone: 218-727-5150

E-mail: mruprecht@cpinternet.com

Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT

COMMUNITY GROUP HOME MANAGER: (adults) — Live in (7 days on, 7 days off). Prepare/serve meals, transportation, recreation, cleaning, med treatments, work goals. Requirements: HS/GED & group home & MR/DD experience. Holy Angels, Inc., 6600 Wilkinson Boulevard, Belmont, N.C. 28012. (704) 825-4161.

SERVICES

EMERALD HOME REMODELING: NC Licensed General Contractor. Kitchens, Baths, Additions, Handyman services, etc. All size jobs

completed. (704) 684-0301(T); (704) 719-0808(cell) for free consultation

PIANO TUNING & RESTORATION: Hi-Quality Used Pianos. PIANO CRAFT (336) 454-2000. Al Guecia, formerly of Steinway & Sons. IHM Parishioner.

FOR RENT

VACATION CABIN: Lake Lure. Mountain views! A great holiday get-away! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, fully furnished. Reasonable rates. Call 828-299-3714.

Classified ads bring results! Over 125,000 readers! Over 49,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Seeking Director of Human Resources for a Southeast Catholic Archdiocese to develop policy and direct and coordinate human resources activities for an organization of 3000. Responsibilities include recruitment and employment of management and non-management employees; compensation and benefit programs; employee relations; training and development programs; regulatory compliance in employment practices; employee and management counseling; and committee and project work. **REQUIREMENTS:** **Education.** BA in Human Resource management, psychology or business, and/or equivalent experience. **Experience.** Ten or more years experience in Human Resources at a professional level, including at least five years in a broad management position. Experience in working with teams and committees, and in a hierarchical structure. **Knowledge.** Broad, in-depth working knowledge of human resources laws and regulations, standard policies, practices, and procedures. Knowledge of budgeting and strategic planning. A practicing Catholic. **Skills/Abilities.** Participative/collaborative management style that is supportive of team development. Excellent communication (oral and written), interpersonal, and organizational skills. Excellent negotiating and problem-solving abilities. Strong service orientation. Good quantitative and analytical skills. Ability to use tact, sensitivity, and discretion. Ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously. Computer literacy, including skills in human resource software and timekeeping systems.

Send resume to: **Ruprecht & Associates**
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811-5018,
Email: mruprecht@cpinternet.com
Telephone: 218-727-5150



Students win parish essay contest



COURTESY PHOTO

Don Mulligan, chair of the Respect Life Committee at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in High Point, presents essay contest awards to (from left) George Schlaepi, Jennifer Lindh and Donna Elliott at Immaculate Heart of Mary School Dec. 16.

The essays written by the three eighth-graders won the committee's annual contest. George won first place for his essay on respecting the earth, in particular protecting rainforests. Jennifer placed second for her essay on respecting parents. Donna won third place for her work on respecting those with Down Syndrome.

The awards included certificates and prizes.

Athletes, alumni honored at Bishop McGuinness

KERNERSVILLE — Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School celebrated Homecoming with its third annual Athletic Hall of Fame and second annual Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame induction ceremonies Oct. 29.

"The legacies of all these exceptional individuals are a gift of extraordinary value to the life and the living memory of this school," said Principal George Repass.

The Athletic Hall of Fame welcomed a group of outstanding athletes, including Ime Archibong (class of 1999), currently a performance analyst and software engineer; Janet Daugherty (class of 1988), a former teacher and coach at a South Carolina high school; and Dan Spainhour, coach and athletic director at

Bishop McGuinness in the 1990s.

The Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame honored Mercy Sister Larretta Rivera-Williams (class of 1972), director of religious education and pastoral associate at St. Benedict the Moor Church in Winston-Salem; and Dan Morrison (class of 1985), former speechwriter for former Secretary of State Collin Powell.

"We celebrate the achievements of these inspiring alumni since graduating from Bishop McGuinness," said Felipe Villalon, chairman of the alumni relations committee.

"They live the school motto of 'Excel That You Might Better Serve' with their dedication to excellence, achievement and service," he said.



COURTESY PHOTO

Mercy Sister Larretta Rivera-Williams and Dan Morrison are welcomed into the Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville Oct. 29.

ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO THE HARVEST?

Then he said to His disciples, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers for His harvest." (Mt 9:37)

I am praying that you will join me in responding to our Lord's request for more "laborers" in harvesting the abundant fruit to be found at Belmont Abbey College. Over 125 years ago the Benedictine Monks came south in response to God's call to begin His work in the vineyard of North Carolina.

He is calling you to place your hands upon the same bricks that were formed and put in place by these holy monks so long ago. I am looking for strong, dedicated, Catholic students to help realize our vision of excellence and virtue. Belmont Abbey is your Catholic College and God is calling you to the "harvest."

Dr. William K. Thierfelder
President


BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE
THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED



☐ I WANT TO HELP BUILD OUR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY. PLEASE SEND ME A STUDENT REFERRAL PACKAGE.

If you would like to help Belmont Abbey College by referring or becoming a new student, please fill out this form and send it to us or go online to BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu and click on Referral Package in the Quick Links. We will send you our complete referral/information package with detailed information about the Abbey and all it has to offer!

Your Name _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____
Email _____
Phone _____ No. of Packages Requested _____

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
100 BELMONT-MT. HOLLY ROAD
BELMONT, NC 28012-1802
BELMONTABBEYCOLLEGE.EDU

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

No room in the inn

TODAY CHRIST SEEKS ROOM
IN OUR HEARTS, LIVES

"She wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn" (Luke 2:7).

The fact that there was no room for Jesus, Mary and Joseph in the inn at Bethlehem on the first Christmas should make us wonder, because the birth of Christ was foreseen and planned by God from all eternity.

Hundreds of years before it happened, the prophets announced he would be born of a virgin (Is. 7:14) and that Bethlehem would be his birthplace (Micah 5:2). Many other details of his life and death were also foretold.

Did God, then, forget to make room for his only Son? How is it possible that there was no room, when the child born at Christmas owns the inn, Bethlehem and the world, and every inch of room in the whole universe?

Obviously, God did this on purpose. There was no room in the inn because this demonstrates that the world has rejected God. The world makes no room for the God who created it. There was no room in the inn because God wanted to show that his son comes as a Savior, to reconcile a world that is at enmity with God.

Being turned away from the inn foreshadows the fact that the Savior himself will be rejected, despised and ultimately crucified, and that all this was part of God's plan.

Ultimately, the lack of room in the inn symbolizes the lack of room we make for him in our hearts. When our hearts are filled with all kinds of desires other than God, we gradually crowd him out altogether.

No room at the inn also means that we fail to make room for our brothers and sisters. The first great command-

Guest Column

FATHER FRANK
PAVONE
GUEST COLUMNIST



ment is to love God and the second is like it: Love your neighbor.

Christ willed to be left out, because he is always in solidarity with those who are left out, shut out and crowded out.

That is the position of the unborn children today. They are crowded out of the busy schedules of so many people doing so many good and important things, but who don't have a finger to lift to protect the lives of these children from abortion.

They are crowded out of legislative agendas, preaching schedules, career plans and volunteer activities. There's just too much going on already; there's no room in the inn.

Christ comes at Christmas to change all that. Today, he does not seek a room in inn; he seeks room in our own hearts and lives. And he asks that as we welcome him, we welcome everyone whom he welcomes, including the children most defenseless and forgotten.

We welcome the Divine Child, and in doing so, we welcome every child. As we celebrate Christmas, we sing in "O Holy Night" the words, "Chains shall he break, for the slave is our brother, and in his name all oppression shall cease."

Amen! Let oppression cease and let Christmas come for the unborn.

Father Pavone is national director of Priests for Life.

God never leaves people, even at moment of death, says pope

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — God never leaves his creatures alone, not even at the moment of death when each person must complete his or her journey without the company of anyone else, Pope Benedict XVI said.

God continually stretches out his hand to guide those he loves, the pope said Dec. 14 during his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square.

"His closeness is not one of judgment that incites terror, but one of support and liberation," the pope said.

Offering a reflection on Psalm 139 and its praise of God who is "all knowing and ever present," Pope Benedict set aside his prepared text to focus on the extent to which God remains with each individual not only in life, but also at the moment of death.

"God is always with us. Even in the darkest nights of our lives, he does not abandon us. Even at the most difficult times of our lives, he is present," Pope Benedict said.

"And even on the last night, in the last solitude where no one can accompany us, the night of death, the Lord does not abandon us," he said.

"Therefore, we Christians can trust that we are never left alone. The goodness of God never abandons us," the pope said.

In his prepared text, Pope Benedict said that although God looks on evil with severity, "his is not a looming and inspeccatorial presence," but a "saving presence capable of embracing all existence and all history."

At the end of the audience, the pope spent more than an hour shaking hands, blessing children and collecting gifts.

The smaller gifts were wrapped for Christmas, but the pope also was given a large crystal cross, a jewel-encrusted Book of the Gospels from the faithful of

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



the Italo-Albanian Catholic Church, table linens, a wooden Nativity scene and several paintings, especially of Mary.

The gifts — including a huge tome on Gothic architecture, music CDs and books about the election of Pope Benedict — continued to arrive as the pope met briefly with publishers attending a meeting with the Vatican's publishing house.

Jesuit Father Joseph Fessio, founder and editor in chief of Ignatius Press, which has published the former Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger's books in English, gave the pope a Lectionary.

Father Fessio told Catholic News Service that the book was the first copy of the volume of Mass readings that Ignatius Press will be selling. It has been approved by the Antilles Episcopal Conference for liturgical use in the Caribbean nations belonging to the conference.

The Jesuit said that after the Vatican told the U.S. bishops that a Lectionary based on the inclusive-language New Revised Standard Version of the Bible would not be approved, Ignatius Press secured a 50-year license for a Lectionary based on a second Catholic edition of the original Revised Standard Version.

Father Fessio said Pope Benedict asked Dec. 14 if the Lectionary would be used anywhere besides the Antilles and Father Fessio told him he is hoping the Ignatius Press Lectionary would be adopted by other bishops' conferences.

The sign of peace, pre-Vatican II

Q. I am a Vatican II baby, born after the council closed, and have a question about the older rite. Was there a sign of peace then? As far as I can tell there wasn't. I'm sure it's ancient, but why did it start?

More specifically, why is it placed near Communion? If Jesus said we should be reconciled with our brother before we bring our gifts to the altar (Mt 5:23-24), shouldn't the sign of peace be at the beginning of Mass? (Pennsylvania)

A. You have some good insights and questions.

The kiss, or sign, of peace is in-

deed among the oldest rites connected with the Mass. At least five times the New Testament speaks of Christians greeting each other with a "holy kiss," or "kiss of love" (for example Rom 16:16, 1 Pt 5:14).

It seems certain that at least by around the year 150, a kiss was already a regular part of the liturgy as an expression of unity and peace among Christians.

For centuries the "pax" (peace), as it was called, was exchanged by everyone at Mass. Toward the late Middle Ages, only the attending clergy observed the practice, usually substituting another sign such as an embrace

for an actual kiss.

This continued until our present time when a sign of peace is again prescribed in some manner for all the faithful. The church's instructions for Mass indicate that each person before the breaking of the bread offers a sign of peace to those nearby.

In this manner the church asks for peace and unity for herself and for the whole human family, and the faithful offer a sign of their communion with the church and their love for each other before receiving Communion together (General Instruction of the Roman Missal 82).

In the beginning this rite did take place early in the celebration of the Eucharist, apparently for the reasons you give. It later found its way to the time around Communion, which we

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN
DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



still designate the "sign of unity and the bond of love."

Some discussion has taken place during the past few decades about moving the sign of peace back again to an earlier part of Mass. As of now, however, it remains before Communion, which, as I said, still gives it a particularly appropriate significance and symbolism.

Doin' the 'Father Foxtrot'

Priests, others have more to celebrate than athletes

KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

Like many families across the United States, I spent part of Thanksgiving Day watching professional football.

When a zealous player performed a celebratory dance after scoring a touchdown, my brother-in-law Tim and I scoffed at his brazenness.

"I'm going to start dancing around for doing my job," Tim said.

Actually, Tim should do a dance when he does his job correctly. You see, he's an airline pilot. Every time he sits in that cockpit, he literally has hundreds of lives in his hands.

Aren't a safe trip and successful landing always worth celebrating?

Professional athletes certainly have reason to celebrate: most get paid millions of dollars to play a game. In my opinion, scoring touchdowns and hitting home runs are hardly worthy of back flips and mock swordplay.

There are lots of professionals who have legitimate reason to do back flips after doing their jobs: the heart surgeon who performed my father's quadruple bypass surgery; the paramedics who administered epinephrine to my mother after she was stung by 15 yellow jackets.

And how about Mrs. Rieger, my third-grade teacher, who introduced me to poetry and taught me look things up

As I Was Saying

KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER



for myself?

I also can't forget my senior advanced placement English teacher, Mrs. Edwards, who told me never to use the word "very" — there's always a better word if you have to qualify it with very. Is King Kong very big? No — he is huge, enormous or gigantic.

More significant for me is Msgr. Richard Allen, whose meaningful homilies and pastoral spirit helped prompt me to join the Catholic Church.

Most importantly, there are the dozens of priests who have celebrated the Masses I've attended for the past six years, allowing me to receive the Eucharist.

So why don't we have a Father Foxtrot or Teacher Two-Step? How about a Pilot Paso Doble or Surgeon Samba?

If you think about it, I'm sure you can name people you think should celebrate — the people who have impacted

your life in ways large and small. Your parents, priests, religious sisters, godparents, teachers and friends who have helped shape who you are today.

These people are certainly the ones worthy of their own "Super Bowl Shuffle."

As we head into playoff season, I fear the end zone celebrations will become even more obnoxious. Hardly what Jesus would do.

This Christmas, let's make our real heroes feel like dancing in the end zone.

Karen A. Evans is the staff writer for The Catholic News & Herald. She did a jig when she completed this column.



Christmas is a blessed time to give

Guest Column

JUDY SMITH
GUEST COLUMNIST



Charitable gifts help strengthen Christ's work

As the end of the year approaches, the spirit of generosity abounds as we celebrate the birth of Christ at Christmas. This is the time when people traditionally choose to show their love and caring with gifts to family members, friends and other loved ones.

Many in the diocese also show their love of the church at this time with gifts that support their parish, Catholic school, Catholic agency, the Diocese of Charlotte or the diocesan Foundation. Those who give at year's end may also reap personal financial benefits as a result of their gifts.

Charitable gifts made to your parish, Catholic school, agency, the diocese or the Foundation before Dec. 31 may bring you savings at tax time next spring.

Gifts of appreciated assets such as stocks can also bring tax savings if you have owned the assets for at least 12 months. An income tax deduction for the current value of the property becomes available at the time the gift is made and capital gains tax will not be due on the increase in value.

A regular review of estate plans at the end of the year is a good way to include a charitable dimension that will provide future benefits to Catholic causes important to you, your family, your community and the church.

It is a good idea to discuss gift options with your professional financial advisor who can help you explore giving methods that are best suited to your financial position.

Gifts to your parish, Catholic school or agency, the diocese or the Foundation strengthen and continue Christ's work on earth. All gifts, regardless of size, are greatly appreciated during this Christmas season and throughout the year.

Judy Smith is director of planned giving for the Diocese of Charlotte. Contact her at (704) 370-3320 or e-mail jmsmith@charlottediocese.org.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on planned giving or the diocesan Foundation, go online at www.charlottediocese.org/developmentoffice.html.

The peaceable kingdom given birth with Christ

Jesus thought outside the box; so should we

They were waiting, waiting for the mighty king. The one who would lead them with his fearful sword into battle against their Roman oppressors. And like his ancestor David, he would make Israel a powerful people among the nations.

In the ancient world where war was commonplace, it was reasonable that the majority of oppressed Jewish people would expect the Messiah — the anointed one — to be a warrior-king. Only those with open minds and humble hearts could understand that their God was totally unlike other gods.

These faithful few knew the Messiah would build his kingdom not with swords and spears, but with justice and love. He would usher in the peaceable kingdom as foretold by Isaiah the prophet:

"In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains. ... All the nations shall stream to it. ... They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. ... They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full

of the knowledge of the Lord."

And so it came to pass. In the city of David, the Messiah, the Prince of Peace, was born. As God among us, Jesus would later preach about a kingdom so different from any other.

To enter his kingdom one would need to turn away from the thinking of the world and adopt a wonderfully strange logic: "To you that listen, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ... Do to others as you would have them do to you" (Lk 6: 27-28, 31).

Some 2,000 years have passed since the Prince of Peace proclaimed those words, yet as in the ancient world war is commonplace. We are not "full of the knowledge of the Lord." We are not even close.

Following Jesus' teachings requires us to be countercultural. If we sound and act like much of mainstream society, we have entered the kingdom of darkness, not the kingdom of God.

How can we possibly claim to love our enemies by bombing and shooting them? This is not the road to peace. It never was and never will be.

Making a Difference

TONY MAGLIANO
CNS COLUMNIST



Jesus preached nonviolence. He even loved those who considered him an enemy. Even when brutally beaten and crucified, he offered forgiveness not retaliation.

Yes, this is a very difficult path to walk. But instead of taking the dead-end road of violence and war, let's begin to think "outside the box," as Jesus did. With God's grace, creativity and good will, we can surely do better than bombs and bullets.

Pope Paul VI said, "If you want peace, work for justice."

Well, justice demands that all people have access to decent food, water, sanitation, housing, health care, education and employment.

Why don't we turn our swords into plowshares? Why not channel the billions of dollars we spend on war and war preparation toward meeting these basic human needs?

While this sounds like foolishness to many, it is of the same wonderfully strange wisdom that brought to us not a warrior-Messiah, but a Savior-King born in a humble cave in Bethlehem.

A 'calling from God'

More than 200 babies and counting for Omaha foster mother

BY JACLYN SCHULTE
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

OMAHA, Neb. — In 1990, when Gloria Leiferman was taking care of her 100th foster child, many thought she would slow down.

After the death of her husband, Ronald, in 2002, many thought she would quit altogether.

But today she is caring for her 203rd foster child.

"I am really good at what I do and I am not going to quit until it is not fun anymore," said Leiferman. "To me this is my calling from God."

She has responded to that calling for the past 26 years, taking care of babies as a foster mother for Catholic Charities, Nebraska Health and Human Services and the Child Saving Institute.

A registered nurse by profession, Leiferman went back to work after taking time off to raise six children. While working in the intensive-care nursery at St. Joseph Hospital (now Creighton Uni-

versity Medical Center) in Omaha, she attended a training session at Boys Town on child abuse and neglect.

"From that I knew what I wanted to do," she said.

Leiferman and her husband attended a six-week course in preparation of their first foster child, who arrived March 2, 1979.

"I could not have done this for all these years if my husband was not supportive," she said. "Many people thought when my husband died that I would quit, but now I need a baby in my arms more than ever."

With her nursing background, Leiferman usually cares for children with disabilities or injuries, including babies born addicted to drugs and those who have been abused.

"When I read back through my notes I wonder how I got through it," she said. "Actually those cases are a challenge to me, so I like them best."

Hosting foster children in the Leiferman home also influenced her children. One of her daughters is a foster

mother who provides therapeutic foster care for troubled teen-agers; her son is a pediatrician and two other daughters are teachers.

"All of my kids are great parents," she said. "I think (foster parenting) set a really good example."

The next generation, Leiferman's 16 grandchildren, also are being influenced by the foster children.

"The minute my grandchildren come to the door they race upstairs to see and play with the babies," she said. "It was good for them, too, because it taught them what it was like to have a baby around."

Leiferman, a parishioner of St. Leo

Church, takes her babies to Mass every Sunday.

She has seen many changes with the foster care system over the years. The babies today also are different — she did not encounter drug-related problems with any of her first 99 foster children. But baby No. 100 had drug-related problems, as do the majority of foster care babies now coming to her home.

One thing has remained consistent over the years — the feelings when a baby leaves.

"You have to go into it knowing that it is temporary, but you cannot hold back your love," she said. "Each of the babies takes a little piece of my heart with them."



CNS PHOTO BY JACLYN SCHULTE, CATHOLIC VOICE

Gloria Leiferman of Omaha, Neb., rocks her 203rd foster child to sleep, surrounded by photos and mementos of children she has cared for over the past 26 years. Leiferman credits her nursing background and a true love for babies as the keys to her success as a foster mom.

Fabulous Christmas Gifts!

Featuring Colored Diamonds Exclusively



Malak Jewelers

At the Arboretum (St. Matthew parishioners)

We extend to you the very finest in Jewelry and Service...

Largest Selection - Best Quality & Prices Guaranteed

Certified Loose Diamonds

Platinum, Gold, Fine Jewelry

Sterling Silver and Watches

Estate Jewelry - Buy & Sell

26 years of Integrity and Experience!

(704) 341-1188 www.malakjewelers.com

8042-800 Providence Rd., Charlotte



Now featuring special sterling silver medallion of Pope John Paul II - complimentary with purchases over \$50 (one per purchase)

The **Catholic** Company

Lake Norman Book Store
maryimmaculata.com



Jesus is the reason for the season!

NOW 2 COMPLETE Catholic stores for

- Unique gifts & cards
- Books, rosaries, medals
- Previously read book section (at Lake Norman)
- Video rentals
- Artwork

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

CAROLINA CATHOLIC
BOOKSHOPPE

Mon. thru Sat.
10 am - 6 pm

\$5 OFF
Any Purchase
of \$35 or More
Present coupon. Not valid with any
other offers. Expires 12/24/05

Give the unforgettable gift! Enrich your own spiritual life!

Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise —

"The Footsteps of Paul"

Greece and Turkey — May 11-21, 2006

Space is limited—register now!



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,849 for inside cabin (before 1/31/06) - includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

Istanbul — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace

Mykonos — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels

Patmos — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation

Kusadasi & Ephesus — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites

Rhodes — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith

Crete — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion

Santorini — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.



Season's greetings

True Christmas gift is
bringing joy, says pope

| PAGE 16

2005: A year in review

Pope's death, papal election voted top stories

DIOCESE HOLDS FIRST EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

AND

CATHOLIC NEWS
SERVICE

CHARLOTTE — According to a Catholic News Service survey of Catholic editors, the death of Pope John Paul II, the election of Pope Benedict XVI and the devastating impact of Hurricane Katrina were the top religious news stories of 2005.

Pope John Paul, who was chosen as the top newsmaker more often than anyone else in

See REVIEW, page 6

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

Carjacked nun helps her attacker get lighter sentence

BY SAM LUCERO
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

MILWAUKEE — In a few minutes one night last April, Sister Mary Jo Kahl's life changed.

She went from being an innocent bystander to becoming the victim of a carjacking. The 66-year-old Franciscan Sister of Mary also began a new journey of faith that has

See CARJACK, page 13



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Bishop Peter J. Jugis carries a monstrance during a eucharistic procession in Charlotte, part of the two-day diocesan Eucharistic Congress Sept. 23-24.

Breaking the cycle of poverty

*January is 'Poverty in America
Awareness Month'*

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — More than 37 million people live in America's 51st state, "Poverty USA," as it is called by the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD).

CCHD is the domestic anti-poverty, social justice program of the U.S. bishops.

During January, Poverty in America Awareness Month,

CCHD will launch its sixth national awareness campaign. By focusing on poverty, CCHD hopes to remind Americans early each year that poverty remains very much a part of American life and that they can do something to help.

Of the 2 million children in North Carolina, 473,000, or 23.1 percent, are living in poverty. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia,

North Carolina ranks seventh in percentage of children living in poverty, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

While the White House Office of Management and Budget defines the average poverty threshold in 2004 as \$19,307 for a family of four, a CCHD study showed that most Americans believe it takes nearly \$30,000 to adequately house, clothe and feed a family of four.

A recent Gallup poll found that only five percent of Americans believe poverty and homelessness are important

See POVERTY, page 13

Wall of fears

**BISHOP SAYS HOUSE-
PASSED IMMIGRATION
REFORM BILL WOULD
HURT NATION**

BY NANCY FRAZIER
O'BRIEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Despite a Catholic bishop's warning that the measure would have "serious and severe consequences for immigrants and the nation," the House approved an immigration reform bill Dec. 16 that calls for the building of a 700-mile fence along the U.S.-Mexican border and would make illegal presence in the U.S. a crime, rather than the civil offense it is now.

Bishop Gerald R. Barnes of San Bernardino, Calif., chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Migration, had urged rejection of H.R. 4437, the Border Protection, Anti-Terrorism and Illegal Immigration Control Act of 2005, in a Dec. 14 letter to House members.

"It is an extremely punitive bill which is far broader than illegal immigration and, if en-

See BILL, page 12



FILE PHOTO

A Montagnard shows the chickens he raises at the CCHD-assisted Montagnard Agricultural Project farm near Asheboro in 2004.

Celebrating Christmas

Seeing with Christ's eyes;
readers' stories

| PAGES 4-5

Culture Watch

Catholic Church in
Alaska; faith and fame

| PAGES 10-11

Perspectives

Churching of new
mothers; God's patience

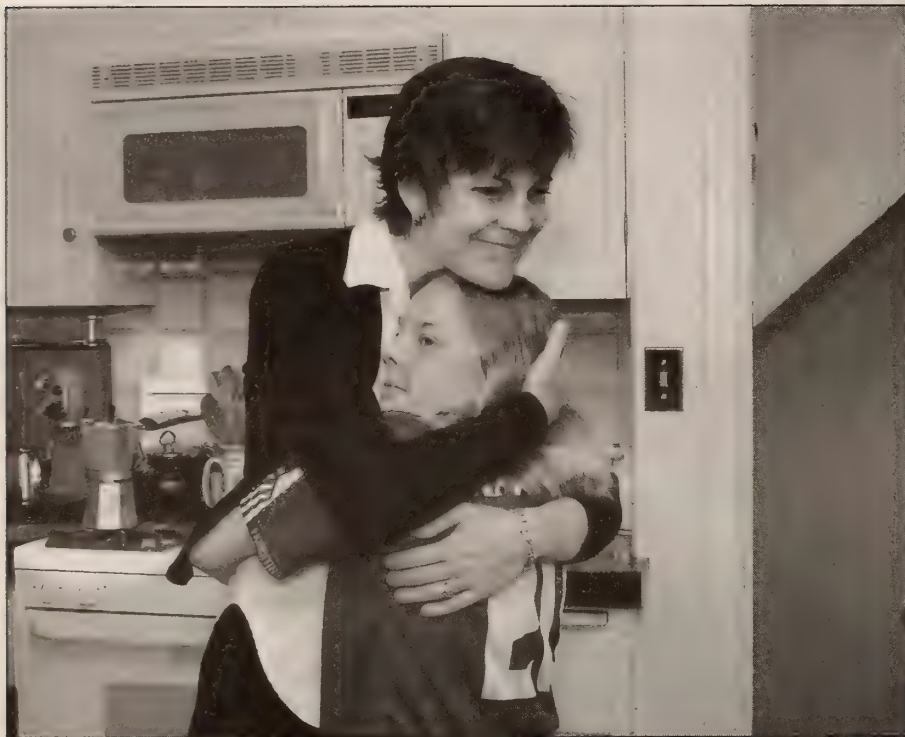
| Pages 14-15

#BXNPDVQ.....3-DIGIT 275
#420836#
NC COLLECTION
UNC
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

SIMPLE PLANNING



CNS PHOTO BY GERRY LEWIN, CATHOLIC SENTINEL

Susan Bigcraft hugs daughter Kat before a day at school earlier this year. One way the Portland, Ore., family lives out the Gospel message each day is to embrace simplicity in life.

Family-first philosophy keeps Catholic couple on track

PORTLAND, Ore. (CNS) — He runs a big-city emergency medicine department. She negotiates the legal world for a Catholic nonprofit.

But for both, their careers take second place after their children.

Once a month, the whole household heads to the Oregon Food Bank to package food for needy people. Before bed, they say the Hail Mary.

The four members of the Carnevale-Bigcraft family are not angels. They sometimes find each other exasperating and on occasion lose their tempers. Now and then they even have messy rooms.

But fueled by the commitment of parents Dr. Tony Carnevale and Susan Bigcraft, they do take faith seriously. They also aim to take belief into the streets.

As a way of being evangelizers and living out the Gospel, for Carnevale and Bigcraft, the answer lies partly in embracing simplicity.

Early on, Carnevale decided against becoming an orthopedic surgeon due to its unpredictable schedule, which would have kept him away from his family.

Bigcraft left a growing career as a courtroom attorney and has opted to work part time as legal counsel for Oregon Catholic Press.

Though they could have bought into one of Portland's exclusive neighborhoods, the couple chose a modest home in a middle-income district.

Most days during the school year, Bigcraft and children Kat and Dante

make the two-mile bike ride to All Saints Elementary School. There is no television in the house.

"I like to be simple," Bigcraft said. "I don't want to have a lot of things. Making a lot of money is not appealing."

Their countercultural choices impress people.

"The energy that it would take to put into a big-time law career she has chosen to pour into those children," said Bob Weaver, an attorney who hired Bigcraft. "She has an internal gyroscope that keeps her centered."

Carnevale and Bigcraft and their children are proud to go to church together. Sixth-grader Kat is an altar server and third-grader Dante, who received first Communion in 2005, will soon serve, too.

"They are such a family unit; that's what I admire," said Father Bob Barricks, their pastor. The priest noted that they even take part in the sacrament of reconciliation as a family.

"They seem to have their priorities straight," said the priest.

The parents realize the way they parent is a large part of their evangelizing. They do not intend to unleash perfect achievers on the world. But they have Gospel-based expectations for their children.

"I want them to be good people," Bigcraft said. "I want them to be happy, to make wise choices and to be accepting of others and of life in all its messiness. I want them to enjoy the journey, even if there are lots of mistakes."

Influential Jesuit says bad driving is sin, should be confessed

We have serious obligation to respect life, says priest

ROME (CNS) — Driving inattentively, after drinking or when one is tired is a sin that should be confessed, said the Jesuit director of an influential magazine.

Poor driving "places at great risk one's own life and the lives of others, certainly much more than seeing a provocative film, something people confess much more easily because they feel more at fault," wrote Father GianPaolo Salvini in mid-December.

The priest is director of *La Civiltà Cattolica*, a magazine reviewed by the Vatican Secretariat of State prior to publication.

Father Salvini noted that in late November, Pope Benedict XVI publicly asked people to drive more carefully in order to save lives.

While much of his article looked at statistics about driving habits and accidents in Italy, the Jesuit also looked at the

moral, psychological and social issues involved in more and more people driving cars, mopeds and motorcycles.

Like any human action, he said, driving involves "a series of obligations deriving from justice, prudence and charity," obligations that are morally binding.

Unfortunately, Father Salvini said, most people — including church people — do not seem to give much thought to the moral implications of getting behind the wheel.

"There is a serious obligation to respect one's life and the lives of others," Father Salvini said. "It would not be a bad idea when examining one's conscience to look at this point as well."

The Jesuit said, "All educators, including the church, have a serious responsibility in forming consciences on this point."

Diocesan planner

ASHEVILLE VICARIATE

ASHEVILLE — The *St. Martin de Porres Dominican Laity Chapter* meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the rectory building at the Basilica of St. Lawrence, 97 Haywood St. Inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Beverly Reid at (423) 6338-4744 or bebereid@adelphia.net.

BOONE VICARIATE

NORTH WILKESBORO — A *Catholic Scripture Study* group meets at St. John Baptiste de La Salle Church, 275 CC Wright School Rd. Visit www.catholicscripturestudy.com for more information. Classes meet Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m. Please call Rob Hicks at (336) 957-7193 for more information or if you plan to attend.

SPRUCE PINE — A *Rosary of Intercession for Priests* is recited each Friday at St. Lucien Church, 695 Summit St., before the 9 a.m. Mass. Prayers are offered for bishops, priests and deacons, and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. For more information, call the church office at (828) 765-2224.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., will celebrate a *Polish-language Mass* Jan. 1 in the Daily Mass Chapel. Reconciliation will be offered at 2 p.m. and Mass will be celebrated at 3:30 p.m. For more information, call Elizabeth Spytowski at (704) 948-1678.

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., will host a *Christian Coffeehouse* Jan. 7 at 7:30 p.m. Single and married adults are invited for an evening of contemporary Christian music, food and fellowship. For more information, call Kathy Bartlett at (704) 400-2213.

CHARLOTTE — St. Patrick Cathedral, 1621 Dilworth Rd. East, will host a *Pro-Life Rosary and Benediction* Jan. 17 at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited for a beautiful night of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in the cathedral. For details, call Tina Witt at (704) 846-7361.

CHARLOTTE — The Evangelization Committee of St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd., will offer the *Catholics Returning Home* program Thursdays, Jan. 19-Feb. 23. Catholics Returning Home is a welcoming program for Catholics who have been away from the church. Topics include concerns, the Mass, changes since Vatican II, reconciliation and Catholic beliefs, prayer and spirituality. For more information, call the St. Gabriel parish office at (704) 364-5431 or e-mail st.gabe_crh@hotmail.com.

CHARLOTTE — *St. Matthew Cancer Support Ministry* is open to cancer patients, their caregivers and cancer survivors. If you would like to share your experience in a faith-based setting and receive group support and encouragement, join us on the first Tuesday of each month, September through June, at 7 p.m. in the St. Matthew Church office lounge, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy. Call Marilyn Borrelli at (704) 542-2283 or Bob Wilcocks at (704) 542-1541 for more information.

CHARLOTTE — *Healing Hearts*, a support group for people coping with the death of a spouse, meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall of St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Rd. For more information, contact Sister Therese Galligan, facilitator, at (704) 362-5047, ext. 216.

HUNTERSVILLE — A *Mass to Honor Deceased Loved Ones* is celebrated the last Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. St. Mark Church, 14740 Stumptown Rd. For more information, call Pam Schneider at (704) 875-0201.

CHARLOTTE — The *St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order* gathers the first Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. at Our Lady of Consolation Church, 2301 Statesville Ave. Those interested in learning more about the

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-mail: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

DECEMBER 23, 2005
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 12

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Vatican's Christmas tree reminds people Christ has come, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The shining lights of the Vatican's towering Christmas tree should remind people that Christ, the light of the world, has come, Pope Benedict XVI told church and civic leaders from Austria.

The region of upper Austria donated the 98-foot tree, which was lighted during a Dec. 17 ceremony in St. Peter's Square.

The pope held an audience with the Austrian delegation in the morning, while U.S. Cardinal Edmund C. Szoka, president of the office governing Vatican City State, presided over the evening tree lighting.

Pope Benedict told the Austrians, "At Christmas, in every part of the globe, the good news of the birth of the Redeemer echoes again: The awaited Messiah became man and came among us.

"With his shining presence, Jesus has shattered the darkness of error and sin and has brought humanity the joy of his blazing divine light; the Christmas tree is a

sign and reminder of this," he said.

During the audience, the pope was given a lantern by 11-year-old Jurgen Lengauer. The Austrian boy lighted the lantern Dec. 12 in Bethlehem and was to spend the next several weeks giving candles lit from it to Christian leaders all over Europe.

Lengauer was chosen after he saved his 2-year-old brother from drowning in a swimming pool last summer.

Speaking at the evening ceremony, which featured traditional Austrian Christmas carols, Cardinal Szoka said the Austrian people donated the tree as an expression of their love for Pope Benedict and the universal church.

"The strength of the people of the mountains is reflected in this tree," he said. "From its birth until today, this tree has withstood strong winds and stormy blizzards, reaching a majestic and beautiful height."

SFO and the Franciscan way of life are invited to attend. For more information, call Tom O'Loughlin at (704) 947-7235.

CHARLOTTE — The Happy Timers of St. Ann Church meet the first Wednesday of each month with a luncheon and program at 1 p.m. in the Msgr. Allen Center, 3635 Park Rd. All adults age 55 and older are welcome. For more information, call Charles Nesto at (704) 398-0879.

GASTONIA VICARIATE

BELMONT — First Saturday Devotions take place on the first Saturday of each month at Belmont Abbey Basilica, 100 Belmont-Mt. Holly Rd. Devotion begins at 9:30 a.m. with the recitation of the rosary, followed by reconciliation and Mass. For more information, call Phil or Terri at (704) 888-6050.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — The book club of St. Pius X Church, 2210 North Elm St., will read "The Five People You Meet in Heaven" by Mitch Albom. Discussion dates are Jan. 8 at 12:45 p.m. with a buffet lunch and Jan. 9 at 7 p.m. with a dessert bar. For more information, call the church office at (336) 272-468.

HICKORY VICARIATE

HENDERSONVILLE — The Widows Lunch Bunch, sponsored by Immaculate Conception Church, meets at a different restaurant on the first Wednesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. Reservations are necessary. For more information and reservations, call Joan Keagle at (828) 693-4733.

HICKORY — A Charismatic Mass is celebrated the first Thursday of each month in Sebastian Chapel of St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St. NE, at 7 p.m. For further information, contact Joan Moran (828)-327-0487.

NEWTON — The Little Flowers Catholic Girls' Group is for all Catholic girls ages five and up. The group meets the fourth Monday of each month at St. Joseph Church, 720 West 13th St., at 4 p.m. in the Holy Family Hall. For more details, call Debbie Vickers at (828) 495-2039.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

SALISBURY — Our Lady Rosary Makers of Sacred Heart Church, 128 N. Fulton St., are making cord rosaries for the missions and the military. The group meets the first Tuesday of each month in the church office conference room, 10-11 a.m. For more information, call Cathy Yochim at (704) 636-6857 or Joan Kaczmarezyk at (704) 797-8405.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

FRANKLIN — Respect Life meets the first Wednesday of every month after the 5:30 p.m. Mass in the Family Life Center at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 299 Maple St. All those interested in promoting the sanctity of human life are invited to attend. For more information, contact Julie Tastinger at (828) 349-9813 or jatastinger@aol.com.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

CLEMMONS — The Knitting Ministry of Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd., meets Monday evenings, 6:30-8 p.m., to pray, learn to knit, reflect on life's lessons and reach out to others in our community. Opportunities exist for the beginner to the experienced as we knit and purl Prayer Shawls, Premie Blankets or Squares for Survivors. Please contact Rosemary at (336) 766-2315 or Carmel (336) 766-0650 for more information.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Catholics, Orthodox have responsibility to work for unity, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Catholics and Orthodox have a responsibility to work toward full unity in accordance with the will of Christ, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Meeting Dec. 15 with a committee preparing for a full meeting of the international Catholic-Orthodox dialogue, the pope said he rejoiced at the desire to "take up again and pursue the dialogue which, over the past few years, had known serious internal and external difficulties."

The last meeting of the international Catholic-Orthodox dialogue was held in 2000 to discuss the role and theological implications of the agreements that led to the formation of the Eastern Catholic churches. That meeting ended without any conclusions or decisions agreeable to Orthodox and Catholics.

Fifteen autonomous Orthodox churches, meeting at the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople in Turkey, agreed in September that the dialogue should be restarted.

The decision, the pope told Orthodox and Catholic members of the preparatory committee, "constitutes a great responsibility. It is indeed a question of achieving

the will of the Lord who wants his disciples to form a harmonious community and to witness together to the brotherly love that comes from the Lord."

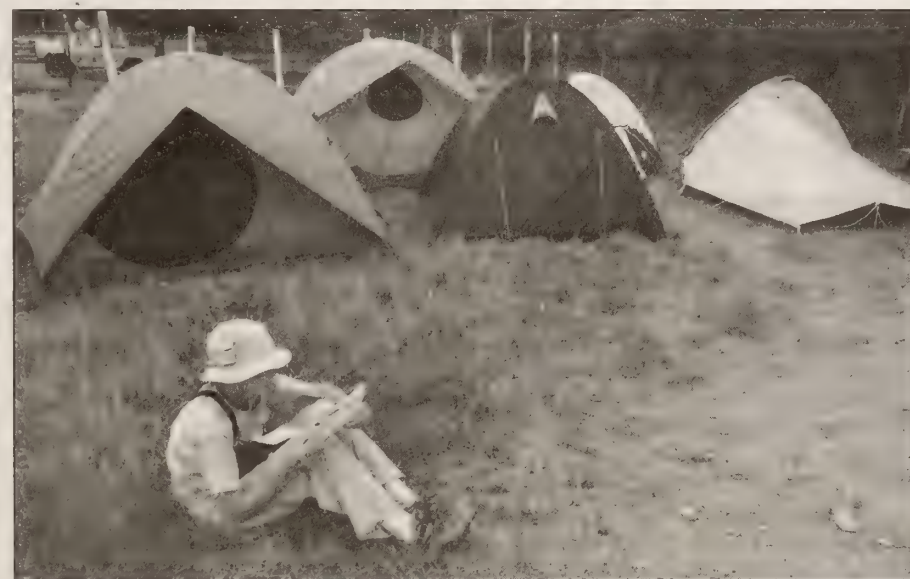
Pope Benedict said, "in this new phase of dialogue," Catholics and Orthodox must work to eliminate the differences remaining between them and resolve "to do everything to re-establish full communion, which is an essential good for the community of Christ's disciples, as is underlined in the preparatory document you are working on."

The committee was meeting in Rome Dec. 13-16. Pope Benedict told the church officials and theologians that the full communion Catholics and Orthodox seek with one another is "a communion in truth and charity."

"We cannot be satisfied to remain at an intermediate stage," he said. Rather, "without ceasing, but with courage, clarity and humility, we must seek the will of Jesus Christ, even if it does not correspond to our simple human plans."

The reconciliation of the Christian community, he said, will come only "at the price of submitting our wills to the will of the Lord."

Camped for a cause



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

Sister Anne Montgomery, a member of the Christian Peacemakers Team, reads outside the "Witness Against Torture" camp at the military zone boundary near the U.S. detention facility in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Dec. 13. The 79-year-old Sacred Heart sister is among about 25 U.S. activists who are praying and fasting to protest the treatment of terror suspects held at Guantanamo. Since Dec. 12 they have been camped at a Cuban military checkpoint five miles from the U.S. base.

Pope names veteran Vatican diplomat as new U.S. papal nuncio

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI named a veteran Vatican diplomat, Italian Archbishop Pietro Sambi, to be the new papal nuncio to the United States Dec. 17.

Archbishop Sambi, 67, has served as the Vatican's representative to Israel and Palestine, where he helped arrange Pope John Paul II's historic pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2000.

He replaces Colombian Archbishop

Gabriel Montalvo, who was retiring at age 75 after serving as nuncio since 1998.

Archbishop Sambi is known in church circles as an energetic and gregarious man with an ability to bring the human touch to diplomatic challenges.

Bishop William S. Skylstad, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said the pope had honored the United States by appointing such an experienced prelate.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Dec. 25 — 12 a.m. Christmas Eve Midnight Mass

St. Patrick Cathedral, Charlotte

Dec. 25 — 11 a.m. Christmas Day Mass

St. Patrick Cathedral, Charlotte

Jan. 1 — 11 a.m. New Year's Day Mass

St. Patrick Cathedral, Charlotte

CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS

A visit from Santa's helpers



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Students from Charlotte Catholic High School wheel bicycles into the diocesan Pastoral Center in Charlotte Dec. 13. For more than 20 years, each homeroom has adopted a family and collected the money to purchase items for the family. This year, 70-80 children from 20 families will receive toys from the students of Charlotte Catholic.

A Christmas tree for Margaret Mary

BY CAMELA MANDALA

SPECIAL TO

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

It was a Saturday afternoon in 1995 and Burnsville was beginning to sparkle with Christmas decorations. Christmas trees were lined up at an old gas station off the town square.

I was looking at the trees when a cheerful young woman came up to me wanting me to buy a tree to raise money for domestic-violence awareness.

I told the young woman, whose name was Margaret Mary, my husband and I always picked out a Christmas tree on our anniversary, and we were looking for a larger tree than the ones at the gas-station lot.

Margaret Mary said she would go out in the woods and chop down the biggest, prettiest tree she could find for our anniversary, and she would deliver it to our front door.

How could I not say "Yes"? She was so happy for us and genuinely wanted to surprise us with the best Christmas tree.

A week later, there was a knock at the front door. There stood Margaret Mary holding a beautiful Christmas tree she had just cut down.

I invited her inside, and she noticed a picture of St. Joseph holding the infant Jesus. Margaret Mary said she was Catholic and had a young daughter. She was separated from her husband, but she was on good terms with him.

Margaret Mary said she was married at Basilica of St. Lawrence in Asheville. I told her that was the church we attended and how blessed we were to have Father Carl Kaltreider as a parish priest.

She replied, "He married us."

We just shared so much that day — like two old friends who had known each other a lifetime. She wished my husband, Ben, and me the best anniversary. She was so genuinely happy for us — and then she was gone.

We hoped she would visit again with her daughter, but that was the last time we saw Margaret Mary alive.

A few days later, I went to visit my daughter. I picked up the Asheville Citizen-Times and there was an article about a young woman, Margaret Mary Robinson, who had been murdered by her estranged husband in Yancey County.

Surely it couldn't be the same person, I thought. I had to get home to find out what was going on. My heart still grieves for the beautiful soul I knew so briefly.

How could this happen?

At the funeral home, she looked like Sleeping Beauty — a beautiful princess sleeping in peace.

"Did you know, she made her own wedding gown?" Father Kaltreider asked me. "She was the most beautiful bride."

We kept Margaret Mary's Christmas tree for two years — I didn't want to let it go.

We remember Margaret Mary every year on our anniversary and remember the lady who brought us the most beautiful Christmas tree ever.

This year, we celebrated our 50th anniversary. This story is for Margaret Mary, our Christmas angel.

She is not forgotten.

Carmela Mandala is a parishioner at Basilica of St. Lawrence in Asheville.

FROM OUR READERS

We asked readers to share their personal stories of memorable Christmas experiences. Below are two of the responses we received.

Christ plus Christmas equals joy

BY LORETTA POTTS

SPECIAL TO

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

"Why do we celebrate Christmas?" I asked my grandson, Lucian, at the beginning of Advent.

"Because of snow," he answered without hesitation.

The brief conversation left me wondering how he connected snow with the Christ child.

Later, I was off to meet a friend for lunch at a café next door to an inn in Asheville. Our plan was to check out the Christmas decorations in the inn's lobby, which holds two gigantic fireplaces.

Overly decorated artificial trees lined the long hallway toward the lobby. Gingerbread houses dominated the left side of the corridor. Outside, enormous letters were mounted spelling out "Happy Holidays" and surrounded by lime green plastic trees.

"Perhaps they look better with lights in the dark," I suggested to my friend.

As we entered the lobby, a line had gathered near one of the fireplaces. Around the line I saw snow-white artificial trees lining the huge fireplace and a red sleigh in the center. Parents were lining up to take pictures of their children in the sleigh.

In the center of the lobby was a tall, white artificial tree covered with decorations as if to completely cover the branches.

We sat in the lobby a while, seeking Christmas atmosphere. No one said "Merry Christmas" to each other. Most were bustling around; one man typed on a laptop but worried about where his car was parked.

We sought a quiet lunch across the street. Although the tree at the café was

artificial, at least it was green and tastefully decorated.

On the way home I noticed large inflatable snowmen competing with large inflatable Santas. No wonder my grandson thinks Christmas is about snow! Thank goodness I used 1-800 numbers and the Internet for shopping this year. Christmas spirit is not to be found in the commercial world.

Advent is a time of decision. This year, my husband and I decided to celebrate Advent by embracing the Jesse Tree tradition.

On the first Sunday of Advent, we put up our Jesse Tree family tree chart and began to read the Bible every night and apply a symbol for each reading to the tree chart.

As we read from Isaiah, Genesis, Hebrews, Exodus and Ruth, I began to feel the stories echo the history of our ancestors who waited for the promised Messiah from the root of Jesse. We have done this in the past, but this is the first year we have actually embraced this practice alone, without shopping and worrying about gifts.

Our Christmas tree sat in a bucket of water until we decorated it Dec. 17. Under the tree, center stage, is the crèche. Baby Jesus will be "born" in the manger on Dec. 25, and not before.

Although Christmas in the commercial world is gone, we must beg our God that it reigns in our hearts so that we receive joy the world does not know. As Father Richard Veras says in the Advent Magnificat Companion, "Advent is a time of waiting, longing, and begging. It is a time to pray, 'Come, Lord Jesus.'"

Loretta Potts is a parishioner of St. Barnabas Church in Arden.

Many Annuity Owners Lose Money. Will YOU?

Some annuity owners lose money because they didn't know what questions to ask when they bought, and their salesperson did not volunteer any information.

If you own an annuity or are considering taking advantage of their many benefits, my **FREE** report, "Using Guaranteed Annuities to Help You Survive Your Retirement," will tell you what questions to ask.

The report is **FREE** and shows you how to get more benefits from your existing assets and help preserve your annuity value.

Call 800-800-4960, ext. 7405 (24 hours)

for your **FREE** report!

Dr. Richard Pucciarelli

Certified Senior Advisor

Member of Asset Protectors and Advisors Group



CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS

Yummy Christmas fun



COURTESY PHOTO

Second-graders at St. Michael School in Gastonia enjoy making gingerbread houses Dec. 14. The students used empty milk cartons with various sweets and goodies to trim them.

Christmas revue



COURTESY PHOTO

Kindergarten-through-fifth-grade students at Immaculate Heart of Mary School in High Point perform a play, "Star Journey," as part of the school's community outreach musical performance, held this year in the school gym for residents of an area nursing home. Sixth-through-eighth-graders performed a musical revue of "I'll Always Love Christmas." After the performance, the residents enjoyed refreshments.

TAKE YOUR EVENT somewhere unusual...

1551 Trinity Lane, Hickory, NC 28602
(828) 327-7441 or Toll-free (888) 536-7441

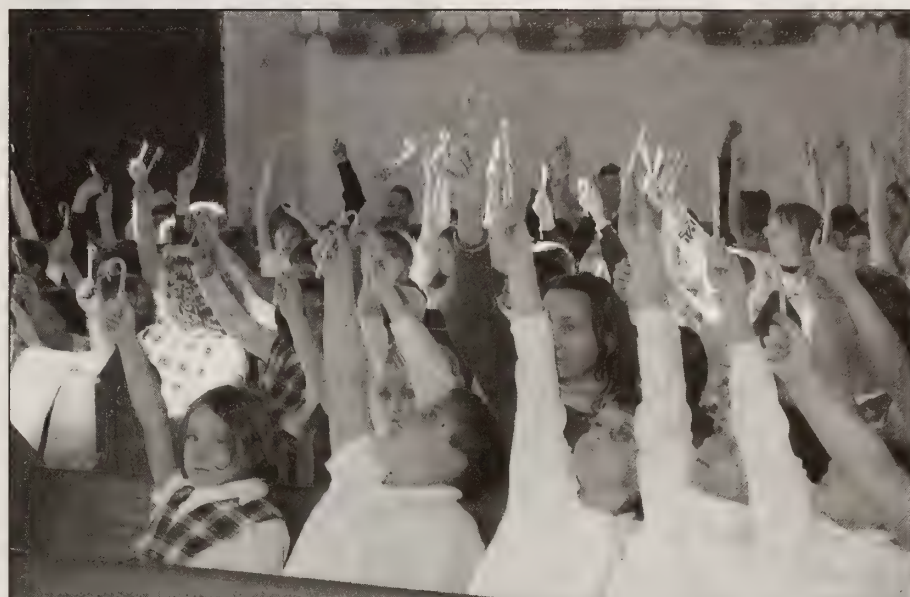
The Catholic Conference Center offers the exuberance of nature in a celestial environment unlike any you've ever been to before. Eight meeting rooms. Fifty hotel-style lodging rooms. Bountiful dining and a staff ready to serve you in style! All this and more on 172 beautifully landscaped acres offering that special "retreat" environment in a modern conference setting.



**The Catholic
Conference
Center**

Check out our website
www.catholicconference.org
info@catholicconference.org

Candy blessing



COURTESY PHOTO

Students of Our Lady of Mercy School in Winston-Salem hold up candy canes for a special blessing in Our Lady of Mercy Church on the feast of St. Nicholas, Dec. 6. The blessing was part of the school's celebration of Advent. The students learned that the candy cane resembles a shepherd's staff, symbolizing Jesus as the Good Shepherd, and sang St. Nicholas' prayer.

Seeing with Christ's eyes

Bishop Curlin suggests prayer during Advent retreat

BY FRANK RYDER

SPECIAL TO
THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

MINT HILL — How do people see with the eyes of Christ?

It was a question that Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin asked of 200 people attending the Advent reflection retreat at St. Luke Church in Mint Hill Dec. 10.

"We must recognize our own weaknesses and recognize the sin in our lives," said Bishop Curlin, the guest speaker.

"Preparing for Christmas is not just decorating a tree; it's preparing our souls," he said.

During his talk, Bishop Curlin shared stories about his personal experiences as a priest and bishop, and about his friendship with the late Mother Teresa.

"The greatest agony in life is for no one to care," said Bishop Curlin. "(Like Mother Teresa) we must be present for someone dying and hurting. We must be

living tabernacles of Jesus."

Bishop Curlin challenged the attendees to be more prayerful, relating that prayer had given him strength during his encounters with sickness, violence and poverty.

"God will get inside of you and you will see things differently," said Bishop Curlin.

Ascension, St. Luke Church's teen choir, performed reflective music and a dramatic skit about eight travelers whose journey home for Christmas is delayed on a broken-down bus.

After several hours of disgruntled bickering, one optimistic passenger convinces the others to recognize the goodness in one another. They all make it home safely.

After the retreat, Father James Hawker, pastor, and the parish worship and spiritual life committee presented Bishop Curlin with a new red vestment.

Frank Ryder is a parishioner of St. Luke Church in Mint Hill.



COURTESY PHOTO

Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin, Father James Hawker and others share a laugh during a skit by Ascension Dec. 10.



AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles
Licensed & Insured
FREE ESTIMATES

www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185

2005: A REVIEW



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

The death of Pope John Paul II was a global event watched by countless people around the world. The man who had traveled the world touching the hearts of millions made his final dramatic journey through a packed St. Peter's Square April 4. A young girl, above, expresses her affection by blowing a kiss.

Pope's death, papal election voted top new stories in 2005

REVIEW, from page 1

the past 26 years, again took the top spot, followed closely by his successor, Pope Benedict. The evacuees of Hurricane Katrina were third.

The Eucharist also made the editors' list of top 10 stories. The Year of the Eucharist, proclaimed by Pope John Paul II, ended in October with the Synod of Bishops on the Eucharist at the Vatican.

In celebration of the Year of the Eucharist, the Diocese of Charlotte held a number of eucharistic events, culminating with the first diocesan Eucharistic Congress in Charlotte Sept. 23-24.

An estimated 7,000 people attended the two-day event of prayer, praise, worship and music centered on the Eucharist. A highlight of the congress was the eucharistic procession, with approximately 3,500 people joining Bishop Peter J. Jugis as he carried a monstrance through uptown Charlotte.

"The whole Eucharistic Congress far exceeded my expectations," said Bishop Jugis. "The response was significant in that the people of our diocese were hungering for an event of this sort where they could come together to celebrate their faith and love for the Lord."

A second Eucharistic Congress is scheduled for Oct. 6-7, 2006.

A time of transition

The death of Pope John Paul II and the election of Pope Benedict XVI last April marked a critical transition for the church and attracted world interest.

For Catholics, the passing of Pope

John Paul at age 84 signified the end of an era. His 26-year pontificate was historic in terms of pastoral outreach, social involvement and global political impact.

To many, the Polish-born pontiff made the deepest impression in his final days, at the end of his dramatic struggle with infirmity. The pope, who had Parkinson's disease, experienced a breathing crisis and was rushed to Rome's Gemelli hospital in February, where doctors performed a tracheotomy.

His recovery was slow, and at the end of March a feeding tube was placed through his nose to aid nutrition. On March 31, the pope suffered septic shock and heart failure. He was treated with respiratory equipment in the Vatican, slipping in and out of consciousness.

Immediately, people began streaming toward St. Peter's Square to pray outside his window. When the pope's death was finally announced late April 2, more than 100,000 pilgrims had filled the square.

The pope's death set in motion a period of official mourning and reflection that culminated in the election of his successor. Time-honored traditions were followed, but in some ways this papal transition was like no other in history.

For one thing, more than 2 million mourners filled the area around the Vatican when the pope's body was laid out in St. Peter's Basilica for public viewing. People waited up to 12 hours to pay their respects, and many took photos on their cell phones when they approached the papal bier — a practice that broke traditional rules but was tolerated by Vatican guards.

Another change was the unprecedented global media coverage. Net-

works devoted hours of broadcast time to the accomplishments of Pope John Paul and to the choices facing the College of Cardinals.

The pope's funeral April 8 was attended by royalty and world leaders — including U.S. President George W. Bush — and by representatives of other Christian churches and non-Christian faiths.

Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, dean of the College of Cardinals, was the main celebrant and also chaired the daily closed-door meetings of the cardinals before the conclave. Soon the German cardinal, who had headed the Vatican's doctrinal congregation for 24 years, was being seriously discussed as a papal candidate.

In a sermon the morning before the conclave opened, Cardinal Ratzinger strongly denounced what he called a modern "dictatorship of relativism" and compared the church to a boat buffeted by ideology, selfishness and human trickery.

His words were still ringing in people's ears when, two days later on April 19, whitish-gray smoke poured out of the Sistine Chapel smokestack and St. Peter's Basilica bell confirmed that a new pope had been elected.

Soon afterward, the new pope walked onto the balcony, smiling broadly and holding up both hands as the packed square broke into cheering and applause. Cardinal Ratzinger, now Pope Benedict XVI, called himself "a simple, humble worker in the vineyard of the Lord."

Celebrating Mass the next day, the new pope pledged he would follow Pope John Paul's path of ecumenism and dialogue, under the guidance of the Second Vatican Council. In the days to come, the pope would also make clear that his personal style would differ from that of his gregarious, globe-trotting predecessor.

With Pope Benedict's inaugural Mass April 24, the papal transition officially ended. But in a less formal way, it continued throughout the year as long lines of pilgrims came to pray before Pope John Paul's tomb beneath St. Peter's Basilica and as record crowds arrived to see the new pope.

Severe disasters

Hurricanes. Earthquakes. Tsunamis. Floods. Tornadoes.

The past year may go down as one of history's worst for natural disasters.

At the start of the year, disaster relief efforts were just beginning for the millions of people in southern Asia affected by one of the worst tsunamis in history that struck Dec. 26, 2004. The official death toll eventually rose to more than 180,000, with almost 50,000 more missing and believed dead.

At year's end, New Orleans was still in the early stages of recovery from the floods that followed after Hurricane Katrina hit Aug. 29. The hurricane also devastated towns and cities along the coast of Mississippi.

Hurricane Katrina is regarded as the worst natural disaster ever to hit the United States in terms of the economic damage — estimated at \$80 billion — and the thousands of New Orleanians and others facing long-term displacement because of the destruction of their homes and neighborhoods.

Its death toll, estimated at about 1,200, made it the deadliest U.S. storm since a September 1928 hurricane that hit Florida, killing more than 1,800.

In October a severe earthquake in Pakistan, also affecting India to the south and Afghanistan to the north, left more than 80,000 dead and an estimated 3 million homeless.

Pope Benedict appealed to the world community to respond generously to the earthquake victims, as they had to the tsunami and hurricane victims earlier in the year.

Catholic relief efforts reached record levels in the face of those and other disasters.

While Katrina's blow was the worst, several other 2005 storms caused severe damage and some deaths in the United States and elsewhere.

Year of the Eucharist

Although Pope Benedict XVI inherited the Year of the Eucharist and the Synod of Bishops on the Eucharist from Pope John Paul II, the new pope left his mark on both.

The Year of the Eucharist ended Oct. 23 at the closing Mass of the synod — a gathering Pope Benedict had shortened by one week while increasing the time for "free discussion" among bishops.

In the preceding six months, Pope Benedict led a Corpus Christi procession in Rome, presided over a Mass for the Italian eucharistic congress and shared his personal experience of the Eucharist, explaining the central importance of the sacrament in the life of the church and of individual believers.

In his homily on the May 26 feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, Pope Benedict said, "One cannot eat the risen Lord present in the figure of bread as if it were simply a piece of bread."

Communion "is truly an encounter between two persons; it is allowing oneself to be penetrated by the life of the one who is Lord, the one who is my creator and redeemer," he said.

The Oct. 2-23 world Synod of Bishops on the Eucharist ended with a call for Catholics to approach the sacrament with awe and allow it to transform their lives and the life of the world.

In an unusual move, Pope Benedict authorized publication of the proposals synod members had drawn up for his eyes only.

End-of-life issues

As Pope John Paul II was showing the world how to experience a true "death with dignity," the case of Terri

See REVIEW, next page

30 YEARS EXPERIENCE



ALICE & THE PYANO MAN

Henry C. Rozell III

2nd Generation

Piano Tuner/Technician

Piano Tuning, Repairs, Refinishing

Pianos Bought and Sold

FREE ESTIMATES

704-321-5843

Cell: 704-562-5394

REVIEW, from previous page

Schindler Schiavo in Florida was demonstrating just the opposite — and leaving many Americans with questions about end-of-life medical care and their own eventual deaths.

Schiavo's death March 31 drew attention also to the growing acceptance of assisted suicide and euthanasia in the United States and worldwide, and to "a culture in which human life is increasingly devalued and violated," as one U.S. cardinal put it.

In the fall, the U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments in a challenge to the assisted suicide law in Oregon, the only state where it is legal. That case hinges on whether then-U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft was right to declare that assisted suicide was not a legitimate medical purpose and physicians who prescribe drugs under the Oregon law could be prosecuted under federal drug control statutes.

Schiavo, who had been in what doctors described as a persistent vegetative state since 1990, when her brain was deprived of oxygen after her heart stopped, died March 31, nearly two weeks after her feeding tube was removed. Her parents, Bob and Mary Schindler, had fought a seven-year legal battle with her estranged husband, Michael Schiavo, over the right to make medical decisions for her.

Opinions varied widely about Schiavo's precise medical condition, her responses or lack of them to outside stimuli and her preferences with regard to life-sustaining measures sometimes deemed "extraordinary," such as the feeding tube that kept the 41-year-old woman alive.

Those working to keep Schiavo on the feeding tube found support for their cause in an address by Pope John Paul at a 2004 conference on end-of-life medical ethics.

"The administration of food and water, even when provided by artificial means," should be considered morally obligatory, the pope said, as long as it provides nourishment and relieves suffering for the patient.

Cardinal Renato Martino, head of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, called Schiavo's death two days before Pope John Paul's "a homicide in which it is impossible to idly stand by without

becoming accomplices."

Questions about when medical treatment should be considered more burdensome than beneficial to the patient sent many Americans scurrying to specify their wishes in living wills, advance medical directives or other legal documents.

But many ethicists consider those documents secondary to the need for ongoing conversations among family members and friends about end-of-life treatment decisions. And the Schiavo case apparently succeeded in sparking those conversations.

But challenges remained. Members of the California state Assembly considered legislation similar to Oregon's, which would allow patients with six months or less to live to request a prescription for medication that would hasten their deaths. Similar measures were introduced in Arizona, Hawaii, Vermont and Wisconsin in 2005.

Worldwide, the Netherlands continued to be the only country to allow euthanasia and assisted suicide, even for those who are not terminally ill. Swiss and Belgian laws permit it in some cases.

But new proposals came up in Great Britain, Mexico and before the European Parliament in 2005. And in another slide along the slippery slope, a commission formed by the Dutch government agreed to begin work in 2006 on guidelines under which doctors could legally euthanize "seriously suffering" newborns.

Changing faces, changing laws

With the death of the chief justice, another justice's resignation and the nominations of their replacements, the Supreme Court proved to be a lively source of news in 2005, quite aside from its jurisprudence.

By the end of the year, its makeup remained in flux, and it appeared likely that by February the high court will for the first time have a majority of five Catholic members. The two-person change also could signal a shift in the direction the court takes on narrowly decided issues.

Shortly after Justice Sandra Day O'Connor announced July 1 that she would step down when her replacement was confirmed, President Bush nominated Judge John Roberts of the federal appeals court for the District of Columbia to replace her.

On Sept. 3, Chief Justice William Rehnquist died; two days later, Bush nominated Roberts to fill the chief justice's seat and asked O'Connor to



CNS PHOTO BY GREG TARCZYNSKI

"God has brought us to our knees in the face of disaster," said New Orleans Archbishop Alfred C. Hughes Aug. 31 in his public reaction in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Archbishop Hughes blesses evacuee Gerald Williams of New Orleans at a Baton Rouge, La., shelter operated by the Red Cross in this Sept. 11 file photo.

remain on the court while a new nominee for her seat was chosen.

On Oct. 3, Bush announced his second nominee for O'Connor's seat, White House counsel Harriet Miers. Miers' nomination was quickly embroiled in controversy, fed largely by Republicans who faulted her lack of judicial experience and the limited information available about her personal legal views.

By the end of the month, Bush announced his third choice for the seat, Judge Samuel Alito Jr. of the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. His confirmation hearings are scheduled to start Jan. 9.

Roberts is the third Catholic to serve as chief justice. If Alito were to be confirmed, it would mark the first time Catholics have made up a majority on the court. Justices Anthony Kennedy, Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas are Catholic.

Rehnquist's death and O'Connor's imminent departure from the court also will mean a change in what had been a somewhat predictable alignment of how justices vote. In many of the court's close rulings of the last decade, O'Connor's vote proved to be the decid-

ing factor, with the other justices likely to vote 4-4 on topics such as abortion restrictions.

O'Connor was part of 5-4 majorities in major cases that upheld state restrictions on abortion; that permitted religious displays on government property; that allowed a state to continue providing nutrition to a patient in a persistent vegetative state; that allowed a state-funded school voucher program and permitted state remedial education programs to be held in religious schools.

Rehnquist was the last remaining justice to have voted in the 1973 Roe vs. Wade decision that legalized abortion nationwide. He cast one of two dissenting votes. He consistently upheld state laws that restricted access to abortion and to prohibit doctor-assisted suicide.

Rehnquist also consistently voted to uphold the death penalty as constitutional, including dissenting from a 2002 decision that declared it unconstitutional to execute mentally retarded people and the March 2005 ruling that overturned the death penalty for crimes committed by juveniles.

Discover Magical Ireland



with Fr. Ed Sheridan,
Pastor of St. Gabriel, Charlotte
June 6-17, 2006

10 nights in western Ireland including Killarney, Galway, Westport, Aran Islands, Knock Shrine, Dingle Peninsula, Kylemore Abbey and more!

\$2,499 plus departure charges (\$200 per person). Deposit \$500.

Includes breakfast daily and six dinners plus first class hotels.

Insurance \$206. Book by Jan. 31, 2006 and get FREE INSURANCE.

Email Diane Brennan at dianebrbrennan@earthlink.net or call 704-364-5131.

Tastefully Yours Catering
1401 S Church Street • Suite A • Charlotte, NC 28203
704.632.8040 • tastefullycarolina.com
Located in Charlotte's Southend

Full Service Caterer

Holiday Parties
Receptions
Rehearsal Dinners
Engagement Parties
Bridal Showers
Spa Parties

Visit our cafe for a sampling
of the possibilities!

(Wedding tastings by appointment only)

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Deacon Richard Kauth dies at 58

DENVER — Deacon Richard Kauth, 58, permanent deacon at Holy Spirit Church in Denver, died Thursday, Dec. 15, at his home.

Born Dec. 6, 1947, and raised in Lexington, Ill., Deacon Kauth was ordained into the permanent diaconate in 1992.

"I found that Richard brought a special spirituality to this diocese and it was put to good use with the parishioners of Holy Spirit," said Deacon Ben Wenning, coordinator of the permanent diaconate for the Diocese of Charlotte.

"It will be difficult to replace the gifts that he brought," said Deacon Wenning.

Deacon Kauth is survived by his

wife of 34 years, Sharon; his son, Father Matthew Kauth, pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Franklin; two daughters, Sister Mary Catherine Marie Kauth and Sara Kauth; a brother and a sister.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated by Father Kauth at St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte Dec. 20. Bishop Peter J. Jugis presided. Interment was at Belmont Abbey College.

The Kauth family asks for prayers offered for the happy repose of Deacon Kauth's soul. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Knights of Columbus, c/o Holy Spirit Church, 537 N. Hwy. 16, Denver, NC 28037.

Celebrating Our Lady



COURTESY PHOTO

Father Edward Sheridan, pastor of St. Gabriel Church in Charlotte, stands with Spanish teacher Addy Jean Mullis and third-grade students from St. Gabriel School dressed as St. Juan Diego and Mary at a bilingual Mass on the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Dec. 12. The student choir sang traditional Hispanic songs during the Mass. Pictured are (from left): William DeJesus, Daniel Crotty, Sammy Assael, Addy Jean Mullis, Elaine Zban, Megan Archer, Madison Ruff, Father Sheridan, Nick Hattenhauer and Kenny Kardos.



Please pray for the following priests who died during the month of January:

Rev. Msgr. Eugene H. Livelsberger	1987
Rev. Msgr. Lawrence Newman	1981
Rev. Arthur J. Racette	1975
Rev. Tom Stott	2005
Rev. Vincent Erb	2005

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

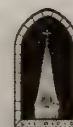
ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO THE HARVEST?

Then he said to His disciples, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers for His harvest." (Mt 9:37)

I am praying that you will join me in responding to our Lord's request for more "laborers" in harvesting the abundant fruit to be found at Belmont Abbey College. Over 125 years ago the Benedictine Monks came south in response to God's call to begin His work in the vineyard of North Carolina.

He is calling you to place your hands upon the same bricks that were formed and put in place by these holy monks so long ago. I am looking for strong, dedicated, Catholic students to help realize our vision of excellence and virtue. Belmont Abbey is your Catholic College and God is calling you to the "harvest."

Dr. William K. Thierfelder
President



BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED



☐ I WANT TO HELP BUILD OUR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY. PLEASE SEND ME A STUDENT REFERRAL PACKAGE.

If you would like to help Belmont Abbey College by referring or becoming a new student, please fill out this form and send it to us or go online to BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu and click on Referral Package in the Quick Links. We will send you our complete referral/information package with detailed information about the Abbey and all it has to offer!

Your Name _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____
Email _____
Phone _____ No. of Packages Requested _____

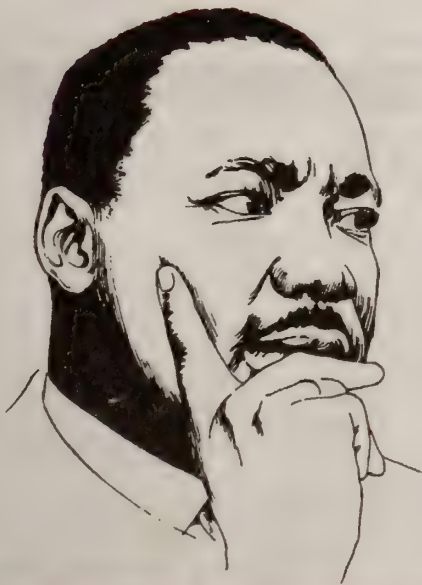
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
100 BELMONT-MT. HOLLY ROAD
BELMONT, NC 28012-1802
BELMONTABBEYCOLLEGE.EDU



**AFRICAN AMERICAN AFFAIRS MINISTRY OF THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE
INVITES EVERYONE TO THE
ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION**

**"MAKING AND ACCEPTING CHANGE
- ONE WORLD, MANY PEOPLE"**

★ **HILTON - UNIVERSITY PLACE (I-85 AND EAST W. T. HARRIS BLVD.)** ★
8629 J.M. KEYNES DRIVE, CHARLOTTE, 28262
SATURDAY, JANUARY 21 — 8 AM - 7 PM



**REGISTRATION
BY JANUARY 14TH! LIMITED SPACE!**

**PRAYER BREAKFAST WITH
REV. MSGR. THOMAS HADDEN, VICAR, AFRICAN ANCESTRY
CATHOLICS, DIOCESE OF RALEIGH**

**PRAISE AND WORSHIP
THE PERPETUAL HOPE GOSPEL CHOIR,
OUR LADY OF CONSOLATION CHURCH, CHARLOTTE**

**INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP WITH
REV. DR. SHELTON SHIPMAN,
GREENVILLE MEMORIAL
AME ZION CHURCH, CHARLOTTE**

REGISTRATION FORM AND PAYMENT DUE BEFORE JANUARY 14TH!

NAMES: (1)	(2)
(3)	(4)
(5)	(6)

USE ADDITIONAL PAPER FOR MORE NAMES

PHONE: _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____
(\$20 PER PERSON)

**SEND REGISTRATION FORM BY JANUARY 14TH WITH CHECK
MADE PAYABLE TO AFRICAN-AMERICAN AFFAIRS MINISTRY TO:
AAA-M, DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE, 1123 S. CHURCH ST., CHARLOTTE, NC
28203.**

FOR INFO CALL: (704) 370-3267.

CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS FEATURING:
BO TAYLOR - THE CHEROKEE NATION, CHEROKEE, NC
THE HMONG AND LAOS COMMUNITIES, NEWTON & CHARLOTTE
GOLDEN ANGELS CHOIR, NORTH CHARLOTTE HOUSE OF PRAYER
THE WALSH SCHOOL OF IRISH DANCE, CHARLOTTE
LA COMUNIDAD, HIGH POINT
THE OLA AFRICAN CHOIR, CHARLOTTE
AND MANY OTHER CULTURAL GROUPS FROM
ACROSS THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

**COST: \$20 PER PERSON INCLUDES ALL PROGRAMS,
ACTIVITIES, BREAKFAST AND LUNCH.
ADVANCE REGISTRATION WITH PAYMENT
REQUIRED BY JANUARY 14TH.**

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Into the wild

Book chronicles history of Catholic Church in Alaska

BY EFFIE CALDAROLA
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (CNS) — Dog teams driven by missionaries through the silent frozen wilderness is just one of the stories in a new book chronicling the history of Catholicism in Alaska.

"Alaskana Catholica: A History of the Catholic Church in Alaska," by Jesuit Father Louis Renner, is a reference work in an encyclopedia form with alphabetical listings of priests, religious, parishes and places that have made an impact on the faith in Alaska.

The book looks at a history that stretches back to the day in 1779 when a Spanish Franciscan celebrated the first Mass in Alaska near present-day Craig.

Father Renner spent more than 40 years working in the Diocese of Fairbanks. For many of those years he served as editor of the Alaskan Shepherd newsletter in which he chronicled the lives and deeds of many of the people who appear in his new book.

Readers get a glimpse of Ursuline Sister Scholastica Lohagen, a sturdy German-born nun who walked down the halls of boarding schools and orphanages in her sneakers, first at Akulurak and then St. Mary's.

She came to Alaska in 1934 and remained until her death in 1985, having skinned moose, processed salmon and done laundry in missions on the tundra for more than 50 years.

Others mentioned in the book include Dominican Father Urban Bates, who as a young man registered as a conscientious objector in the 1941 draft, and Presentation Sister Mary Clare Ciulla, director of Catholic Charities in the Anchorage Archdiocese in 1967 and

"at the time, the only woman in the United States to hold that office."

There are plenty of stories of pioneers and tales of survival such as that of Jesuit Fathers Paschal Tosi and Aloysius Robaut, who ventured into Alaska in 1887.

These priests were willing to build missions from scratch, spend countless hours engaged in the rudiments of survival, and learn the indigenous languages that today are on the verge of extinction.

The book describes Jesuit Brother John Huck, who helped build the church in Emmonak, helped dry out the Catholic school in Fairbanks after the flood of 1967, and helped build the facilities for a Catholic radio station in Nome. At the age of 33, Brother Huck drowned in rough waters on the Andreafsky River.

There is a long entry about Little Diomed Island, first visited by Jesuit Father Bellarmine Lafortune in 1913, and a history of Pilgrim Hot Springs, near Nome, where a mission center and boarding school thrived, described by Jesuit Father Segundo Llorente as "an oasis in the heart of the unfriendly Arctic."

The book also includes a story about Talkeetna, the staging area for Mount McKinley climbers and site of St. Bernard Church, named in honor of St. Bernard of Menthon, trainer of St. Bernard alpine rescue dogs.

When asked what he left out of the book, Father Renner acknowledged that the book has a decidedly Northern Alaskan bent, due to the way the book project expanded from Northern Alaska southward.

"First, I began to think only of Jesuits and then Northern Jesuits and then early-day Jesuits," the author said.

But he began to realize that he needed to be more inclusive because the Alaskan church had no written history.

administering rights to everything he had written before his election.

Cardinal Sodano said contracts already finalized with publishers would be respected, but that in the future all uses of the former Cardinal Ratzinger's writings would have to be negotiated with the Vatican publishers.

In a separate note, Cardinal Sodano said the Vatican publishing house would hold all rights "in perpetuity and throughout the world" to anything written by Pope Benedict during his pontificate, "especially the acts and documents through which the supreme pontiff exercises his magisterium."

Pope Benedict met with the publishers Dec. 14. Many of them gave him copies of their latest releases, including a number of books about his election.

Companies holding publishing rights of pope's works meet at Vatican

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Companies that have held the rights to publish the written works of the former Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger met at the Vatican to discuss the limits and obligations of those rights.

The Dec. 13-16 meeting was called to discuss "common editorial policies to protect the thought of Joseph Ratzinger," said Jesuit Father Joseph Fessio, whose Ignatius Press holds the English-language rights to works written by Pope Benedict XVI prior to his election.

The meeting included a daylong discussion of legal issues with the publishers, most of which are based in Germany and Italy.

In June, Cardinal Angelo Sodano, Vatican secretary of state, announced that Pope Benedict had entrusted the Vatican publishing house with safeguarding and

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: JAN. 1, 2006

Jan. 1, Octave of Christmas:
The Blessed Virgin Mary,
Mother of God

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Numbers 6:22-27
Psalms 67:2-3, 5-6, 8
- 2) Galatians 4:4-7
- 3) Gospel: Luke 2:16-21

Mary brings peace; so can we

BY SHARON K. PERKINS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

About 10 years ago I was on a business trip to Washington, D.C., and took the occasion to visit the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Among the many side chapels, there were those dedicated to all the Marian apparitions and several international shrines as well, and I simply enjoyed watching people of all different races and nationalities as they revered their spiritual mother.

There was one small niche in the main sanctuary that I will remember best, however.

I was sitting in a pew directly opposite a statue of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. Forming a backdrop behind the altar was a brilliant blue-and-gold mosaic displaying Mary in her heavenly glory among the Communion of Saints.

I couldn't quite make out an inscription on the altar because my view was blocked by the people standing before it in rapt meditation. But when they moved on to the next altar I saw it, unob-

structed. The carved inscription read, "Mary Is More Mother Than Queen."

Mothers are typically peacemakers among their children, teaching the values of just treatment and fair play, often intervening when quarrels break out. As the spiritual mother of all humankind, Mary's peacemaking role is even more momentous, for through her giving birth to Jesus, the Prince of Peace, the reconciliation of all peoples, the restoration of fellowship with God and the establishment of justice throughout the earth are made possible.

Just as Mary presented her Son to the shepherds long ago, she now presents him to us. While the world's political, cultural and military struggles seem to indicate that peace will never come, Mary's prayerful intercession for peace is never-ending.

Thus Vatican II's Constitution on the Church ("Lumen Gentium") can say that she is "truly the mother of God and of the redeemer ..., not merely passively engaged by God, but freely cooperating in the work of our salvation through faith and obedience" (53, 56).

Since 1967, Jan. 1 has been designated by the popes as the World Day of Peace; throughout the West the day is celebrated as an opportunity for new beginnings. As Mary, mother of the church, continually brings the hope and promise of peace through her Son, may we, her children, bring reconciliation and peace to all persons in our circles of influence throughout the coming year.

Questions:

In what way has Mary, the mother of Jesus, been a mother to you? Into what specific situation can you bring Jesus' peace this new year?

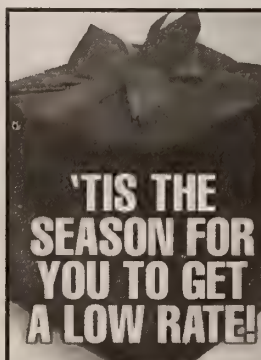
WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF DEC. 25-31

Sunday (The Nativity of the Lord), Isaiah 52:7-10, Hebrews 1:1-6, John 1:1-18; **Monday (St. Stephen)**, Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59, Matthew 10:7-22; **Tuesday (St. John)**, 1 John 1:1-4, John 20:1-8; **Wednesday (Holy Innocents)**, 1 John 1:5-2:2, Matthew 2:13-18; **Thursday (St. Thomas Becket)**, 1 John 2:3-11, Luke 2:22-35; **Friday (The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph)**, Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14, Colossians 3:12-21, Luke 2:22-40; **Saturday (St. Sylvester)**, 1 John 2:18-21, John 1:1-18.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF JAN. 1-7

Sunday (Mary the Mother of God), Numbers 6:22-27, Galatians 4:4-7, Luke 2:16-21; **Monday (St. Basil, St. Gregory)**, 1 John 2:22-28, John 1:19-28; **Tuesday (Most Holy Name of Jesus)**, 1 John 2:29-3:6, John 1:29-34; **Wednesday (St. Elizabeth Ann Seton)**, 1 John 3:7-10, John 1:35-42; **Thursday (St. John Neumann)**, 1 John 3:11-21, John 1:43-51; **Friday (Bl. Andre Bessette)**, 1 John 5:5-13, Mark 1:7-11; **Saturday (St. Raymond of Penafort)**, 1 John 5:14-21, John 2:1-12.



'TIS THE SEASON FOR YOU TO GET A LOW RATE!


30-Year Fixed:

5.875%


As mortgage brokers, we work with a variety of lenders to find the best loan and rates for your needs & goals!

NEW WORLD MORTGAGE
A Lender For Life.

1930 Camden Rd., Suite 2010
Charlotte, NC 28203



Jayne McGonnell
Parishioner of
St. Thomas Aquinas
704.549.4600 x1028
877.402.4600 (tollfree)
704.516.9682 (cell)



Debra Young
Parishioner of
St. Matthew
704.549.4600 x1027
877.402.4600 (tollfree)
704.771.6251 (cell)

Rates subject to change. Certain restrictions on loan size apply. APR varies on loan placement.

Faith and fame

Actor tried religious life way before 'Frankenstein,' 'Raymond' roles

BY LOU BALWDWIN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

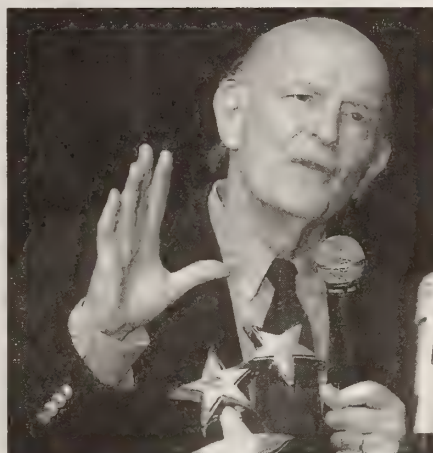
PHILADELPHIA — Peter Boyle has spent a lifetime in acting — on stage, screen and television — and has just come off a nine-year run as Frank Barone, the quarrelsome father on the successful "Everybody Loves Raymond" TV show.

As a child, he acted in grade school, summer camp and high school.

The funny thing is, he didn't act at all when he was a student at La Salle College (now University) in 1953-58. But then again, he was a Christian Brother in training back then.

"All we did was study and pray," said the former Brother Francis de Sales, during a recent visit to Philadelphia, his hometown, to accept the Shining Star Award from La Salle's communications department.

Boyle left the Christian Brothers after five years, eventually settling into a



CNS PHOTO BY PAOLA NOGUERAS

Actor Peter Boyle addresses the audience during his acceptance of the Shining Star Award at La Salle University in Philadelphia in late October.

career in acting.

"Theater and religious ritual are very connected," he said. "It's the using of an inner process to express an outer reality, or something mysterious."

As a young actor, Boyle likes to joke, his Christian Brother experience was an asset.

"It prepared me for a life as a struggling actor," he said. "When I first went to New York, I wasn't starving but I really got into that vow of poverty."

Boyle grew up in St. Francis de Sales Parish, which explains his choice of names as a Christian Brother. His first acting experience was in a parish Christmas pageant.

As a student at West Catholic Boys High School, Boyle went out for theater, he said, because there were girls from West Catholic Girls High in the productions. "It was a good way to meet girls," he said.

Despite that, and the fact that he was not the most diligent of students, he was also interested in the Christian Brothers, the teaching order at West Catholic.

"They were good guys, and so I became one," he said.

After deciding the religious life was not his vocation, Boyle eventually lit on acting at a time when Philadelphia still was a great theater town. Virtually all of the big stage productions had tryout runs in Philadelphia theaters before opening on Broadway.

"My parents always went to the theater, and I started going," he said. "You'd see actors walking around town,

A film worth producing



CNS PHOTO FROM UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Matthew Broderick, Will Ferrell and Nathan Lane star in the musical comedy "The Producers," a first-rate filming of Mel Brooks' Broadway megahit about a losing-streak producer (Lane) and a stage-struck accountant (Broderick) who hatch a scheme to bankroll a show that's doomed to failure — an Adolf Hitler musical — and walk away with the investment. Some bawdy and outrageous humor including gay stereotypes, cross-dressing, sexual innuendo, suggestive costuming and dancing, some crude language and comic violence. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

and they looked like they were having fun. I wanted to have fun."

Boyle, who performed with Chicago's Second City Company, was rarely a leading man but had many memorable supporting roles in film. His own favorites include "Young Frankenstein" (1974); "The Candidate" (1972); and "The Dream Team" (1989).

In Mel Brooks' classic spoof, "Young Frankenstein," Boyle plays the genial monster. When the film was in production, he knew it was going to be good, but he never dreamed people would still be watching it 30 years later, and that a younger generation would be buying it on DVD.

"It is a great movie, and I think one of the reasons it lasts so long is because it was filmed in black and white," he said.

During the filming of "Young Frankenstein," Boyle met his wife, Loraine, then a reporter for Rolling Stone magazine. When they married in 1977, his best

man was John Lennon. The couple now have two college-age daughters.

In television work, Boyle earned an Emmy for a guest appearance on "The X-Files." Overall, he prefers film to television.

"Raymond" is the exception. "It was shot with four cameras before a live audience," he said. "It was hard work, but very gratifying to hear the response of the audience. That's a great experience for an actor."

Boyle said he was lax in the practice of his Catholic faith for much of his adult life. That changed in 1999.

"I had a heart attack ... and after that, I decided I wasn't going to fool around anymore, and got myself back to Mass," he said.

Now, on Sundays he can be found at St. Joseph's Church when he's in New York, or at St. Victor's when he's in Los Angeles.

"The thing I've found is I really like going to Mass," he said.



THE ORATORY

434 Charlotte Avenue, P.O. Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586
(803) 327-2097

ICONOGRAPHY RETREAT

Wed., Feb. 8th, 7 pm –
Sun., Feb. 12th

Fr. Damian Higgins –
Ukrainian Rite

The Oratory is hosting an icon-writing retreat. For four days students will pray, study and learn the traditional method of egg-tempera icon writing/painting. Each participant will learn the various natural materials and practice the techniques and spiritual disciplines for creating a traditional icon. Each retreatant will take home a completed icon. All materials are included in the tuition, and the schedule is flexible for commuters with work and families. The retreat is open to all and especially welcomes first-time icon writings and those without artistic training. Enrollment is strictly limited to 12 participants. A deposit of \$150 is required and deducted from the total due.

Cost: \$325 Tuition
\$180 Room & Board
\$30 Meals for Commuters

**You could be singing too after more than
125,000 readers see YOUR company's
ad here!**



LOW ad rates - easy for small businesses and
individuals, too!

Call (704) 370-3332 now!

THE
CATHOLIC
NEWS HERALD

Featuring Blue Diamond Exclusively



Malak Jewelers

At the Arboretum (St. Matthew parishioners)

We extend to you the very finest in Jewelry and Service...
Largest Selection - Best Quality & Prices Guaranteed

Certified Loose Diamonds
Platinum, Gold, Fine Jewelry
Sterling silver and watches
Estate Jewelry - Buy & Sell

26 years of Integrity and Experience!
(704) 341-1188 www.malakjewelers.com
8042-800 Providence Rd., Charlotte



Now featuring special
sterling silver medallion
of Pope John Paul II -
complimentary with
purchases over \$50
(one per purchase)

Principal for Cardinal Newman School COLUMBIA, SC

The ideal candidate will be a practicing Catholic with a master's degree and a minimum of 5 years of administrative experience in a Catholic secondary school. The principal is responsible for all day-to-day operations of the school and the implementation of the school's strategic plan. Reports to the Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Charleston and the Canonical Pastor. For consideration please send resume and cover letter with salary requirements to: Attn: Human Resources, 1662 Ingram Rd, Charleston, SC 29407 or fax 843-402-9071.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

The Archdiocese of Atlanta seeks an experienced principal to lead Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School, a SACS accredited college preparatory high school; co-educational, with 258 students and 35 faculty members. The School offers a challenging academic and co-curricular program to a diverse student body: 43% African American, 46% Caucasian and 11% other ethnic groups. Located in Fairburn, Georgia, 20 miles south of downtown Atlanta. Position requirements:

- Practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church;
- Educational Leadership Certification;
- Minimum of 3 years of successful Catholic secondary administrative experience;
- Excellent communication skills;
- Collaborative leadership style;
- Experience in fiscal management and institutional advancement;
- Commitment to teaching;
- Fair and consistent disciplinarian.

Negotiable and competitive salary; excellent benefits. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled. Send letter of interest, resume, university credentials, and names, addresses and telephone numbers of at least five references to:

Ruprecht and Associates
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811

Phone: 218-727-5150

E-mail: mruprecht@cpinternet.com



DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Seeking Director of Human Resources for a Southeast Catholic Archdiocese to develop policy and direct and coordinate human resources activities for an organization of 3000. Responsibilities include recruitment and employment of management and non-management employees; compensation and benefit programs; employee relations; training and development programs; regulatory compliance in employment practices; employee and management counseling; and committee and project work. **REQUIREMENTS:** **Education.** BA in Human Resource management, psychology or business, and/or equivalent experience. **Experience.** Ten or more years experience in Human Resources at a professional level, including at least five years in a broad management position. Experience in working with teams and committees, and in a hierarchical structure. **Knowledge.** Broad, in-depth working knowledge of human resources laws and regulations, standard policies, practices, and procedures. Knowledge of budgeting and strategic planning. A practicing Catholic. **Skills/Abilities.** Participative/collaborative management style that is supportive of team development. Excellent communication (oral and written), interpersonal, and organizational skills. Excellent negotiating and problem-solving abilities. Strong service orientation. Good quantitative and analytical skills. Ability to use tact, sensitivity, and discretion. Ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously. Computer literacy, including skills in human resource software and timekeeping systems.

Send resume to: Ruprecht & Associates
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811-5018,
Email: mruprecht@cpinternet.com
Telephone: 218-727-5150



Immigration bill would hurt nation, says bishop

BILL, from page 1

acted, would unduly harm immigrants and their families, even those who are currently lawful residents," he said.

"Moreover, the bishops are deeply disappointed by the bill's enforcement-only focus and absence of reforms in the U.S. legal immigration system that would address our current immigration problems more comprehensively," he said.

In addition to hurting communities and businesses, the legislation "would undermine our country's proud heritage as a nation of immigrants," Bishop Barnes said.

The House vote in favor of the legislation was 239-182. The Senate was not expected to take up the measure until February.

Bishop Barnes also had urged President George W. Bush "to publicly oppose the legislation and to request that Congress begin work on a comprehensive immigration bill which all Americans can support."

In a statement after the House passage, however, Bush praised the House "for passing a strong immigration reform bill" and said, "America is a nation built on the rule of law, and this bill will help us protect our borders and crack down on illegal entry into the United States."

Bishop Barnes said the legislation's provisions related to assisting migrants without legal status could put many church workers in jeopardy.

"The application of criminal penalties to individuals, including U.S. citizens, who assist aliens without legal status could jeopardize church programs which provide basic needs and lifesaving assistance to these individuals," he said.

"Current federal law does not require humanitarian groups to ascertain legal status of an individual prior to providing assistance," the bishop added. "However ... the legislation would place parish, diocesan and social service program staff at risk of criminal prosecution simply for performing their job."

Bishop Barnes said the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops also is concerned about provisions that would:

— Make "unlawful presence" in the United States a crime, rather than a civil offense, as it is under current law.

— Prohibit refugees and asylum seekers from obtaining legal permanent residence and citizenship if they commit "relatively minor offenses."

— Expand the "expedited removal" program for those caught in the United States illegally.

— Make it more difficult for long-term residents to obtain citizenship and restrict their ability to seek review of Department of Homeland Security decisions about their applications for citizenship.

An amendment authorizing the 700-mile wall in parts of California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas passed on a 260-159 vote.

The Mexican foreign relations department criticized the House-passed bill, saying that "a reform which only considers security measures will not contribute to a better, more integral bilateral management of migration issues."

Bishop Barnes said the legislation "has been presented as an antidote to our nation's immigration crisis."

"It is just the opposite," he said. "In reality, this legislation will only exacerbate the problem by driving immigrants further underground and compelling migrants in search of work to rely on ever-expanded smuggling networks to cross the border."

Pilgrimage to Poland – Remembering JP II



June 8, 2006 – 10 days, 14 meals

Warsaw, Czestochowa, Krakow, Auschwitz, Divine Mercy Shrine, Wadowice & more.

Airfare, hotels & transfers included. \$2,789 per person (double) from Columbia, SC. Call Fr. Andrew Vollkommer, Our Lady of the Lake, for brochure: 803-345-3962.

Classifieds

SERVICES

MARY KAY - #1 Best Selling Brand of facial skin care and color cosmetics in the US. Doesn't it make sense to pamper yourself? Connie Tobey, St. Matthew Parishioner - 704-564-4401. Call today for a free facial or shop on line anytime connietobey@marykay.com.

PIANO TUNING & RESTORATION: Hi-Quality Used Pianos. PIANO CRAFT

FOR RENT

(336) 454-2000. Al Guecia, formerly of Steinway & Sons. IHM Parishioner.

VACATION CABIN: Lake Lure. Mountain views! A great holiday get-away! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, fully furnished. Reasonable rates. Call 828-299-3714.

GREAT HOUSE: Only 2 years old! 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Great condition and nice neighborhood. Located in Charlotte only minutes from Belmont Abbey. Any length lease available! Call 828-327-4558.

Classified ads bring results! Over 125,000 readers! Over 49,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

FROM THE COVER

Carjacked nun helps attacker at sentencing

CARJACK, from page 1

made her a promoter of restorative justice, pushing for a lighter sentence for one of her attackers and working with him to change his life.

She'll never forget that night. When she arrived home from her job as a nurse case manager at Convent Hill Public Housing in Milwaukee, all the well-lit street parking spaces in front of her apartment were occupied, so she parked her 2001 Chevrolet Prizm a block away.

Then she spotted two men next to the car. "They opened the car door and shoved a knife to my throat and said, 'Car keys and money or you're dead,'" she recalled.

"I've heard over the years, don't offer any resistance, because that's when you can get hurt," she said. "So I just gave them my car keys and said, 'I have no money.' Then (one of the robbers) just shoved me out of the car, which was really a blessing, and said, 'If you scream you're dead, too.'"

As the two men sped away in her car, the frantic Sister Kahl ran home and called 911. At 10:30 p.m., after visits from police detectives and a victim-witness advocate, she went to bed.

She was awakened by a telephone call from the Milwaukee police at 4:30 a.m., telling her the two carjackers were apprehended after a police chase.

Sister Kahl learned that the two men were young Hispanics, in their 20s, who had been on the lookout for a car to steal and drive to Chicago.

"Raul" faced criminal charges of robbery with threat of force and operating a vehicle without consent. His accomplice, "Luis," faced other minor charges.

Over the next few months, Sister Kahl struggled with flashbacks. She lost sleep and suffered a bleeding ulcer. But she was also concerned about Raul.

"Initially my conscience said, 'I can't judge this man. Only God can judge him,'" she said. "But the more I got to thinking about it, I knew this man had to make restitution to me and to the

community for what he did."

She had not heard of restorative justice, even though her plan for restitution had all of the elements of this modern response to crime.

Restorative justice is now part of the criminal court process in more than 300 U.S. cities, including Milwaukee. It usually involves healing, reconciliation and rehabilitation for victim, offender and the community.

In 2000, the Milwaukee County district attorney's office launched the Community Conferencing Program, which is based on the principles of restorative justice. It is directed by Assistant District Attorney David Lerman.

In May Lerman told Sister Kahl that carjacking was a serious felony and no such case had been handled through a restorative justice process in Wisconsin.

The first step in the process is for the offender to admit guilt, which Raul, 23, did during a July 19 court appearance. Lerman and Sister Kahl then met with him.

He learned about the impact of his crime on her and she learned about his troubled past. He has been on drugs and alcohol since age 14. He doesn't know where his father is, and his mother has served time for drug dealing.

On Aug. 11, Raul agreed to a contract drawn up by Sister Kahl, which outlined steps he must take to avoid a long prison sentence. At a Sept. 7 sentencing hearing, Sister Kahl pleaded Raul's case and said that simply imprisoning him would not change his behavior.

Raul's contract included drug and alcohol rehabilitation; commitment to a community support program, such as Alcoholics Anonymous; attainment of a high school equivalency diploma; and job training. He also had to take a pledge of nonviolence through a program to be administered by Sister Kahl.

The judge was skeptical and told Raul, "This woman, for some reason that I don't understand, has hope in you. You are one lucky man."

Raul was initially sentenced to 10 years in prison but the judge ordered him to serve one year at a correctional facility, followed by four years of pro-

bation. If he violates his contract with Sister Kahl or the terms of his parole, he will go back to prison to complete the 10-year sentence.

In sessions with Raul, Sister Kahl encourages him to reconnect with his

religious upbringing and turn to God for guidance.

"After we finish working on this, he's no longer going to be the same person and I'm no longer going to be the same," she said.



CNS PHOTO BY SAM LUCERO, CATHOLIC HERALD

Franciscan Sister Mary Jo Kahl displays a drawing given to her by a man who stole her car at knifepoint last April in Milwaukee. At his sentencing, the nun requested that the attacker participate in a restorative justice program.

Looking at 'Poverty in America'

POVERTY, from page 1

problems for the country.

Breaking the cycle of poverty in the United States is a primary concern for the U.S. Catholic bishops. The mission of CCHD is to address the root causes of poverty through promotion and support of community-controlled, self-help organizations and education.

"In 1970, the U.S. Bishops thought that poverty could be eliminated when they initiated CCHD as a 'temporary' domestic program," said Terri Jarina, program director for the Office of Justice and Peace of Catholic Social Services in the Diocese of Charlotte.

"They soon realized that poverty is quite complex, and in recent years the CCHD focus has been on breaking the cycle of poverty," she said.

CCHD supports local groups involved in creating jobs, improving neigh-

borhoods, training adults for employment at a living wage, keeping schools safe and enriching for children, and raising leaders for the future.

The success of CCHD is due to Catholic parishioners whose contributions to the annual appeal make meeting CCHD's objectives possible.

"As we entered the new millennium, CCHD launched the PovertyUSA Web site to present all the complexities of poverty and the hope associated with breaking that cycle in many areas of our country," said Jarina. "We see evidence of that hope through the three national and 11 local grants awarded in 2005 to groups in our diocese."

Jarina encourages people in the diocese to help others in North Carolina escape Poverty USA.

WANT MORE INFO?

Read Terri Jarina's column on page 15. Also, online: Poverty USA at www.povertyusa.org.

The **Catholic Company**

Lake Norman Book Store
maryimmaculata.com



Now 2 COMPLETE Catholic stores for

- Unique gifts & cards
- Books, rosaries, medals
- Previously read book section (at Lake Norman)
- Video rentals
- Artwork

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

CAROLINA CATHOLIC
BOOKSHOPPE

Mon. thru Sat.
10 am - 6 pm



Let stairs be our problem... not yours!

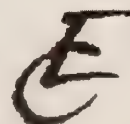
Ask about our Stairway lifts.

- Easily attached to steps (not walls)
- Folds out of the way
- Fits most stairways (straight & curved)
- Very affordable (rent or buy)
- We install

Chair & Equipment Rentals & Sales, Inc.

800 Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC • (800) 333-8431

Member of St. Thomas Aquinas



Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Season of the lists

Media interest in popes, church high in 2005

It would be nice if a local TV news-cast started off by saying, "There were no fires or traffic wrecks today, the mayor is visiting his mother in Pittsboro and, because no one has been dialing 911, the police have been on break at the doughnut shop since morning. So we're going take the night off and put on a 'Happy Days' rerun."

There is usually so little news during the last week of the year that a "news-cast" such as that would be a welcome possibility. But don't hold your breath. Manufacturing plants can shut down and millions of people can take holiday trips that empty homes, schools and offices, but the news media will still be churning out stories, even if no one is reading or watching.

The big favorite at this time of year is the "list" story — the top news stories of the year, the highest grossing movies, the bestsellers and, since this is the age of celebrity, the best dressed, the worst dressed and on and on.

The selection of the big story of the year is very subjective. My guess for 2005 is Hurricane Katrina. I know it is a myopic choice since the tsunami in southern Asia and the earthquake in Pakistan were far more devastating.

But Katrina happened here, to our friends and neighbors. It shocked us with the lack of storm preparation in New Orleans. It also changed a lot of minds about how capable our government is when responding to a disaster.

The big story for the Catholic Church in 2005 was the popes. Pope John Paul II ended his 26-year reign as pontiff, a shepherd proclaiming the power of God's love with his last breath. His courage in the face of death and his strength in proclaiming God's word, even as his body failed, were inspirational. His death left all of us feeling a little lonely.

The process to replace him was a model of decorum. Our new pope, Pope Benedict XVI, is universally held in high regard.

The story of the popes marked the first time in three years that coverage of the church was not dominated by the sex abuse scandal that erupted in 2002.

The sad inevitability of the death of the pope was something for which I and

Catholics & the Media

DAVID HAINS
GUEST COLUMNIST



other diocesan communication directors had planned. Most of us had communication plans in place that would explain church teaching and history to the faithful as well as the news media.

Despite this groundwork, I was surprised at the massive amount of coverage that followed Pope John Paul's death on April 2. All things Catholic were of great interest to the news media. Reporters brought their cameras and notebooks to Masses as they related the depth of feeling both in the Catholic Church and in the world at the passing of a great man.

This wave of interest in our faith continued through the selection of Pope Benedict.

Many of the same reporters who called in the past with difficult questions about the abuse scandal were now asking if they could cover a Mass or speak to Bishop Peter J. Jugis about his memories of Pope John Paul. This turnabout reveals an essential truth about the news media — it is neither friend nor foe.

Good news or bad, the ubiquitous cameras, notebooks and questions are going to be there whether the story is a solemn farewell to a religious leader or a scandal.

For me, the reporters are generally professional, no matter what subject they are covering. But it is, of course, a lot easier to explain the College of Cardinals than the John Jay Study of abuse in the church.

Hopefully 2006 will bring health and happiness to our new pope and to the people of God who are seeking answers either with a prayer book or a reporter's notebook.

David Hains is director of communications for the Diocese of Charlotte. Contact him at dwhains@charlottediocese.org.

Stand up — God's grace may be knocking at the door

Editor's note: This column was originally printed in December 2004.

The child was 2 years old when he lost his ability to walk. He had been walking since 11 months, but one day he began to wobble and fell down, unable to get up.

The child was diagnosed with Legg-Calve-Perthes Disease, which is, in simple terms, the unexplained interruption of blood to the head of the femur (thighbone). The result is degeneration and deformity of the thighbone area. When the doctors showed the X-rays, the parents saw blackness — nothingness — where their child's thighbone and hips were supposed to meet.

The wobble was probably the result of inflammation of the joint lining, resulting in a painful limp developed suddenly over a few hours. The only course of action was to establish a new blood supply to the affected areas. The child's legs were placed in metal braces with a rod to hold them apart and motionless while the damage repaired itself hopefully over the next 18 to 24 months.

Although much about the disease was unknown at the time, the doctors were optimistic because the child was diagnosed early; if treated early and correctly, 60-70 percent of children with the disease recover with no long-term disability. The only thing the parents and family could do was pray their only child would recover.

The boy remained in the braces for two years, unable to stand or walk. By 4 years of age, he still crawled on the floor, dragging his metal-encased legs behind him.

At Christmastime, he and his parents customarily gathered with their family at the child's grandparents' apartment in Brooklyn, N.Y. At least a dozen people sat around the table, enjoying a feast prepared by the grandmother, who sat at the head of the table.

She had always been a religious woman, the grandmother; always active in her church, always saying countless prayers for her family, friends and fellow parishioners. She was sitting quietly, looking down, when there were three loud, distinct knocks at the front door.

Nobody seemed to hear them, except the child's mother. She glanced to her mother-in-law, who, still looking down, nodded in silent satisfaction. The child's mother was confused — no one else had reacted to the knocks — so she leaned across the table.

"I think there's someone at the door," the mother whispered.

The grandmother looked up. "No," she said softly. "I'll tell you about it later."

When the mother and grandmother were finally alone, the grandmother explained she had just finished a novena — a nine-day series of prayers — to St. Martin de Porres. The saint, the grandmother said, had just given her his response.

"Your son will be healed within six months," the grandmother said.

The mother wasn't sure what to think, but couldn't deny the knocks she had heard.

X-rays of the child were taken several months later. The hip areas — for-

Murray's Musings

KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR



merly black holes — were replaced with bone. Within six months of the knocks on the door, the child was out of his braces. He was not only standing but walking, running. He became one of the fastest runners at his school.

That Christmas miracle happened 30 years ago. That was my grandmother, my mother. I was the child.

My grandmother, Katherine Murray, died in 1987. They say she died peacefully, sitting upright in a chair while praying the rosary. The paramedics told my father they had never seen anyone so at peace.

Unfortunately I didn't learn about St. Martin de Porres' involvement in my condition until after my grandmother's death. The saint, born in Lima, Peru, in 1579, became a lay brother at the Dominican friary at Lima where he served, among other things, over the Dominican's infirmary and became known for his tender care of the sick and for his spectacular, often miraculous cures (including raising the dead).

St. Martin had a great desire to go on foreign missions but instead made a martyr out of his body, devoting himself to ceaseless and severe penances. In turn, God endowed him with many wondrous gifts, including aerial flights and bilocation.

Since moving to the South, I've heard many people scoff at the notion of "praying to saints" and intercessory prayers. One Baptist, who didn't know my story, told me Catholics wasted their time praying to dead saints who were "no better than anybody else."

Perhaps. And perhaps the metal braces clamped to my legs would have worked without St. Martin's intervention.

But two people heard those knocks on the door, and they believed. I don't really need any more convincing than that. But whenever I'm in doubt, all I have to do is stand up. The power of heaven seems a little bit closer when I do.

It's a pity there are so many in this world who don't have faith, who don't know, or refuse to know, the effect a simple prayer can have, or the grace our Lord is willing to give. God does listen to our prayers. But do we always listen when he speaks to us?

We had better start listening — we don't want to miss the knocking at the door. You never know who it might be.

I don't run quite like I used to, but before I gather with my family this Christmas, I think I'll go for a quick sprint around the block. I know my grandmother will be smiling down as I dash about.

And while I'm out there, I think I'll have some grateful words for a certain Dominican saint and offer some prayers for those I love.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

Poverty in America

Much can be done to break poverty's cycle

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development has designated January as Poverty in America Awareness Month. During this month, CCHD strives to heighten the nation's understanding of the breadth and depth of the problems of poverty.

One in six children and one in 10 families live in poverty in the United States. Children in America have higher poverty rates than adults, and people 65 and over have higher chronic poverty rates and lower exit rates than children or adults, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

In 2003, 7.6 million American families — 10 percent of all families — were in poverty. That is an increase from 7.2 million, or 9.6 percent, in 2002.

More than two-thirds of all poor families with children included one or more individuals who worked in 2003. What's more, family members in working-poor families with children typically worked combined totals of only 46 weeks per year.

The U.S. Census Bureau defines poor families as those with cash incomes of less than \$15,067 a year for a family of three — \$19,307 for a family of four. In 2003, the average poor family had an income of \$8,858, or \$738 per month.

While the Census figures reveal a significant number of Americans living in poverty, many experts feel that the measures used by the federal government

Guest Column

TERRI JARINA
GUEST COLUMNIST



drastically underestimate the real scale of poverty in America — primarily because the official poverty thresholds are considered "too low."

Many analysts believe a more realistic poverty threshold for a family of four would be in the area of \$30,000 a year — and that a more accurate estimate of the poverty rate in America would be 30 percent of the total population.

Making progress against American poverty constitutes a massive challenge. Many analysts view the nation's poverty as the worst in the developed world. In a recent study by the United Nations, the United States ranked last among 26 countries in the share of population below 50 percent of median income.

Among countries scoring better than the United States were Slovakia, Hungary, Poland, Slovenia and the Czech Republic. Rates in 14 European countries were less than half that of the United States.

Breaking the cycle of poverty in the

United States is a primary concern for the U.S. bishops. CCHD is their domestic anti-poverty, social justice program. Its mission is to address the root causes of poverty in the United States through grants supporting community-based, self-help organizations and through social justice education.

CCHD grants programs at the national and local levels to support groups involved in creating jobs, improving neighborhoods, training adults for employment at a living wage, keeping schools safe and enriching for children, and training leaders for the future. Money from the grants benefits thousands of people in the Diocese of Charlotte through the three national and 11 local grants the collection helped to fund in 2005.

Terri Jarina is a program director for parish social ministry with the diocesan Office of Justice and Peace, Catholic Social Services, and diocesan director for CCHD.

WANT MORE INFO?

CCHD grant applications are available from the Office of Justice and Peace. Applications must be postmarked by Feb. 15, 2006. Contact Terri Jarina, program director for parish social ministry, at (704) 370-3234 or thjarina@charlottediocese.org.

The churching of new mothers

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN
DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



Q. Our entire family was present for the recent baptism of our great-granddaughter. After the ceremony I told them that years ago, when our children were born, mothers had to be "churched" shortly after birth.

Apart from saying it took place in church and prayers were said, I didn't do a good job of explaining it. Our parish priest tells us he never heard of the custom. Could you explain churching of mothers? (New Jersey)

A. Part of the answer to your questions lies in the history of how churching of new mothers developed in the church. The ceremony, more properly called the Blessing After Childbirth, entered Christianity as a carryover of the Jewish practice of purification.

Under Jewish law many actions and events incurred a kind of spiritual contamination or "uncleanness," a condition that limited or prohibited the individual's involvement in the community's spiritual life. The uncleanness was removed by the passage of time or by a prescribed ritual of purification.

Included among the occurrences which resulted in uncleanness were almost any actions involving sexual functions, whether they were legal or illegal, sinful or not. A woman was unclean after childbirth, for example, seven days if the child were a boy, 14 days if a girl. (See Leviticus, Chapter 12.)

This uncleanness was formally removed 40 or 80 days after birth by the ritual of purification. We commemorate this event in the case of the Blessed Virgin Mary after the birth of Jesus on the feast of the Presentation Feb. 2.

In its later Christian form, especially since the Middle Ages, the ceremony was a way of thanking God for a safe birth and a petition for God's blessings on the mother and child and family.

Perhaps the main reason the churching of new mothers is no longer customary among Catholics and other Christians is that many of its prayers and blessings are now already implied or included in the rite of baptism itself as it developed and expanded after Vatican Council II.

The 1989 Catholic Book of Blessings includes a blessing ceremony for mothers who could not be present for their child's baptism so that they might "benefit from the blessing that in the rite of baptism prompts the mother and all present to thank God for the gift of the newborn child" (No. 258).

I'm not aware that the custom of churching is still observed anywhere in our country.

God is patient

New year offers new possibilities

New Year's Eve is one of my favorite nights of the year, because it is marked by two special words: gratitude and hope.

The ending of the old year calls us to gratitude, even if we have experienced losses and tragedies. "Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thes. 5:18).

No matter what happens, nothing can separate us from the love of God. If we are alive and believe in the Lord, we have tremendous cause for gratitude.

The dawn of the new year calls us to hope, even if we have fears. When Jesus visited Martha and Mary to console them over the death of their brother Lazarus, even though he had been in the tomb for four days, the sisters said to Jesus, "Even now, I know that God will give you whatever you ask him" (John 11:22).

Even now. That should be our theme. As Jeremiah declared, even in the midst of the devastation of Jerusalem by the Babylonians, "But this I will call to mind as my reason to have hope: The favors of the Lord are not exhausted; His mercies are not spent. They are renewed each morning, so great is His faithfulness" (Lam. 3:21-23).

Yes, even now. Despite all the ills of the world at the dawn of the New Year, we are called to hope in the God who has



not changed. Even now.

We can hope that our lives can change, and that the culture of death can change to a culture of life. The very fact that a new year is beginning reminds us that God is patient. He continues to give us time to repent.

We read in Luke 13: 6-9: "Then he told this parable: A man had a fig tree, planted in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it, but did not find any. So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, 'For three years now I've been

Guest Column

FATHER FRANK
PAVONE
GUEST COLUMNIST



coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven't found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?"

"Sir," the man replied, "leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down."

We have a new year in which to dig around and fertilize the soil of our lives and our culture. Some people are afraid of making New Year's resolutions, because they don't want the unhappy experience of failing to keep them.

I encourage you to press forward with courage and to make them anyway, and here's why.

The idea of making a resolution is not that you will keep it perfectly. Success is not measured by "never breaking" the resolution. Success, rather, is measured by the fact that you renew the resolution one time more than you break it.

As we begin 2006, let us give thanks, and let us hope.

Father Pavone is national director of Priests for Life.

Season's greetings

Real Christmas gift is bringing joy to others, not gifts, pope says

BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ROME — The real gift of Christmas is to bring joy to others, not expensive presents that waste both time and money, Pope Benedict XVI said Dec. 18 at Santa Maria Consolatrice Parish in Rome.

Joy can be spread in any number of simple ways: "a smile, an act of kindness, a helping hand, forgiveness," he said. By bringing joy to others, joy will soon come back to those who gave it, he added.

"Joy is the real gift of Christmas, not expensive things that cost time and money," the pope said during his first visit as pope to a Rome parish.

Santa Maria Consolatrice Parish is located in a working-class neighborhood on the eastern outskirts of Rome. The 60-year-old church had been the pope's titular church from 1977, when he was named a cardinal, until 1993.

Then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger frequently visited the parish to celebrate Mass and preside over confirmations. In his Dec. 18 homily, the pope thanked the nearly 1,000 parishioners for attending the Mass on the last Sunday in Advent and said his visit to the parish was "like coming home."

He said the "friendships and affection" that have been formed over the years with parishioners and clergy at the Rome church "warmed my heart and still warm it today."

The pope dedicated his homily to three key words or elements in St. Luke's account of the Annunciation, in which the angel Gabriel tells Mary that God has cho-

sen her to bear the Son of God.

The first word is rejoice, he said of the word Gabriel uses to greet Mary. "The first word of the New Testament, therefore, is an invitation to be joyful."

The good news of the Gospel brings joy because it shows "God is not far away from us, unknown, inscrutable, perhaps dangerous," he said. Instead, "God is close to us, so close that he made himself a child."

In a world "dominated by fear, uncertainties" and where God is absent, the words, "be joyful because God is with you" open up a whole new world of hope, the pope said.

The second element the pope highlighted from the Annunciation is the angel telling Mary, "Do not be afraid."

While it might seem that Mary would be carrying the weight of the world on her shoulders, the angel assured her, "Yes, you will be carrying God, but God will be carrying you," the pope said.

He said Mary, too, is telling the faithful to not be afraid in this world "full of fear: fear of misery and poverty, fear of disease and suffering, fear of loneliness and of death."

The last element the pope highlighted was Mary's acceptance of God's will even though his plan for her seemed "too huge for a human being" to fulfill.

The pope said Mary tells the faithful today to be courageous, to say yes to God even if "at times it seems so difficult" to do and it may be more tempting to follow one's own desires.

But God desires the best for his chil-



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

The Vatican Christmas tree stands in the middle of St. Peter's Square at the Vatican Dec. 17, prior to an evening tree-lighting ceremony. The 98-foot tree was donated by the town of Afiesi in the region of upper Austria.

dren even if what he asks of them may feel "like an almost unbearable burden, a yoke that is impossible to carry."

In reality, God's will is not a burden, he said.

"It gives us the wings to be able to fly high" and to open one's life to God and his guidance, he said.

After celebrating Mass, the pope was driven back to the Vatican where he recited the noonday Angelus from his apartment window overlooking St. Peter's Square.

Before reciting the Marian prayer, the pope called on the faithful to devote time to

silence to better hear what God is saying.

St. Joseph embodied a silence that reflected his deep "contemplation of the mystery of God" so that he would always be ready to carry out God's divine will, the pope said.

He added that St. Joseph's silence does not "demonstrate inner emptiness, but to the contrary, the fullness of faith that he carries in his heart and that guides his every thought and act."


Such silent, reverent reflection is "much needed in a world that is often too noisy, that doesn't foster meditation and listening to the voice of God," he said.

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels. 

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065

Give the unforgettable gift! Enrich your own spiritual life!

Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise —

"The Footsteps of Paul"
Greece and Turkey — May 11-21, 2006

Space is limited—register now!



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,849 for inside cabin (before 1/31/06) - includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

Istanbul — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace

Mykonos — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels

Patmos — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation

Kusadasi & Ephesus — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites

Rhodes — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith

Crete — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion

Santorini — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.

Roman Catholic
Diocese of Charlotte



Established Jan. 12, 1972
by Pope Paul VI

JANUARY 6, 2006

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 15 No 13

Catholic can collector
Woman's 'can-do'
attitude leads to
\$55,000 for charity

| PAGE 16

Year-end wrap-up

*Pope reflects on a
historic 2005*

BY JOHN THAVIS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY —
By any measure, it was an extraordinary year for Pope Benedict XVI.

Most of the world has followed the highlights through the lens of the mass media — his election in the April conclave, his visit to Germany in August, his growing popularity and even his fashionable ecclesial clothing.

On Dec. 22, the pope offered a personal look at the year in review. Although he spoke for nearly an hour, he barely mentioned his own

See 2005, page 7

'Medical miracles'

PRO-LIFE OFFICIAL
HAILS SIGNING OF
BILL ON STEM CELLS
FROM CORD BLOOD

BY NANCY FRAZIER
O'BRIEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — An official of the U.S. bishops' pro-life secretariat hailed the Dec. 20 enactment of legislation establishing a national program to promote the use of stem cells from umbilical-cord blood.

Richard Doerflinger,

See BILL, page 13

Reconstructing lives

CATHOLIC CHURCH BUILDS
HOUSES, AIDS SURVIVORS OF
TSUNAMI IN INDONESIA

BY CATHOLIC NEWS
SERVICE

JAKARTA, Indonesia — A year after the tsunami disaster, the Catholic Church continues to construct thousands of houses for people in Indonesia's Aceh province, where almost all the people are Muslim.

"Medan Archdiocese is building schools and a center for people with leprosy, developing vocational schools and running rehabilitation programs for affected people in several parts of Aceh," said Coadjutor Archbishop Anicetus Sinaga of Medan.

The Catholic Church continues to help reconstruct and rehabilitate tsunami victims in Aceh, at the northern tip of Sumatra Island, and on Nias, a smaller island



CNS PHOTO BY ANTO AKKARA

Father Chris Abhayaratne of Holy Cross Parish in Kalutara, Sri Lanka, oversees the building of permanent houses for tsunami-affected families Nov. 19, 2005, on a plot purchased by the church. The priest said that Catholic relief work in the area has helped build trust between Catholics and Buddhists.

See TSUNAMI, page 5



COURTESY PHOTO

Teacher Sue Cornish and her second-grade class at St. Gabriel School in Charlotte is joined by Nicky Pastorello (pictured in front of Cornish), a Louisiana student displaced by Hurricane Katrina in August 2005.

Pen pals

*Displaced students make lasting friends,
impressions in Charlotte*

CHARLOTTE — Second-graders at St. Gabriel School in Charlotte share something special in common with second graders in Louisiana.

That something is a student named Nicky Pastorello.

Nicky's family was displaced after Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast Aug. 29, 2005, and relocated to Charlotte

several days later. Nicky attended Sue Cornish's second-grade class for several weeks.

"He is a wonderful young boy, and he adjusted beautifully," said Cornish.

Although the Pastorello family has since returned to Mandeville, La., Nicky left a

See PALS, page 12

CHapel Hill NC 27599-0001
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
UNC
NC COLLECTION
#420836#
#BXNP DVO.....3-DIGIT 275
S239 P2

Angel on wheels

Holy Angels celebrates
50 years in Belmont

| PAGE 8

Culture Watch

Inside look at Vatican II; monks
release CD honoring Mary

| PAGES 10-11

Perspectives

History of the sanctuary lamp;
the old and new in 2006

| PAGES 14-15

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

BLIND AMBITION



CNS PHOTO BY SAM LUCERO; CATHOLIC HERALD

Steven Gastriech, pictured with his parents, Bob and Maddie Gastriech, recently earned his master's degree in theology from the Sacred Heart School of Theology in Hales Corners, Wis. Blind since birth, Gastriech, now with his degree, plans to become a chaplain.

Blind man earns graduate degree, pursues work as chaplain

WAUWATOSA, Wis. (CNS) — Steven Gastriech, a 35-year-old who was born blind, had a hard time finding full-time work with his undergraduate degree in communications.

After holding short-term jobs, he figured "the church must want me" and pursued an entirely different course.

Gastriech looked into the programs at Sacred Heart School of Theology in Hales Corners in 2002, the year he also traveled to Toronto for World Youth Day with Pope John Paul II.

"There were some equipment issues," Gastriech said of his early weeks at Sacred Heart. However, by tape-recording lectures, utilizing the Notetaker program on his computer and with "excellent support from the library," he completed the required work and passed his exams.

He will receive his diploma during the school's May 2006 commencement.

Steven Shippee, chairman of the master's program at Sacred Heart, called Gastriech "remarkable" and a "very bright guy."

The theology professor also noted that Gastriech's presence at Sacred Heart provided "mutual enrichment for all" who are part of that community.

Father Ralph Gross, pastor at St. Margaret Mary Church in Milwaukee, said Gastriech is a cantor, choir member and participant in the parish's

annual variety show.

"Nothing seems to stand in the way of this guy," Father Gross said. "He has a big heart, and he loves the church. He enjoys using his gifts and sharing them. I've been inspired by him."

This past summer, Gastriech became engaged to Carrie Krassman, a fifth-grade teacher, whom he has been dating for four years.

Gastriech said Krassman, who has a visual impairment, encouraged him as he endured job rejection and then pursued his graduate degree. The obstacle course that Gastriech has navigated has given him spiritual strength.

"It definitely challenged my faith life," he said. "It brought me closer to God."

The more he was challenged, the more he prayed.

"C'mon, God, what's your plan?" Gastriech would pray. "I want to know I'm using the gifts you've given me; give me direction."

He got that direction recently when he heard that he had been accepted into the first unit of the clinical pastoral experience program at Alexian Village in Milwaukee.

Should Gastriech eventually become a chaplain, he expects his life experiences will help him relate to those to whom he'll minister.

"These battles were forming me for ministry," he said.

Migration week to highlight solidarity with immigrants, refugees

WASHINGTON (CNS) — National Migration Week (Jan. 8-14) will focus on solidarity with immigrants and refugees.

In announcing the upcoming 25th annual weeklong observation with its theme "Journey to Justice," Bishop Gerald B. Barnes of San Bernardino, Calif., chairman of the bishops' Committee on Migration, said all people are called to make a journey "in solidarity with migrants, immigrants, refugees, human trafficking victims and other people on the move seeking justice and peace."

"Never has this call to solidarity been needed more than today," he added. "Too often those who have come to our land seeking a better life for themselves and their families face discrimination and exploitation."

The bishop stressed that National Migration Week provides a good opportunity for parishes and schools to address issues facing immigrants and to find ways to learn more or help others in their community.

He suggested that parish and school leaders could increase their awareness of these issues by looking into the Justice for Immigrants campaign launched this year by more than a dozen church organizations and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The campaign is intended to educate the public, and Catholics in particular, about how immigration and immigrants benefit the nation; to improve public opinion about the contributions of immigrants; to advocate for changes in immigration laws and policies; and to organize networks that assist immigrants with legal problems. More information on the campaign can be found online at www.justiceforimmigrants.org.

The campaign's Web site and materials from the bishops' migration committee, on the Web at www.usccb.org/mrs/nmw.shtml, provide resources for parishes and schools to use during National Migration Week.

Diocesan planner

ASHEVILLE VICARIATE

ASHEVILLE — The *St. Martin de Porres Dominican Laity Chapter* meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the rectory building at the Basilica of St. Lawrence, 97 Haywood St. Inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Beverly Reid at (423) 638-4744 or bebereid@adelphia.net.

HENDERSONVILLE — The *St. Francis of the Hills Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order* meets the fourth Sunday of each month, 2:30-4:30 p.m., at Immaculate Conception Church, 208 7th Ave. West. Visitors and inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Joanita Nellenbach, SFO, (828) 627-9209 or jnell@dn.net.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — The second annual *Eucharistic Congress* will be held Oct. 6-7 at the Charlotte Convention Center, 501 S. College St. The Eucharistic Congress brings together laity, clergy, religious men and women, and well-known speakers for a day and a half of worship and lectures related to the Eucharist. For more information, visit the Eucharistic Congress Web site, www.GoEucharist.com.

CHARLOTTE — A *Festival of Lessons and Carols* will be presented at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd., Jan. 8 at 7 p.m., followed by a reception in the Msgr. Pharr Activity Center. For more information, call (704) 554-7088.

CHARLOTTE — St. Patrick Cathedral, 1621

Dilworth Rd. East, will host a *Pro-Life Rosary and Benediction* Jan. 17 at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited for a beautiful night of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in the cathedral. For details, call Tina Witt at (704) 846-7361.

CHARLOTTE — A *Women's Talk* will be held Jan. 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the reception room of St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd. Father Mauricio West will be the featured speaker. For more information, call Peggy at (704) 588-7311.

CHARLOTTE — A *Silent No More* gathering will take place Jan. 19 at 12 p.m. at the corner of Trade and Tryon streets in uptown Charlotte. The nondenominational Silent No More Awareness Campaign holds rallies nationwide to inform the public about the emotional, physical and spiritual consequences of abortion. For more information, call Andrea Hines at (704) 996-4597 or e-mail HinesAL@aol.com.

CHARLOTTE — The Evangelization Committee of St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd., will offer the *Catholics Returning Home* program Thursdays, Jan. 19-Feb. 23. Catholics Returning Home is a welcoming program for Catholics who have been away from the church. Topics include concerns, the Mass, changes since Vatican II, reconciliation, and Catholic beliefs, prayer and spirituality. For more information, call the St. Gabriel Parish Office at (704) 364-5431.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — *Coffee Talk for Adults* will meet Jan. 15, 22 and 29, 10:30-11:15 a.m., in the Youth Room of St. Pius X Church, 2210 North Elm St. For more information, call the church office at (336) 272-468.

GREENSBORO — If you have a special need

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-mail: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

JANUARY 6, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 13

The Catholic News & Herald, USPS 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

In first eight months, pope attracts nearly 3 million pilgrims

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In the first eight months of his pontificate, Pope Benedict XVI drew nearly 3 million pilgrims to public events.

According to Vatican statistics, more than 2.8 million people attended the weekly general audiences, the Sunday blessings, special papal audiences or liturgical celebrations at which Pope Benedict presided.

According to the Prefecture of the Pontifical Household, 810,000 people attended Pope Benedict's 32 general audiences in 2005. Pope John Paul II's record for general audience attendance was more than 1.5 million people spread out over 45 Wednesdays in 1979, after his October 1978 election.

Since his April 19 election, Pope Benedict held special audiences with more than 250,000 people.

More than 394,000 people attended liturgical celebrations presided over by the German pope, with the majority of

those people — some 220,000 — attending his April 24 installation Mass.

Nearly half of Pope Benedict's 2.8 million visitors attended his midday Angelus prayer and blessing. Some 1.4 million people attended the Sunday event from May through December, with the highest monthly attendance being 350,000 people in December.

While tickets are required to attend the weekly general audience, the Angelus address is open to the public without tickets.

Crowd numbers for the noonday Angelus dropped dramatically in August and September. The year's monthly average is about 250,000 people, but about 25,000 people attended in August and 25,000 people attended in September.

In the summer months, the Angelus prayer is not traditionally held at the Vatican, but in the small courtyard of the papal summer residence in Castel Gandolfo, south of Rome.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

MURPHY — A *Charismatic Prayer Group* meets Fridays at 3:45 p.m. in the Commons of St. William Church, 765 Andrews Rd. join us for praise music, witness, teaching, prayers and laying on of hands for those in need. For more details, call Gery Dashner at (828) 494-2683.

WAYNESVILLE — *Adult Education Classes* are held the first three Wednesday evenings of each month beginning at 6:45 p.m. in the St. John the Evangelist Church Social Hall, 234 Church St. For more information, call Charles Luce at (828) 648-7369 or e-mail luce54@aol.com.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

WINSTON-SALEM — *Thinking About Coming Home?* Our Lady of Mercy Church, 1730 Link Rd., is starting a new program for people who have been away from the Catholic Church for awhile and have thought about returning. Teams of three laypeople and one priest will meet three times in January and February to listen, answer questions and help you come back if, and when, you are ready. If you are interested in more information, please contact us at cominghomeolm@yahoo.com or call either (336) 403-5016 or (336) 240-5266.

WINSTON-SALEM — St. Benedict the Moor Church, 1625 East 12th St., hosts a 12:15 p.m. prayer service, *Veni Sanctus Spiritus*, the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. All are welcome to reflect on God and refresh the spirit in the middle of a day. For more information call Sister Larretta Rivera-Williams at (336) 725-9200.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Jan. 9-13 — Bishops' Retreat
Palm Beach, Fla.

Jan. 17 — 11 a.m. Presbyteral Council Meeting
Diocesan Pastoral Center, Charlotte

Pope says even embryo is object of God's love, concern

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — On the feast of the Holy Innocents, Pope Benedict XVI dedicated his last general audience of the year to the unborn child, saying even the tiniest embryo is the object of God's loving gaze and concern.

God looks upon all people with "loving eyes," even the "shapeless" human life curled inside a mother's womb, he said in his Dec. 28 general audience in St. Peter's Square.

The pope devoted his Dec. 28 catechesis to the last half of Psalm 139, in which the psalmist thanks God for having "knit me in my mother's womb." He said this psalm displays God's all-knowing and ever-present nature; even from the moment of conception, he knows a person's past, present and future.

The psalm also shows "the greatness of this small, unborn human creature, created with God's hands and surrounded by his love," the pope said.

The "benevolent and loving gaze of God's eyes already rest upon" the tiny, "shapeless" embryo, he said.

The Old Testament is replete with images of God as an artisan, a potter, even a tailor; he lovingly handcrafts

people from "the clay of the ground" and "with bones and sinews knit me together," the pope said, citing verses from the books of Genesis and Job.

He said these images show "what a masterpiece the human person is," even when he or she has been "afflicted and wounded by suffering."

Whatever his or her size or condition, the human being is "a prodigy" of God and represents "the highest and most awesome reality in the entire universe," said the pope.

The Son of God "became man, rather, became a child, for our salvation," he said.

The pope greeted and blessed dozens of handicapped children and adults at the end of his audience as they were wheeled, one by one, up to him.

He had said in his catechesis that even those who are "weak in the faith and in Christian life are a part of the architecture of the church."

"It's true, they are imperfect and small; however, for as much as they are able to understand, they love God and their neighbor, and they don't neglect to do the good they can," he said.

Christmas in Iraq



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

An Iraqi man dressed as Santa Claus holds a girl inside Holy Family Chaldean Church in Baghdad, Iraq, Dec. 30. Christmas presents were distributed to dozens of Iraqi children at the church.

Up to 28 more U.S. bishops could retire in 2006

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Following the Jan. 3 retirement of Bishop Basil H. Losten of Stamford, Conn., up to 28 other U.S. bishops, including five cardinals, could retire because of age this year.

There are 14 still-active U.S. bishops, including three cardinals, who have already turned 75. Fourteen more, including two cardinals, will celebrate their 75th birthday in 2006.

At age 75, bishops are requested to submit their resignation to the pope. Bishop Losten turned 75 last May 11.

Cardinal Edmund C. Szoka, 78, presi-

dent of the Pontifical Commission for Vatican City State, has been the oldest active U.S. cardinal since July 2003.

In 2005 Cardinals Adam J. Maida of Detroit and Theodore E. McCarrick of Washington turned 75. Cardinal William H. Keeler of Baltimore will be 75 March 4, 2006. Cardinal Bernard F. Law, archpriest of St. Mary Major Basilica in Rome, will be 75 Nov. 4, 2006.

Bishop F. Joseph Gossman of Raleigh, N.C., who turned 75 on April 1, 2005, is among the other active U.S. bishops who are already 75.

Pennybyrn breaks ground in High Point

HIGH POINT — Pennybyrn at Maryfield, sponsored by the Poor Servants of the Mother of God, recently celebrated a groundbreaking ceremony.

Bishop Peter J. Jugis and Sister Lucy Hennessy, board chairperson of Maryfield Inc., participated in the ceremony Dec. 8. Construction soon will begin on 151 apartments and cottages in the Pennybyrn at Maryfield retirement complex in High Point.

"I am excited to see the mission of Pennybyrn at Maryfield continue to

grow by offering more services," said Sister Hennessy.

Plans also include transforming the existing nursing center into six households surrounding a town square as well as upgrading the existing health care center.

"The new health care households will be part of the broader Pennybyrn at Maryfield retirement community and will provide a quality of life that doesn't exist in institutional health care," said Rich Newman, executive director of Pennybyrn at Maryfield.

The estimated completion date of construction is Fall 2007.



PHOTO BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY

Sister Lucy Hennessy and others watch as Bishop Peter J. Jugis shovels dirt during the groundbreaking ceremony for Pennybyrn at Maryfield in High Point Dec. 8.

Faith blazing at retreat



COURTESY PHOTO

More than 60 teenagers, including 15 confirmation candidates, attend the Fire and Ice fall retreat at St. Mark Church in Huntersville Dec. 2-4. Taking from Jesus' words in Luke 12:49, "I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing," the weekend retreat's goal was to lead teens into a personal encounter with Christ and to ignite in them a fire for discipleship.



**Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center**

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus


ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO THE HARVEST?

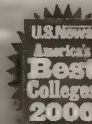
Then he said to His disciples, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers for His harvest." (Mt 9:37)

I am praying that you will join me in responding to our Lord's request for more "laborers" in harvesting the abundant fruit to be found at Belmont Abbey College. Over 125 years ago the Benedictine Monks came south in response to God's call to begin His work in the vineyard of North Carolina.

He is calling you to place your hands upon the same bricks that were formed and put in place by these holy monks so long ago. I am looking for strong, dedicated, Catholic students to help realize our vision of excellence and virtue. Belmont Abbey is *your* Catholic College and God is calling you to the "harvest."

Dr. William K. Thierfelder
President


**BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE**
THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED



☐ I WANT TO HELP BUILD OUR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY. PLEASE SEND ME A STUDENT REFERRAL PACKAGE.

If you would like to help Belmont Abbey College by referring or becoming a new student, please fill out this form and send it to us or go online to BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu and click on Referral Package in the Quick Links. We will send you our complete referral/information package with detailed information about the Abbey and all it has to offer!

Your Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

City _____

State _____

No. of Packages Requested _____

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

100 BELMONT-MT. HOLLY ROAD

BELMONT, NC 28012-1802

BELMONTABBEYCOLLEGE.EDU

FROM THE COVER

Catholic Church still aiding tsunami survivors

Tsunami, from page 1

off Sumatra's western coast, the archbishop told UCA News, an Asian church news agency based in Thailand.

Aceh was hit the hardest by the undersea earthquake Dec. 26, 2004, and the resulting tsunamis, which slammed coastal areas of a dozen countries from Thailand to East Africa.

During prayers in Banda Aceh, the provincial capital, to mark the first anniversary of the tragedy, Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono urged people to remember the more than 220,000 people who were killed or left missing, including Aceh's toll of 156,000 dead or missing, reported UCA News.

Building homes, rebuilding lives

Archbishop Sinaga said local church relief and rehabilitation efforts received \$2.1 million in funding from Catholic charities, especially Caritas organizations, including Catholic Relief Services, the U.S. bishops' international relief and development agency.

"In 2005 we handled the emergency needs by opening centers in Aceh and Nias to deliver food, clothes, medicines and tents," the archbishop said.

The church also used the money to renovate church properties and build schools and a 50-bed clinic.

"The church will use the financial aid for short-term and long-term programs for affected people in Aceh and Nias, regardless of background," the archbishop said.

Catholic Relief Services is building homes in Aceh and will be in the prov-

ince for about five more years, said Ken Hackett, CRS president.

In a Dec. 20 telephone interview with Catholic News Service from CRS headquarters in Baltimore, Hackett said CRS workers have built more than 2,000 permanent and temporary homes for survivors and will complete about 6,000 permanent homes within three to five years.

The homes are "earthquake proof" and "raised above the ground to protect against flooding," he said.

Each permanent home, which is made for one family, has two rooms and a small bathroom with running water, he said, adding that for many of the poor the houses are "much better" than what they had before the tsunami.

"The community decides who are the most needy," and they get the housing first, said Hackett, who traveled to Aceh Dec. 10-18.

Even if available land does not have written proof of ownership, the community will recognize if a family had lived there before the tsunami and will consider the property owned by that family, he said.

Franciscan Father Ferdinando Severi of Sacred Heart Parish in Banda Aceh told UCA News Dec. 26 that his parish is "buying lands and building houses on them for Catholics who lost their property."

The parish covers all of Aceh, where close to 99 percent of the people are Muslim.

Long road ahead

Father Severi said the church would keep working with government and local and international nongovernmental organizations to return Aceh to normal.

He added that he used a lot of



CNS PHOTO BY ANTO AKKARA

Relatives of tsunami victims light candles at the common burial place near the Basilica of Our Lady of Good Health in Vailankanni, India, Dec. 26, 2005. Thousands of pilgrims marked the first anniversary of the deadly tsunamis with prayer at the popular Marian shrine. The concrete tower was blessed to memorialize those who died in one of the world's worst natural disasters.

financial aid from Caritas to build houses, roads, orphanages and schools.

"We have built 27,000 houses, but many people still are in tents," he reported.

"We need two years more to handle" the large number of people affected, he added.

Father Mikhael To, coordinator of Sibolga Diocese's aid center in Nias, said the local church provided \$400,000 as

financial aid in 2005.

"With Caritas, Catholic Relief Services, the government and others, we are building hospitals and renovating Catholic churches in 14 parishes and mission station chapels, besides Protestant churches," he said.

However, he added, "We have not yet rehabilitated all the churches in mission stations; thus, Catholics there still attend Mass in tents."

Many Annuity Owners Lose Money. Will YOU?

Some annuity owners lose money because they didn't know what questions to ask when they bought, and their salesperson did not volunteer any information.

If you own an annuity or are considering taking advantage of their many benefits, my **FREE** report, "Using Guaranteed Annuities to Help You Survive Your Retirement," will tell you what questions to ask.

The report is **FREE** and shows you how to get more benefits from your existing assets and help preserve your annuity value.

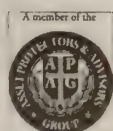
Call 800-800-4960, ext. 7405 (24 hours)

for your **FREE** report!

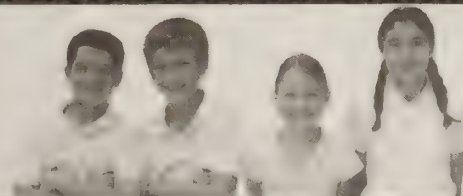
Dr. Richard Pucciarelli

Certified Senior Advisor

Member of Asset Protectors and Advisors Group



We Love Blessed Sacrament Academy !!



Call now to guarantee your child's enrollment.
Space is LIMITED! 704-841-2292

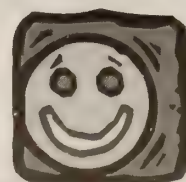
Visit us on the web: www.blessedsacramentacademy.org

Located behind Windsor Square in Matthews, NC. Independent of Charlotte diocesan schools. Member of NAPCS.

- ◆ A classical curriculum in the Catholic tradition
- ◆ Latin, French, Music & Art
- ◆ Grades K-8
- ◆ Excellent scores on standardized tests



125,000 people will read these words this week!



Shouldn't they see **YOUR COMPANY'S** name here?

LOW ad rates - easy for small businesses and individuals, too!

Call (704) 370-3332 now!

THE CATHOLIC NEWS HERALD

Parishes, schools around Diocese of Charlotte celebrate Christmas season



COURTESY PHOTO

Oblate of St. Francis de Sales Father Al Gondek, pastor of Our Lady of the Rosary Church in Lexington, celebrates a bilingual children's Mass on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24. The Mass included Knights of Columbus color guard, a children's nativity program with Christmas carols in English and Spanish, and a birthday cake for Jesus.



COURTESY PHOTO

Blaise Robert and Anna Toebe portray Joseph and Mary at the Christmas Eve children's Mass at St. Ann Church in Charlotte. Each year, the children of the parish dress as the Holy Family, angels and shepherds for the Dec. 26 Mass.



PHOTO BY CAROLE MCGROTTY

Students dressed as various animals and other characters at Asheville Catholic School entertain during the school's annual Christmas program Dec. 19.

Pre-kindergarten students delighted the audience with "traditional and not-so-traditional" Christmas carols, followed by kindergarten-through-fifth-grade students performing "Three Wee Kings," a musical about the birth of Jesus.

The program closed with "Puer Natus," a Nativity play performed by sixth-through-eighth-grade students and written by music teacher Tiffany Gallozzi.

Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Charlotte 704-334-6421

Pineville 704-544-1412

Mint Hill 704-545-4864

Derita 704-596-3291



AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles

Licensed & Insured

FREE ESTIMATES

www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185

BINGO
it's here!!!

St. Matthew K of C
BINGO at the new
South Charlotte Banquet Center
every Monday evening

Doors open: 6 pm
BINGO starts: 7 pm sharp!

Food and refreshments available
NON-SMOKING FACILITY
CASH ONLY - ATM AVAILABLE



9009 Bryant Farms Rd.

Directions: from 485- exit Rea Road (south). Right on Ballantyne. Past St. Matthew, turn left on Elm Lane (which turns into Bryant Farms Road). K of C Banquet Center is approximately 2 miles on the left.

Join our Oratorian Congregation to
SERVE GOD AS PRIEST OR BROTHER

As priests and lay men, our community lives without
vows and serves God's people numerous ways, including:

Parishes	Youth Camps	Nursing
Retreats	Campus Ministry	Hospital Chaplains

Find out more about serving God with us:

Fr. Ed McDevitt, CO The Oratory
P O Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586



Pope Benedict XVI reflects on historic 2005

2005, from page 1

election — a demonstration of the humility he has shown from the beginning of his pontificate.

Instead, he focused on the death of his predecessor, World Youth Day, the closing of the eucharistic year and the commemoration of the Second Vatican Council.

And, of course, on Jesus. Born in a manger, the pope said, Jesus has a power "completely different from the destructive power of violence," and far more effective.

The occasion was the pope's annual pre-Christmas encounter with the Roman Curia. The pope wore his red velvet cape trimmed with ermine, the Clementine Hall was decorated with poinsettias, and a Christmas tree was bedecked with lights.

The idea was to exchange season's greetings with Vatican officials; Pope Benedict gave them a nine-page speech.

Reflections

He began by paying tribute to Pope John Paul II, saying the late pope's fame as a world traveler and communicator only made his final days of suffering and silence more powerful.

Interestingly, it was a TV image that stuck out in Pope Benedict's mind: when the late pope was shown in his apartment the week before his death, gripping a cross as he watched the Way of the Cross broadcast from Rome's Colosseum.

Pope Benedict recalled his own first papal trip, a visit to Germany to preside over World Youth Day. But his biggest memory was not the cheering and chanting that greeted him from the immense crowd.

Instead, he said, it was the sound of silence — the "intense silence of those million young people" as they prayed together in a field before the exposed Eucharist.

The pope said the rediscovery of adoration in the church was also evident at the world Synod of Bishops in October, which closed the Year of the Eucharist. He said eucharistic adoration and the Mass were once seen in opposition, but that seems to have been overcome in the modern church.

Vatican II

The pope saved his most detailed analysis for Vatican II, which ended 40 years ago. It's a subject that has generated decades of debate within the church, including some critical comments by the pope when he was Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger.

The pope said there was no denying



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI exchanges Christmas greetings with members of the Roman Curia at the Vatican Dec. 22. The pope reflected on events from the past year during the encounter.

that the reception of Vatican II has been difficult for the church. In explaining why, he said there was a right way and a wrong way to understand the council.

The wrong way, he said, sees the council as a break with the past — a view that often has the sympathy of the mass media. Its proponents think the council's documents are imperfect, and so "one should follow not the texts of the council but its spirit," he said.

He said the proper understanding of the council, on the other hand, understands the council's reforms in continuity with the church's tradition and its basic teachings.

At this point, the pope went off into a lengthy and complex reflection on the church's relationship with the modern world. He said the council's great task was to help heal the rift between the church and modernity, in three specific problematic relationships: faith and science, church and state, and Christianity and other religions.

Given the bold statements that came out of the council on these relationships, it was natural that some would see only the apparent discontinuity with church tradition, instead of understanding them as an evolution of

core Christian beliefs, he said.

But that would be to misconstrue the council's intent, he said.

"The church is, before and after the council, the same one, holy, catholic and apostolic church, moving forward through the times," he said.

Papal election

After the pope arrived to applause in the packed Vatican hall, Cardinal Angelo Sodano, head of the College of Cardinals, gave a speech that concentrated on the pope's election.

Pope Benedict mentioned the conclave in passing, recalling that he felt "not a little fear" at being chosen and added: "Such a task was completely outside what I could have imagined as my vocation."

He said that only with "a great act of trust in God" was he able to give assent to his election.

Last spring, after the 26-year papacy of Pope John Paul, many people needed time to get used to the idea that Cardinal Ratzinger was now Pope Benedict.

Eight months later, as he delivered a speech his listeners could ponder well into the new year, it was difficult to imagine anyone else sitting on the papal throne.

Join us in the March For Life Washington, D.C.

January 22-23, 2006



"Roe vs. Wade Violates the American Way"

"The state or a person can never justify the intentional killing of an innocent born or preborn human in existence at fertilization.

No Exception ! No Compromise !"

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday, January 22 - 8 PM — Mass at Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Principal celebrant, Cardinal Keeler.

Monday, January 23 - 10 AM — Youth Mass, MCI Center. Principal celebrant, Cardinal McCarrick.

Monday, January 23 - 10:30 AM — Mass for North Carolina pilgrims, Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Principal celebrant, Bishop Jugis.



Rally begins promptly at Noon, on Monday, January 23.
If your parish or school has a group attending the March for Life, please call the Diocesan Respect Life Office at 704-370-3229.



The Catholic Conference Center
www.catholicconference.org

1551 Trinity Lane, Hickory, NC 28602
(828) 327-7441 or Toll-free (888) 536-7441
info@catholicconference.org

Angel on wheels

Founding resident gets custom golf cart for birthday



COURTESY PHOTO

Maria Morrow, the first resident of Holy Angels, gets behind the wheel of her customized golf cart Dec. 19, one day before her 50th birthday. John Olmstead, who helped build the cart, assists Morrow with her first driving lesson.

Holy Angels celebrates 50 years

BELMONT — A dream came true for Holy Angels' first resident one day before her 50th birthday.

On Dec. 19, Gary Babcock, owner of Carolina Golf Cars, presented Maria Morrow with a one-of-a-kind red golf cart, a project that was three years in the making.

"Maria asked for a corvette, 10 years ago, for her 40th birthday," said Babcock. "She doesn't have a driver's license, so we decided to build a custom golf cart that she could drive while sitting in her wheelchair."

The cart features a roll-up wheelchair locking device, horn, hand controls, headlights and Corvette decals.

"I can't believe it. It's a little scary, but it feels great," said Morrow.

Morrow was born Dec. 20, 1955, with complex medical needs, multiple disabilities and little hope for survival. Her mother sought help through a day nursery for children operated by Mercy Sister Marie Patrice Manley and the Sisters of Mercy.

With the sisters' care and medical attention, Morrow not only lived but also thrived. The nursery soon became a home for children like Morrow who were not expected to live.

Thus, Holy Angels was founded in 1956 and now provides residential services and programs for children and adults with varying degrees of mental

retardation and physical disabilities.

Morrow and Holy Angels celebrated their 50th anniversaries Dec. 20 by formally naming and dedicating a new intermediate care facility. Named Moody Place after Regina Moody, Holy Angels president and CEO, the residential home joins five other intermediate care facilities and two community group homes.

Larry Sprinkle, NBC6 weatherman and longtime friend of Morrow, emceed the birthday celebration and dedication, saluting and honoring the first angel for her strength, love and ministry to the many children at Holy Angels. He also celebrated with an official toast.

But the day before, Morrow was all about driving.

After a brief lesson from mechanic John Olmstead, Morrow test drove the cart around the Holy Angels parking lot.

According to Olmstead, the hardest part about building this particular cart was the wheelchair-locking device. The measurements had to be perfectly matched to meet the requirements of Morrow's wheelchair.

"I'm really glad I had the opportunity to work on this project," said Olmstead.

"This is a dream come true," said Babcock. "It's wonderful to be able to give this as a birthday gift to Maria. Doing things like this for others is what Christmas is really all about."

Sister Eileen Healey, Daughter of Charity, dies at 76

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Daughter of Charity Sister Eileen Healey, who served in the Diocese of Charlotte, died Dec. 5, 2005, at Providence Hospital in Washington, D.C. She was 76.

The former Eileen Theresa Healey was born in Baltimore and entered the Daughters of Charity Dec. 10, 1947. During her 58 years as a Daughter of Charity, she studied, taught and served as a pharmacist and a director of religious education in Michigan, Virginia, New York, Maryland, Washington, D.C., and North Carolina.

From 1981 to 1985, she served as director of religious education at St. Pius X Church in Greensboro.

Sister Healey also served as local superior at Immaculate Conception Church in Baltimore and at Rosalie Rendu House in Roanoke Rapids, N.C.

A talented artist, Sister Healey designed greeting cards and created original artwork for many of the province's meetings and special events.

She was serving in the pastoral care department at Providence Hospital at the time of her death.



Daughter of Charity
Sister Eileen Healey

A Mass of Christian burial was held at the Basilica of the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Dec. 9, 2005.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Daughters of Charity Support fund for the Elderly and Infirm Sisters, 333 S. Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, MD 21727.

Groce
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

1401 Patton Ave. 72 Long Shoals Road
Asheville, NC Arden, NC
(828) 252-3535 (828) 687-3530

**Assuring
Absolute
Integrity**

Asheville's Catholic Funeral Directors
Dale Groce • John Prock

Toll-free (888) 874-3535

Pre-arrangements and obituaries on-line at www.grocefuneralhome.com

**get
Ignited!**

Come hear these great
Catholic speakers

Dr Alice Von Hildebrand

George Weigel

Stephen Ray

Dr Jacques Mistrout

**Ignited By Truth
Catholic Conference
February 17-18, 2006
Raleigh, North Carolina**

Bringing to light the truth of the teachings of the Catholic Church and igniting in our hearts a love for our Faith

For complete details and online registration, visit:
www.IgnitedByTruth.com



*Join us in
celebrating the life and legacy of*

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**Saturday, January 21, 2006
The Hilton – University
8629 J.M. Keynes Drive
I-85 and East W.T. Harris Boulevard
Charlotte, North Carolina 28262
8:00 am – 7:00 pm**

Theme: "Making and Accepting Change – One World, Many People"

Morning Session – 8 am-12 noon + Lunch + Afternoon Session – 1 pm-7 pm

Prayer Breakfast with

Rev. Bro. Henry Fulmer
St. Martin de Porres
Columbia, SC

Praise and Worship

Perpetual Hope Gospel Choir of
Our Lady of Consolation
Charlotte

Interactive Workshop with

Dr. Shelton M. Shipman, Pastor
Greenville Memorial AME Zion Church
Charlotte

Cultural Presentations featuring:

Bo Taylor – Cherokee Nation
The Hmong & Laos Communities
Golden Angels Choir–House of Prayer
The Walsh School of Irish Dance
OLA African Choir
La Comunidad – Christ the King
plus
Many other cultural groups

Cost: \$20.00 per person

Cost includes all programs, activities, breakfast and lunch.

**Advance Registration with payment
required by January 14, 2006.** Mail
name(s) and address(es) for all
attendees and check or money order to
cover cost at \$20 per person - payable
to: **AAA-M/MLK Registration**

Mail to:

**AAA-M -- Diocese of Charlotte
1123 S. Church Street
Charlotte, NC 28203.**

**Sponsored by The African-American Affairs Ministry Board of
the Catholic Diocese of Charlotte – 704 370-3267**



Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

'Letters From Rome'

New book offers inside look at Vatican II from late bishop's letters

BY PATRICIA KASTEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Want an inside view of what the Second Vatican Council was like, as it happened?

Bishop Aloysius J. Wycislo's newly published book, "Letters From Rome During Vatican II," gives just that.

The retired bishop of Green Bay, who died Oct. 11 at the age of 97, had been working on the manuscript for years — in fact, since the 1962-65 council.

The book is a compilation of letters that Bishop Wycislo, then an auxiliary bishop of Chicago, wrote from Rome during the sessions of the council. Addressed to his parishioners at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Chicago, the letters contain both tidbits about travel around the Eternal City and insider information about the wrangling between bishops as the various 16 documents of Vatican II were hammered out.

For example, during the council's second session in 1963, the bishop wrote, "It would be foolish to deny that there are differences of opinion here, theological and procedural, sometimes expressed with considerable vigor and determination."

Yet, he returned home after that session convinced he "saw real development and growth among the bishops, in the consciousness of what Pope John XXIII wanted of the council."

Bishop Wycislo, who attended all four sessions of Vatican II and gave many lectures on it over the years, kept copies of his letters and a detailed journal, always intending to compile them in some fashion. In 1987, he wrote "Vatican II Revisited, Reflections by One Who Was There." That book dealt more with facts about the sessions.

The new book, edited by Auxiliary Bishop Robert F. Morneau of Green Bay, gives more of the flavor of the council. Bishop Morneau was among many who encouraged Bishop Wycislo to complete the manuscript.

"I thought it would be a nice slice of history to get his take on those days of the council in Rome," he said.

He added that Bishop Wycislo's insights only added to his own admiration for what he and the other council fathers accomplished.

"What stands out for me," Bishop Morneau said about the book, "is the enthusiasm and the excitement of renewal."

In a talk with diocesan employees just before his death, Bishop Wycislo said he was still amazed by what Vatican II had accomplished.



CNS PHOTO FROM DIOCESE OF GREEN BAY

Retired Bishop Aloysius J. Wycislo of Green Bay, Wis., who died Oct. 11, 2005, wrote a book offering an inside look at Vatican II.

"When I read the documents today," he said, "I'm amazed at what we accomplished ... the Holy Spirit guided us."

"Letters From Rome During Vatican II" speaks about those changes as they happened. A letter from 1962 talks about attending Mass in a church in Rome that was already experimenting with the use of the vernacular.

Another, dated Nov. 2, 1962, tells how the rite for baptism was being simplified.

"Less wear and tear on the baby," he quipped.

Toward the end of the book, the bishop noted, "Vatican II for me was not just a great heap of documents to be studied and debated but a learning experience I shall never forget. More than that, it was a special celebration of Catholicity."

Bishop Wycislo never tired of speaking about the council, which he was charged with implementing locally when he became bishop of Green Bay in 1968. He gave talks on it across the diocese and even taught about it to classes at St. Norbert College.

He firmly believed that the true effects of the council would not be realized for many more decades.

"We never envisioned this," he said in a 2004 interview.

"I'm amazed we voted and said what we did. That's why I say Vatican II is unfinished," he said. "We still have a lot to do to bring alive what we bishops intended."

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: JAN. 15, 2006

Jan. 15, Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) 1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19
Psalm 40:2, 4, 7-10
- 2) 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20
- 3) Gospel: John 1:35-42

We must listen for, answer Lord's call

BY BEVERLY CORZINE
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

In this week's readings a common connection links Samuel, John the Baptist and Jesus.

We are most familiar with the miraculous circumstances surrounding the birth of Jesus. We can never hear too often about Mary's unequivocal "yes" to God or of Joseph's faithful action as he welcomes Mary, pregnant with Jesus, into his home.

Mary's aged relative Elizabeth and her husband Zechariah have long given up hope of having a child. Yet, the angel of God surprises Zechariah with the news that they will have a son.

Unlike Mary, Zechariah doubts the angel's message and spends the time between receiving the message and the circumcision of John without his voice. Finally, Zechariah's voice returns when he can emphatically say, "John is his name."

Long before Samuel's birth, his mother Hannah prayed fervently in the temple for a son and at the same time

promised to give him back to God. Hannah was a woman of her word. When he was old enough, Hannah relinquished Samuel to Eli so that Samuel might learn to serve the Lord.

In today's reading Samuel hears his name called in the middle of the night. Each time Samuel thinks the priest Eli is calling him. The third time Eli realizes that it is God calling Samuel.

Eli tells Samuel to answer, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening." With this answer Samuel begins his journey as one of the truly great servants of the Lord.

Twice a week they arrive in our parking lot. The drivers must extricate a series of multicolored bags ranging from gigantic to minuscule. Besides the colorful "luggage," each of these drivers may somehow have to manage an infant carrier swinging alongside while safely guiding a preschool child inside.

Occasionally, I am privileged to overhear fragments of their conversations as moms, dads or grandparents bring their preschool children to our parents-day-out program. I hear love in the voices. I hear trust in what the new day of discovery will bring.

At the close of the day, the process reverses. Children carrying original works of art reiterate their own accounts of the day's events. I am reminded of the grace of caring, faith-filled adults and the fleeting years of early childhood.

I wonder how many Samuels, Elizabeths, Hannahs and Zechariahs have been here today.

Question:

Who has been a voice of wisdom for you in helping you to listen to the Lord's calling?

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF JAN. 8-14

Sunday (Epiphany of the Lord), Isaiah 60:1-6, Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6, Matthew 2:1-12; **Monday (Baptism of the Lord)**, Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7, Acts 10:34-38, Mark 1:7-11; **Tuesday**, 1 Samuel 1:1-20, 1 Samuel 2:1, 4-8, Mark 1:21-28; **Wednesday**, 1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20, Mark 1:29-39; **Thursday**, 1 Samuel 4:1-11, Mark 1:40-45; **Friday (St. Hilary)**, 1 Samuel 8:4-7, 10-22, Mark 2:1-12; **Saturday**, 1 Samuel 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1, Mark 2:13-17.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF JAN. 15-21

Sunday (Second Sunday in Ordinary Time), 1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19, 1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20, John 1:35-42; **Monday**, 1 Samuel 15:16-23, Mark 2:18-22; **Tuesday (St. Anthony)**, 1 Samuel 16:1-13, Mark 2:23-28; **Wednesday**, 1 Samuel 17:32-33, 37, 40-51, Mark 3:1-6; **Thursday**, 1 Samuel 18:6-8; 19:1-7, Mark 3:7-12; **Friday (Sts. Fabian and Sebastian)**, 1 Samuel 24:3-21, Mark 3:13-19; **Saturday (St. Agnes)**, 2 Samuel 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27, Mark 3:20-21.

Delicious Menus for You and Your Guests

Tastefully Yours Catering
1401 S Church Street - Suite A - Charlotte, NC 28203
704.632.8040 • tastefullycarolina.com
Located in Charlotte's Southend

Full Service Caterer

Holiday Parties
Receptions
Rehearsal Dinners
Engagement Parties
Bridal Showers
Spa Parties

Visit our cafe for a sampling of the possibilities!

(Wedding tastings by appointment only)

Heavenly voices

Carmelite monks release new CD honoring Mary

BY JOSEPH O'BRIEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

LA CROSSE, Wis. — The few lonely highways stretching toward the eastern edge of the Rocky Mountains in northwest Wyoming used to be the only way to reach the Monks of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel and hear their beautiful chants.

But now, thanks to modern technology and the release of their new CD, "Mystical Chants of Carmel," the monks have opened up their cloister in Clark, Wyo., with 14 chants dedicated to the Blessed Mother.

"I figured that since the people couldn't come to our Mass, we could share our liturgy with the world," said Father Daniel Mary of Jesus Crucified, prior of the monastery.

"The wonderful thing about chant is that it is a mystical form of music — many authorities believe it is directly inspired by God," he added. "Its primary purpose is to help people go deeper into the life of prayer. It settles in your soul and allows you to focus directly on God."

At the moment, the monks — seven in all — live in a four-bedroom farmhouse tucked away in the hills near Clark, a small town just a few miles south of the Montana border.

This may be the only Carmelite monastery with its own makeshift recording studio. With soundproofed walls and an engineering booth, they recorded their CD and then had a professional production team work on mixing the music and mastering it in surround sound.

The monks first came to Wyoming in 2002 at the invitation of Bishop David L. Ricken of Cheyenne. Father Daniel Mary said the bishop was looking for a religious order — specifically Carmelites — to set up shop in his diocese.

"His idea is to transform the diocese, to really bring people to God," Father Daniel Mary said. "To do these things, you need a contemplative community praying for the diocese."

While the CD was the inspiration of Father Daniel Mary, it was recorded under the leadership of Brother Michael Mary of the Trinity, the monks' choirmaster.

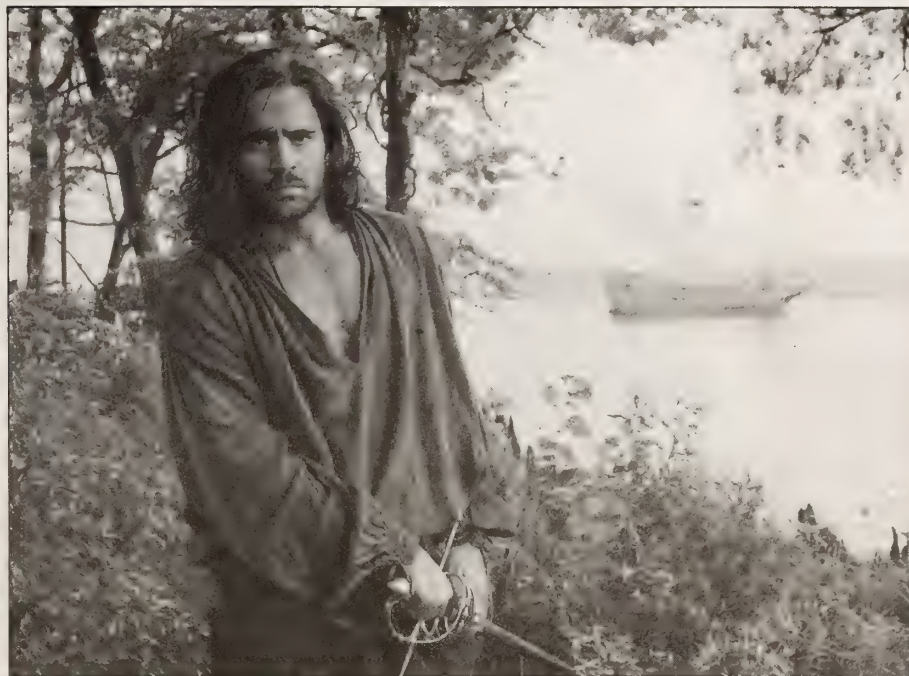
According to Brother Michael Mary, the album selections reflect one of the primary objects of their devotion: Mary, mother of God and patroness of the Carmelites.

"We wanted to put chants on the CD that really spoke about the soul of Our Lady," he said. "We took the chants into prayer with us and we would pray them during mental prayer times. Whichever spoke to our souls most, whichever gave us the best image of our Mother and her contemplation of Jesus, those were the ones we chose for the CD."

The monks learned the chants by heart to concentrate better on the mystical quality of the music.

"We wanted it to flow from our souls — and we wanted to bring that out in our style of chant," Father Daniel Mary said.

Proceeds from the sale of the CD will help the monks build a permanent monastery.



CNS PHOTO FROM NEW LINE

Colin Farrell stars as Capt. John Smith in "The New World."

'New World' barely worth discovering

BY DAVID DICERTO
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW YORK — While the legendary love affair between Capt. John Smith and Pocahontas might make a wonderful film, the textured and visually exquisite but listless and long-winded "The New World" is not it.

Colin Farrell stars as the English adventurer, along with Q'orianka Kilcher as his Native American princess par amour. (At 14, Kilcher was slightly older than the real Pocahontas.)

The film opens in 1607 with English ships dropping anchor off what would become Jamestown, Va., while befuddled members of the indigenous Algonquin tribe watch from shore.

Smith is sent on a food-gathering mission upriver to the local chief, Powhatan. Smith is captured, but his life is saved by Powhatan's daughter, Pocahontas, who is smitten by the dashing, but considerably older, Englishman.

Against counsel, Powhatan allows Smith to stay the winter with the tribe, naively believing that he and the rest of the foreigners will return "across the waves" come spring.

The story unfolds like Romeo and Juliet in buckskin, as the two fall deeper into forbidden love, with Pocahontas eventually banished by her tribe as the hostilities

between their two peoples escalate.

The film is basically a series of beautifully composed tableaux — realistically gritty while impressionistically poetic — held together by the star-crossed romance but saddled with pretentious voiceover narration and underdeveloped characters.

As a grand, tragic love story, "The New World" is dull, with long stretches without dialogue. The story gains traction in the third act with the introduction of the genteel John Rolfe (Christian Bale), a widowed tobacco farmer who competes for Pocahontas' affections.

"The New World" avoids the usual movie Indian stereotypes. If anything it is the fetid and rapacious English who are depicted as savages, while the "uncorrupted" Native Americans are presented as peace-loving, "lacking in all guile and trickery."

If you can endure its languid pacing, the film's eye-filling richness and timeless themes of love and loss make this "New World" still worth exploring.


The film contains intense battle violence. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels. 

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065

The **Catholic** Company

Lake Norman Book Store
maryimmaculata.com

CAROLINA CATHOLIC
BOOKSHOPPE

Mon. thru Sat.
10 am - 6 pm



Now 2 COMPLETE Catholic stores for

- Unique gifts & cards
- Books, rosaries, medals
- Previously read book section (at Lake Norman)
- Video rentals
- Artwork

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

Displaced students make lasting impressions in Charlotte

PALS, from page 1

lasting impression with his classmates at St. Gabriel School.

"He definitely brought the hurricane to life for these 7- and 8-year-olds," said Cornish.

Nicky made quick friends at school and liked to play football with the other boys, said Cornish.

"They miss him terribly," she said. "When he left, we gave him the school

address and said we'd love to hear from him. He wrote the first letter and we continued."

Cornish's class and Nicky's new class in Mandeville have become pen pals. The classes have exchanged letters twice since November and plan to continue on a monthly basis, said Cornish.

The pen pal program is two-fold, said Cornish.

"They are learning to write friendly letters and how to communicate with another class," said Cornish.

St. Gabriel School is one of several diocesan Catholic schools that accepted

families displaced after Hurricane Katrina. Of the eight students that entered St. Gabriel School in September, four have remained in Charlotte and continue attending St. Gabriel School.

One of the students is in Cornish's class.

"His family lost everything and he will stay in the class for the whole

year," she said.

Accepting the displaced students has made real differences for all involved, said Cornish.

"They've made a positive impact through their presence," she said.

Editor Kevin E. Murray contributed to this story.

ACCOUNTING DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS SERVICES

The Diocese is seeking an individual, reporting to the Chancellor, who will oversee the administration of financial controls, coordinate capital budgets, provide long range financial planning, supervise the accounting and computer services areas and provide financial advice and counsel. BA/BS in Accounting with 5 years management experience in a similar role and computer literacy required. MBA and/or CPA preferred. Competitive salary and excellent benefit package.

Send resume with salary requirements to: **Director of Human Resources, Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth Street, Raleigh, NC 27606. EOE**

Director of Hispanic Ministries

The Diocese of Kansas City - St. Joseph is seeking a full-time Director of Hispanic Ministry. The selected individual will collaborate with the parishes and other Diocesan offices in serving the Hispanic community providing ministries and services that evangelize and bear witness to the Reign of God; calls forth Hispanic people, especially youth, young adults and families to service and leadership at all levels of the Church and community; promotes the recognition of Hispanic people as integral to the full life of the Church; and sustains, celebrates and shares the culture, values, language and spirit of the Hispanic community with the Church and wider community.

The candidate must be an active practicing Catholic, faithful to the Church's magisterium who has a commitment to the faith life and the building up of the Hispanic Catholic community; master's degree in theology preferred; must be proficient in Spanish and English written and spoken grammar; multicultural experience, administrative and pastoral experience with the Hispanic community preferred; demonstrable leadership and organizational skills required; the ability to work collaboratively with diverse groups of people, and be computer literate.

Interested individuals are encouraged to send a resume and references to Human Resources Department, Diocese of Kansas City - St. Joseph, 300 East 36th Street, Kansas City, MO. 64111 or email to Stucinski@diocesekcsj.org.

Classifieds

FOR RENT

FEMALE ROOMMATES WANTED: 2 furnished rooms — \$400 each/month. Utilities included. Christian lady looking to share new 3-bedroom house in Ballantyne/St. Matthew parish, off Rea Road, Charlotte. Private: newly

furnished bedrooms. Shared: bathroom, washer, dryer, storage, off-road parking. No smokers. Owner has cats. 704-579-0333

GREAT HOUSE: Only 2 years old! 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Great condition and nice neighborhood. Located in Charlotte only minutes from Belmont Abbey. Any length lease available! Call 828-327-4558.

Classified ads bring results! Over 125,000 readers! Over 49,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

Pilgrimage to Poland – Remembering JPII



June 8, 2006 – 10 days, 14 meals

Warsaw, Czestochowa, Krakow, Auschwitz, Divine Mercy Shrine, Wadowice & more.

Airfare, hotels & transfers included. \$2,789 per person (double) from Columbia, SC. Call Fr. Andrew Vollkommer, Our Lady of the Lake, for brochure: 803-345-3962.

PRINCIPAL

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Principal of St. Thomas More School, a practicing Catholic, is the administrator and educational leader of St. Thomas More of the Archdiocese of Atlanta with approximately 500 students and approximately 40 faculty and staff. Appointed by the Archbishop and reporting to the Chancellor, the Principal is accountable to the Archbishop through the Chancellor, for implementation of the mission of Catholic education in St. Thomas More School. The Principal is also responsible for providing leadership and managing the School staff; mentoring and providing mediation and conflict resolution among staff, students, and external sources; developing long and short range plans for the grade School; providing communication and support for teachers, students, chaplains, pastors, and boards; representing the Archdiocese in matters related to St. Thomas More School; and assuring compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws and codes. Some travel required. Send resume, credentials, references and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht,
140 West Myrtle Street,
Duluth, MN 55811-5018
Telephone 218-727-5150
E-mail mruprcht@cpinternet.com

Superintendent for the Archdiocese of Atlanta

The Superintendent of Schools, a practicing Catholic, is the chief administrator and educational leader of the Catholic schools of the Archdiocese of Atlanta. Appointed by the Archbishop, the Superintendent is accountable to the Archbishop through the Chancellor, for implementation of the mission of Catholic education in the 18 elementary and secondary schools. The Superintendent is also responsible for implementing the Archbishop's vision for Catholic schools and managing the Office of Catholic School staff; developing long and short range plans for the schools; providing leadership, and support for local school leadership, pastors, religious congregations, principals, and boards; representing the Archdiocese in matters of education; and ensuring compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws and codes. Also responsible for mentoring and providing mediation and conflict resolution among staff, students, and external sources; representing the Archdiocese in educational matters related to archdiocesan schools. Some travel required. Send resume, credentials, references and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811-5018,
Email: mruprcht@cpinternet.com
Telephone: 218-727-5150



New stem cell bill hailed by pro-life official

BILL, from page 1

deputy director of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, said the signing of the Stem-Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005 by President George W. Bush "is wonderful news for the many thousands of suffering patients who can benefit from umbilical-cord-blood stem-cell treatments."

The House had approved the legislation in May by a 431-1 vote. The Senate passed it by unanimous consent Dec. 16 with one amendment; the House concurred with the amendment by voice vote Dec. 17.

"As Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus, how appropriate that we can also celebrate the medical miracles made possible by cord blood retrieved immediately after live births," Doerflinger said.

"Congress and the president have given a wonderful Christmas present to patients in need," he said.

Cardinal William H. Keeler of Baltimore, chairman of the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities, had backed passage of the legislation in a July letter to senators, saying that stem cells obtained from cord blood had properties similar to embryonic stem cells.

Rep. Chris Smith, R-N.J., chief sponsor of the legislation in the House, said after the signing that he had been working on the legislation since 2001, "and I am thankful that treatments will now, finally, be made available to patients in need."

"We will now be able to turn medical waste — umbilical cords and placentas — into medical miracles for huge numbers of very sick and terminally ill patients who suffer from such maladies as leukemia and sickle cell anemia," he said in an earlier statement.

'Congress and the president have given a wonderful Christmas present to patients in need.'

The legislation authorizes \$265 million in federal funding for research and therapy involving cord blood and bone marrow. Of that total, \$79 million would go toward the collection of cord-blood stem cells, with the goal of reaching a genetically diverse inventory of 150,000 units.

It also reauthorizes the national bone-marrow transplant system at \$186 million over the next five years and combines the cord-blood and bone-marrow programs to provide a single information source for doctors and patients.

"Not only has God in his infinite wisdom and goodness created the placenta and umbilical cord to nurture and protect the precious life of an unborn child, but now we know that another gift awaits us immediately after birth; something very special is left behind — cord blood that is rich with stem cells," Smith said Dec. 17.

He added that cord-blood stem cells had been used to treat more than 67 diseases.

In his July letter, Cardinal Keeler said that stem cells from cord blood "grow rapidly in culture, producing enough cells to be clinically useful in both children and adults."

"They can treat patients who are not an exact genetic match, without being rejected as foreign tissue; and they seem able to produce a wide array of different type cells," the cardinal said.

"What is preventing far broader use of umbilical-cord blood stem cells is not an ethical concern, or any lack of evidence of clinical benefits, but simply a lack of funding and access," he said.



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

U.S. President George W. Bush signs the Stem-Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005 at the White House in Washington Dec. 20. Behind the president (from left) are Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, Sen. Mike Enzi, R-Wyo., Sen. Bill Frist, R-Tenn., Health and Human Services Secretary Michael Leavitt, Rep. Chris Smith, R-N.J., Rep. Bill Young, R-Fla., Sen. Sam Brownback, R-Kan., and Sen. John Ensign, R-Nev.

PROVEN RESULTS

Moral use of stem cells helps New York woman halt her cancer

BY KATE BLAIN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ALBANY, N.Y. — Opponents of embryonic stem-cell research often point out that using adult stem cells to treat disease is morally acceptable and has shown results.

Pat Picher of Saratoga Springs believes she's living proof of that.

Diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in 1999, she was treated with adult stem cells harvested from her own body. This January, she celebrates three years of remission from her cancer — the benchmark after which doctors predict that cancer will not return.

A homemaker whose husband, a deacon, serves at two parishes in the Albany Diocese, Picher was shocked to learn in the fall of 1999 that she had cancer.

Initially, she underwent standard chemotherapy for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, a cancer of the lymphatic system — which produces white blood cells. The primary function of white blood cells is to fight infection.

She was told that if the cancer did not recur in three years it probably would not come back. Two years and nine months later, it did.

This time, Picher was given a much harsher form of chemotherapy — and was surprised when told that she would be a good candidate for stem-cell therapy.

Picher likened using adult stem cells to "a bone marrow transplant, but there's no donor." Instead, she had a special catheter put into her neck, then received a series of shots that caused her stem cells to be released from her bone marrow and circulate in her bloodstream.

Next, she was hooked up to a machine that performed a task similar to kidney dialysis: It filtered 10 million stem cells from her blood.

Half the cells were frozen for possible future use, while the other 5 million were

kept for the next phase of Picher's treatment. She received high-dose chemotherapy to bring her white blood cell count down to zero; then her own stem cells were returned to her body intravenously.

"Then you wait for the stem cells to 'take,' and your white blood cell count to go back up," she said.

Many cancer patients struggle with the side effects of chemotherapy — nausea, vomiting, hair loss and more — but Picher experienced no side effects except exhaustion.

Picher believes that if the use of embryonic stem cells had been proposed, she would have looked at other treatment options instead.

"I believe it is morally wrong," she said of using living human embryos to retrieve stem cells. "From what I've been reading, there really is no solid proof that (embryonic stem-cell use) does much of anything. There's much more progress with adult stem cells."

"The media feel, for some reason, that they should glorify the embryonic thing, and there's no medical basis to do so," she added.

Since umbilical cord blood is also rich in stem cells and retrieving the cells from newborns does not involve taking human life, Picher would like to see more scientific interest in using cord blood.

"Babies are being born all the time; it's a readily available source" of stem cells, she said.

Two years after her adult stem-cell therapy, Picher was focusing on quilting, encouraging cancer patients who call her for advice and waiting for her three-year remission anniversary to arrive.

"Some days, I feel like I'm living on needles and pins, because this was the point (last time) where the cancer came back," she said. "But I never lost faith. What's going to happen is going to happen, and you can't do anything about it except pray."

Providing Help. Creating Hope. Changing Lives.

Catholic Social Services The Diocese of Charlotte

Executive Director: Elizabeth Thurbee (704) 370-3227

Refugee Office: Cira Ponce (704) 370-6930

Justice & Peace: Joe Purello (704) 370-3225

Family Life: Gerard Carter (704) 370-3228

Charlotte Region: 1123 South Church Street, Charlotte, NC 28203
Area Director: Geri King (704) 370-6155

Western Region: 50 Orange Street, Asheville, NC 28801
Area Director: Debra Braese (828) 255-0146

Piedmont-Triad: 621 W. Second Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27108
Area Director: David Harold (336) 727-0705
Greensboro Satellite Office (336) 274-5577
High Point Satellite Office (336) 884-5858

For information on specific programs,
please call your local office.

1123 South Church Street, Charlotte, NC 28203
www.cssnc.org



Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

End the Roe litmus test

Supreme Court nominees shouldn't be judged on abortion issues

On Jan. 9, the Senate Judiciary Committee will begin considering the nomination of Samuel Alito to the U.S. Supreme Court. The pro-choice Judiciary Committee chairman, Arlen Specter, promised that his first question to Judge Alito will concern *Roe v. Wade*.

Roe v. Wade created a nationwide mandate to allow abortion on demand throughout pregnancy, and erected an impenetrable wall preventing any legal protection of the child's right to life at any point in pregnancy.

During the first trimester, the court prohibited any state oversight of abortion. During the second trimester, the court merely allowed state regulation of abortion, and only to advance the woman's health.

After viability, the point at which a child could be delivered and survive outside the womb, the court pretended to allow states to ban abortion, but rendered any ban meaningless through *Roe's* companion decision, *Doe v. Bolton*.

Roe says a state may proscribe abortion after viability "except where it is necessary ... for the preservation of the life or health of the mother," but *Doe* broadly defines "health" to include "all factors — physical, emotional, psychological, familial, and the woman's age — relevant to the well-being of the patient."

As a result, no meaningful restriction of abortion is constitutionally permissible at any stage of pregnancy.

As a consequence of this extreme ruling, the court overturned the laws of all 50 states, including the handful of states that already had liberalized abortion laws to some extent.

Even Justice Ruth Ginsburg, a supporter of abortion rights, admitted *Roe* "ventured too far in the change it ordered."

The American public has never ac-

Life Issues Forum

MAUREEN BAILEY
GUEST COLUMNIST



cepted the radical rule of *Roe*. In fact, according to a Zogby International poll, 87 percent of Americans support some legal restriction on abortion; a large majority (61 percent) support making abortion illegal after the unborn child's heart begins beating, which occurs around the 21st day after conception.

Only 13 percent of Americans support abortion for the duration of pregnancy.

Aware of the public disapproval of *Roe*, the Supreme Court attempted to resettle the issue in its 1992 decision *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*. While the court allowed limited state regulation, such as informed consent and parental consent laws, it reaffirmed a right to abortion.

Casey also affirmed the need for a health exception to any purported "ban" on post-viability abortions. Thus, even when a child could live outside the womb, abortion must be legal.

In 2000, the court decided that the *Roe* abortion "right" includes even the right to abort a partly born infant.

According to Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., this now is the standard by which Supreme Court nominees will be judged, the first hurdle they must overcome. They must affirm support for the right to abort a child at any point in pregnancy for any reason or no reason, even if the child is partly-born.

It is time to end the *Roe* litmus test. Visit www.endroe.org.

Maureen Bailey is a public policy analyst with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

Christians believe history marked by progress in holiness, says pope

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Christians believe history is marked by progress, not toward greater wealth or ease, but in individual holiness and in the unity of the human family, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Christians are called to live with a constant attitude of giving thanks to God, but it is an especially important attitude at the beginning of a new year, the pope said at his Jan. 4 general audience.

In his main audience talk, Pope Benedict spoke about the hymn to Christ in St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians. The hymn offers thanks to God for the gift of Christ, the firstborn of all creation and the image of the invisible God, the pope said.

The hymn's profession that everything was created in Christ and for Christ "shows us something very important — history has a goal, a direction. History is moving toward a humanity united in Christ," Pope Benedict said, setting aside his prepared text.

"In that way, it is moving toward the advent of perfect man, perfect humanity," he said. Christ gives humanity his grace and the fullness of life, the pope said.

"With this vital presence, we are made participants in his divinity," transformed and reconciled in Christ, creating harmony throughout creation, he said.

The Pope Speaks

POPE BENEDICT XVI



"St. Paul tells us, yes, there is progress in history, there is — if you want — evolution in history," he said. "Progress is all that draws us close to Christ and, therefore, draws us closer to a united humanity."

Christians are called to contribute to progress by conforming themselves to Christ and by bringing others close to him, he said.

The pope encouraged the pilgrims to offer God everything that will happen in 2006, and he prayed that God would give them abundant blessings in the new year.

After the audience, the Vatican released the text of a telegram expressing Pope Benedict's condolences to the injured and to the families of those who died after the roof of an ice-skating rink in Germany collapsed Jan. 2.

In addition to offering prayers and condolences, the pope offered his blessing to the rescue workers.

New Year may lead to deeper 'sacramental union'

Although much may have happened in 2005, and there is a great deal more to look forward to in 2006, doesn't each year have a sameness to it?

—We rise in the morning, head for work, return home at night, only to rise the next day for the same routine.

—Most of our friends have a sameness — so much so that we can almost predict what they will say or do.

—There may be a new song here or there, but so much of the music we hear has been heard before.

—We go to the same church, hear the Gospels repeated and often listen to repeated homilies.

—We flip from one season to another, only to start each season over again.

My wish for you is that 2006 will be special when it comes to drumming out humdrum sameness. My prayer is that it will be blessed with awesome sacramental moments that generate life anew in you!

What do I mean by this?

In his book "The Glass Bead Game," Hermann Hesse writes about Joseph Knecht, an intelligent school boy visited by a music master to see if he is smart enough to enter a school for bright students.

As a test, the music master asks Joseph to play the school song with him. After finishing the song, the music

The Human Side

FATHER EUGENE HEMRICK
CNS COLUMNIST



master asks, "Did you like that?"

"Yes," replies Joseph.

"Then let's play it again," and so they do. Repeatedly the music master inquires after each playing, "Did you like that?" and Joseph responds, "Yes."

As they continue to play, Joseph suddenly experiences the notes in new and animated ways. His small world of music suddenly has been transformed into a spellbinding higher order.

Later Joseph will recall, "It was a sacramental union." The song now rang with unimaginable new life and took on exciting vibrancy.

As Joseph experienced life anew, may the year 2006 be a time when you see life, your spouse, children, parents, friends and acquaintances in a new and touchingly unfamiliar way. May it lead to a deeper union with them that becomes an awesome sacramental union.

Christmas — the most wonderful time of the year?

True meaning of season lost amidst controversy

As I reflected on the Christmas season, which ends Jan. 8 with the Epiphany, I thought about how Christmas has become more commercialized, and this joyous holiday has become stressful for many of us.

There is a tree to decorate; gifts to purchase; a Christmas party to host; cards to mail and so on.

This year, Christians had one more thing to stress over — the “Christmas Controversy.”

When did it become an insult to wish someone “Merry Christmas”? Why must we feel obligated to use the inoffensive “Season’s Greetings” or “Happy Holidays”?

Why should we feel guilty about putting a beautiful, lighted tree in the public square?

According to the Central Intelligence Agency World Factbook, 76 percent of Americans identify themselves as Christian.

So is it outrageous to assume the person selling me tickets to “King Kong” celebrates Christmas?

If I lived in Israel, would I be offended if someone wished me “Happy Hanukkah”? If I was in Jordan at the end of Ramadan, would I turn away in disgust if someone greeted me with “Joyous Shawwal”? If a Buddhist friend invited me to his Nirvana Day party, would I decline because I’m not Buddhist?

Honestly, no. Even though I don’t celebrate those holidays, the purpose of the greetings and celebrations would not be to convert me, but simply to share the

As I Was Saying

KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER



joy the celebrants feel during this special time of year.

One of my friends, who is Jewish, told me when she was growing up she would go Christmas caroling with her friends.

My mother has a Jewish friend who collects Santa Clauses.

Although these examples symbolize the more secular, commercial part of Christmas, they are connected inextricably to that sacred holiday. Evidently, not all non-Christians are offended by Christmas celebrations.

When I wish people “Merry Christmas,” I don’t expect them to fall on their knees and profess their love of and belief in Jesus Christ. I just want to share the joy I feel this time of year.

And if they do love and believe in God — the Father, Son and Holy Spirit — that’s something we have in common.

I tried a little experiment. In the last weeks before Christmas, I made a point to say “Merry Christmas” to people I encountered. I was astonished by how many cashiers, receptionists and wait staff thanked me, the surprise evident in their voices.

Now, I know that you shouldn’t wish anyone “Merry Christmas” until Christmas Eve, because until then it’s the penitential time of Advent, but apparently I haven’t been able to undo 27 years of Protestantism in the six years since I became Catholic.

And I as I wrote this column, I realized I still should have been saying “Merry Christmas” for the last week. I’m sure that would have gotten some surprised responses. Again, I blame my 27 years of Protestantism.

So this Sunday, when Christmas ends with the celebration of the Epiphany, I will reluctantly take down my beautiful white pine, put away the decorations and stop wishing everyone “Merry Christmas.” Until next December.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

You can wish me a...
Merry Christmas!

Old and new: Two dimensions of life?

2006 will be how we choose to make it

The spiritual leaders of the Hebrew people dared to believe that life is completely surrounded by God.

“As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds his people both now and for evermore” (Ps. 125:2).

Not by accident, the previous psalm (124) states: “If the Lord had not been on our side — let Israel say — they would have swallowed us alive.”

The question is: “Is 2005 really old and 2006 really new?”

I don’t know the answer, but I do know that “unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain” (Ps. 127).

As we identify the old with the year 2005 and the new with the year 2006, we may fall short of the real meaning of life, because both dimensions are always present as we make our journey. Both the old and new are surrounded by God and we carry them with us everywhere.

The old and the new are not two dimensions of life, but only one entity facing the past or the future. We are called to learn from the past and to

project into the future.

The real two dimensions of life are the vertical and horizontal dimensions: do we live immersed in planet earth embracing all the possibilities there are (horizontal), or do we raise our lives to higher values and undiscovered frontiers (vertical)?

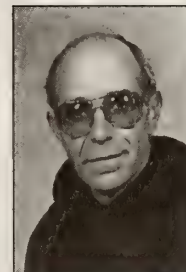
For instance when a baby is born, there is nothing more mysterious in the world than that creature, a bundle of human possibilities. All human faculties are there. The blessing or the curse will be based upon which dimension the baby will develop for the rest of his or her life.

One great man of all generations was Albert Schweitzer. He was a great admirer of Bach; he was a biblical scholar and writer of philosophy in the Western World. Then he studied medicine, went down to equatorial Africa, built a hospital and took care of the people. What a great balance between the old and the new, the horizontal and the vertical.

During our lifetime we are not sailing nowhere; we are sailing somewhere. And the journey would be unbearable if

Guest Column

FATHER JOHN C. AURILIA,
OFM CAP.
GUEST COLUMNIST



we were sailing from boredom to who-knows-where. But if we are moving toward a place that we wish to go, we can somehow bear with better grace the trials in transit.

I don’t know how you feel on New Year’s Day. Some people enjoy the camaraderie and frivolity characteristic of the occasion; some feel depressed, because they have one year less in their life’s span.

As for me, I felt on this New Year’s Day exactly as I felt on Dec. 31, 2005.

So, my friends, 2005 and 2006 are not about the old and the new, but rather the horizontal or vertical. Life can be heaven or hell; it all depends on how we make it.

May your life on earth be heaven in 2006.

Capuchin Father John C. Aurilia is pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in Hendersonville.

History of the sanctuary lamp

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



Q. Can you explain the sanctuary lamp, which is lit in churches next to the tabernacle? How did it start? What is its connection to the Eucharist? Does it need to be red? (Illinois)

A. The use of candles and lamps in temple rituals, processions and other religious events goes back to ancient pagan times. It was customary with the Jews, and the followers of Christ picked up the practice from the beginning of Christianity.

Apart from its practical necessity, light seems to have been a natural sign of purity, holiness and life, “conquering” darkness and its portents of gloom and death. Christian liturgies, especially the Liturgy of the Hours, speak often of the spiritual symbolism of light, especially of Christ as light, opposing the night of sin and evil.

The sanctuary lamp near the tabernacle containing the eucharistic presence of Christ came into use very late, for an obvious reason. During most of the history of the Christianity, until the 12th century in fact, churches contained no tabernacles, at least visibly.

The Blessed Sacrament was reserved privately, perhaps in another part of church or in the priest’s home, only for emergencies, particularly Communion for the sick and dying.

In the 11th century, in response to some controversial theories of a theologian, Berengarius of Tours, the church began a long development of eucharistic doctrine. This resulted in an increased awareness of the role of Christ’s human nature in salvation and thus in a new reverence for, and devotion to, our Lord in the Eucharist.

In time, visible tabernacles became common in Catholic churches to facilitate the expression of the faithful’s eucharistic beliefs.

One historian connects the sanctuary lamp to this devotion. It is understood as a sign of devotion, much as other devotional candles, and also as a sign that the Eucharist is present in the tabernacle.

The sanctuary light may be of any color.

A free brochure on ecumenism, including questions on intercommunion and other ways of sharing worship, is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 5515, Peoria, IL 61612.

Catholic can collector

Woman's 'can-do' attitude leads to \$55,000 for charity

BY MARYANGELA LAYMAN
ROMAN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

MILWAUKEE — Imagine how many lives have been touched because a group of students was perched on a hillside near Milwaukee's Marquette University nearly 20 years ago drinking soda and beer, littering the area with their cans.

Ruth Hana spotted the 40 or so cans on her way back from the bank. Seeing the glittering aluminum tossed onto the grass ignited an idea for the Gesu parishioner who at the time worked for Milwaukee County.

The cans translated into dollars for Hana, who recognized that the aluminum could be recycled and the money given to charity.

The students' discarded cans were the first of 764,000 aluminum cans that Hana has collected over the past two decades, with more than \$11,000 going to charity. In all, thanks to other money-raising ventures conceived by Hana, including a popcorn sale to co-workers, she has donated \$55,774.55 to charities, including the American Diabetes Association, American Cancer Society, American Red Cross and about 15 other charities.

By far the bulk of Hana's contributions, \$28,264, has gone to prevent child abuse and neglect, something she saw firsthand as she worked as a clerk for the county.

Splurging for others

The stories the county social workers shared with her pulled at her heartstrings. Likely, too, they reminded Hana of her own childhood at St. Rose Orphanage and with various foster families.

"Some treated me well, others treated me badly — very badly," she said, adding that one family padlocked the refrigerator at night so she couldn't take food, locked the bathroom door at 9 p.m. so she couldn't use the toilet and sent her to school with only a peanut butter sandwich.

At age 17, Hana weighed only 85 pounds.

After graduation from Messmer High School, she found work she loved at the Old City Bank and Trust. She has never married, and has lived alone in tiny, one-bedroom apartments in downtown Milwaukee.

She lives simply, never learned to drive and doesn't have elaborate furnishings in her home. Her one splurge came in 2003 when she traveled to Rome to see Milwaukee Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan receive the pallium, a circular band of white wool worn around the neck that symbolizes an archbishop's authority and unity with the pope.

When people ask her why she collects the cans for charity, rather than

keeping the money for herself, her answer is, "If I collect them for myself, it's not fun anymore."

Cans galore

Part of the fun for Hana is the recordkeeping. She keeps meticulous, handwritten logs of every can she has collected and from whom. In fact, she knows that her former county co-worker Gary Porter, who drinks only Tab, has given her more than 27,000 cans.

Hana's cans come from co-workers, Marquette students and fellow apartment tenants, but nearly half (312,338) she has picked up herself, most from the former County Stadium and now Miller Park where the Milwaukee Brewers baseball team plays.

Weather permitting, Hana takes the bus to nearly every Brewer home game and collects around 350 cans. Her best game, she said, was the final one at County Stadium where she gathered 854 cans in four large bags.

She transports them back to her apartment where she rinses them out in the tub. She's gone through three electric can crushers and can no longer find them on the market, so she crushes them by hand and once a week, again by bus, takes the cans to Bandos Recycling and Shredding in Milwaukee.

There she receives about 60 cents a pound for the cans, slightly more than the going rate, because Felix and Marcus Bandos, the owners, know she collects for charity.

Ongoing mission

When Hana began working for the county in 1977, she discovered other sources of cans. Even though she retired in 1995, she still makes regular trips to see her co-workers who collect cans for her.

"I've learned we've got to help others," said Hana of her collecting, "and it's not that we help others because we expect something back in return."

A parishioner at Gesu for more than 50 years, Hana said she tells God, "I don't ask for anything in return, but I do ask you that I can stay healthy so I can continue to be able to do this."

Recently diagnosed with type 2 diabetes and with a slight form of epilepsy, Hana — who turns 76 Jan. 5 — is eyeing the 1 million mark for cans.

"The Lord always provides for me," she said, adding she thanks him daily for the ability to collect.

"If I go to the office once a week (to collect cans from former co-workers), it gets me away from the TV — and I love TV — and I get some exercise," she said. "That makes me happy and when I look at the charities and what I've done so far, I say, 'Wonderful — that's really all right.'"



CNS PHOTO BY SAM LUCERO, CATHOLIC HERALD

Ruth Hana displays a bag of aluminum cans in her Milwaukee apartment in mid-December. The retired county worker has collected more than 700,000 cans over the past two decades and has donated all of the money from her recycling to charities.

Give the unforgettable gift! Enrich your own spiritual life!

Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise —

"The Footsteps of Paul"

Greece and Turkey — May 11-21, 2006

Space is limited—register now!



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,849 for inside cabin (before 1/31/06) - includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

Istanbul — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace

Mykonos — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels

Patmos — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation

Kusadasi & Ephesus — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites

Rhodes — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith

Crete — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion

Santorini — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.

Roman Catholic
Diocese of Charlotte



Established Jan. 12, 1972
by Pope Paul VI

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

Parish Profile:

Our Lady of the Angels
Church in Marion

| PAGE 16

JANUARY 13, 2006

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 15 No 14

Mourning the miners

**Bishop celebrates
Mass on 'sad day'
as community
remembers miners**

BY COLLEEN ROWAN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

PHILIPPI, W.Va. — "To-day is a very sad day for the church in West Virginia and for the people of West Virginia," Bishop Michael J. Bransfield of Wheeling-Charleston said to those gathered for Mass Jan. 8 at St. Elizabeth Church in Philippi.

The community was remembering the 12 coal miners who lost their lives after the explosion at the Sago Coal Mine in Upshur County and was praying for miner Randal

See MINERS, page 5

SURVEY SAYS

**Survey shows high
school seniors
feel abortion is
wrong, favor curbs**

BY AGOSTINO BONO
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — A national survey of high school seniors reported that many of them have a strong moral opposition to abortion and favor restrictions on "a woman's right to choose" an abortion.

An analysis of the survey said that when they answered general questions about abortion seniors "appeared supportive of abortion rights," but re-

See SURVEY, page 8



CNS PHOTO BY JASON COHN, REUTERS

Twelve black ribbons line a fence in front of the Sago Mine in Sago, W.Va., Jan. 8 in honor of the 12 miners who died in the Sago Mine after a Jan. 2 explosion. Bishop Michael J. Bransfield of Wheeling-Charleston remembered the miners during a Jan. 8 Mass at St. Elizabeth Church in Philippi.

Gift return?

*Senate likely to seek swap for House
immigration bill*

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — When senators return to work in mid-January one waiting task will be to decide what to do with the big, unwieldy Christmas present left for them by the House, labeled "immigration reform."

It's improbable that the

Senate would pass as-is the Border Protection, Anti-Terrorism and Illegal Immigration Control Act, which passed the House Dec. 16 by a vote of 239-182.

The question is whether the Senate will try to amend and rework the House bill more

See BILL, page 7



CNS PHOTO BY DAVID MAUNG

A woman places flowers on the U.S.-Mexico border wall in Tijuana, Mexico, for undocumented migrant children who have died while crossing into the United States. In the background are U.S. Border Patrol agents who were doing a training exercise.

Making a difference

Hibernians donate \$6,000;
new lives, new skills for refugees

| PAGE 4

Culture Watch

Faithbooking;
Latifah's 'Last Holiday'

| PAGES 10-11

Perspectives

Local Christmas reflections;
'The Gospel of Life'

| PAGES 14-15

#BXNPDVQ*****3-DIGIT 275
#420836#
NC COLLECTION
UNC
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001

S241 P2

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

GLOBE-TROTTER



CNS PHOTO BY MICHAEL WOJCIK, THE BEACON

Diesa Seidel, a physical education teacher and a former basketball star, has coached in an interreligious basketball league in South Korea, played professional women's basketball in France and Italy, built Habitat for Humanity homes in Guyana and helped spruce up a poor neighborhood in Trinidad and Tobago.

Catholic school teacher uses athletic ability to bridge cultures

MORRIS PLAINS, N.J. (CNS) — In many ways, Diesa Seidel, physical education teacher at St. Virgil School in Morris Plains and a former basketball star, is a real "globe-trotter." And she has years of frequent-flier miles to prove it.

The 25-year-old Seidel has coached in an interreligious basketball league in South Korea, played professional women's basketball in France and Italy, built Habitat for Humanity homes in Guyana and helped spruce up a poor neighborhood in Trinidad and Tobago.

In high school and college, the 6-foot-3 Seidel lit up the scoreboards with her considerable basketball talents. Today, she loves lighting up the faces of the students she teaches, encouraging them to eat right and exercise regularly.

On her international service trips, she loved trading smiles — and making friends — with the many warm and colorful people of various cultures and religions she met along the way.

"Diesa has the ability to work with people beyond all differences," said Carol Pobanz of the New York-based Religious Youth Service, which ran the service trips to Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago. "She is interested in all kinds of people. She invests her heart, not only in

the work, but in the people."

Last fall, Seidel raised more than \$4,000 for Religious Youth Service by collecting pledges before running the 26.2-mile New York City Marathon. She placed in the fastest one-third overall — 12,933 out of 37,300 runners — and in the fastest one-quarter among women.

"You don't know what you can do until you do it," she said. "I saw the clock at the end of the run, and thought 'Wow, I just ran a marathon!'"

Last summer, far across the Pacific, Seidel, who once played pro ball in France and Italy, scored points for peace, serving as games coordinator at the Interreligious Peace Sports Festival in Asan, South Korea. There, college-age young people from the world's various religions gained understanding of each other by coming together to play in a series of competitive sports tournaments.

"We learned about each other's religions and cultures by attending each other's services," said Seidel, who last year coached a Christian girls' basketball team at the festival.

"We all made friends and accepted each other," she said. "If we can all get along playing basketball, why can't the world get along?"

Alito's longer paper trail gives senators much material for questions

WASHINGTON (CNS) — As the second Supreme Court nominee in five months faced the Senate Judiciary Committee, Judge Samuel Alito Jr. encountered a hearing markedly more skeptical in tone than the one now-Chief Justice John Roberts sailed through in September.

Contributing to the difference were Alito's lengthier record of judicial opinions and a perception that Alito would be more judicially conservative than Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, whom he would replace if confirmed.

One key area on which committee members focused was Alito's writings on abortion, including his 1985 application to become deputy assistant attorney general, in which he said he personally strongly believed in the government's position that "the Constitution does not protect a right to an abortion."

Alito responded to questions about specifics of prior Supreme Court rulings

by saying that legal precedent holds great importance.

"There needs to be a special justification for overruling a prior precedent," he said.

In his opening remarks Jan. 9, Alito said that "good judges are always open to the possibility of changing their minds based on the next brief that they read or the next argument that's made by an attorney who's appearing before them, or a comment that is made by a colleague during a conference on the case."

Despite the efforts to scrutinize and criticize Alito's rulings and personal views, it seemed likely that the Senate ultimately would confirm him. He could be sworn in as soon as late January.

Alito, 55, would be the fifth Catholic on the current court, the first time Catholics would constitute a majority there. The other Catholics are Roberts and Justices Antonin Scalia, Anthony Kennedy and Clarence Thomas.

Diocesan planner

BOONE VICARIATE

BOONE — Internationally known theologian Megan McKenna will discuss *Resurrection Stories of the Gospels* at St. Elizabeth Church, 259 Pilgrims Way., Feb. 19, 12:30-2:30 p.m. McKenna uses poetry, stories and images from the Catholic tradition and other religious traditions to show how images and words are meant to convert and transform and bring meaning and hope to the world. This event is free and open to the public. For information and to register, please call Bob McHugh at (704) 753-2012 or Marie-Michele Darcy at (704) 556-1215.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

HUNTERSVILLE — Trina Palmer, executive director of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Senior Centers, will answer questions and provide literature to help seniors with decisions in selecting a *Medicare Plan*. This session will be held in the Worship Area of St. Mark Church, 14740 Stumptown Rd., Jan. 27, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. This session is open to all older adults, caregivers of older adults and soon-to-be caregivers of older adults. Registration is not required. For more information, call Mary Alice Hollars, Elder Ministry coordinator, at (704) 549-4825.

MINT HILL — Internationally known theologian Megan McKenna will discuss *Resurrection Stories of the Gospels* at St. Luke Church, 13700 Lawyers Rd., Feb. 18, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. McKenna uses poetry, stories and images from the Catholic tradition and other religious traditions to show how images and words are meant to convert and transform and bring meaning and hope to the world. This event is free and open

to the public. For information and to register, please call Bob McHugh at (704) 753-2012 or Marie-Michele Darcy at (704) 556-1215.

CHARLOTTE — St. Patrick Cathedral, 1621 Dilworth Rd. East, will host a *Pro-Life Rosary and Benediction* Jan. 17 at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited for a beautiful night of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in the cathedral. For details, call Tina Witt at (704) 846-7361.

CHARLOTTE — A *Women's Talk* will be held Jan. 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the reception room of St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd. Msgr. Mauricio W. West will be the featured speaker. For more information, call Peggy at (704) 588-7311.

CHARLOTTE — A *Silent No More* gathering will take place Jan. 19 at 12 p.m. at the corner of Trade and Tryon streets in uptown Charlotte. The nondenominational Silent No More Awareness Campaign holds rallies nationwide to inform the public about the emotional, physical and spiritual consequences of abortion. For more information, call Andrea Hines at (704) 996-4597 or e-mail HinesAL@aol.com.

CHARLOTTE — *Healing Hearts*, a support group for people coping with the death of a spouse, meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall of St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Rd. For more information, contact Sister Therese Galligan, facilitator, at (704) 362-5047, ext. 216.

HUNTERSVILLE — A *Mass to Honor Deceased Loved Ones* is celebrated the last Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. St. Mark Church, 14740 Stumptown Rd. For more information, call Pam Schneider at (704) 875-0201.

CHARLOTTE — A *Support Group for Caregivers of a Family Member with Memory Loss* meet the last Monday of each month, 10-11:30 a.m., at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd.

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-mail: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

JANUARY 13, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 14

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Christians are called to draw others to faith, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — With their witness of love, a reflection of the light of Christ, Christians are called to draw others to faith, Pope Benedict XVI said.

The light of the star of Bethlehem, which led the Magi to the baby Jesus in the manger, is the light of God, who is love, the pope said Jan. 6 as he celebrated the feast of the Epiphany of the Lord with a Mass in St. Peter's Basilica.

"The light that dawned at Christmas and today is manifest to the peoples, is the love of God revealed in the person of the Incarnate Word," the pope said.

In celebrating Christ revealed to the world as the one who reconciles everyone to God, the papal celebration of the Epiphany is also the occasion for the formal announcement of the date Easter will be celebrated, the pope said.

Easter will be celebrated April 16 this year.

In his homily, Pope Benedict said, "God revealed himself in the humility of the human form, in the condition of a servant, in fact, in the crucified one."

God's hiding in such a humble form, he said, is "the most eloquent" revelation of who God really is.

The feast of the Epiphany also reveals the mystery of the church and its mission, he said.

"It is called to make the light of Christ shine in the world, being a reflection of his light just as the moon reflects the light of the sun," the pope said. "Taught by him to live in the style of the beatitudes," members of the church "must attract all men to God through the witness of their love."

For more information, contact Suzanne Bach at (704) 376-4135.

HUNTERSVILLE — *Elizabeth Ministry* is a peer ministry comprised of St. Mark Church parishioners who have lost babies before or shortly after birth. Confidential peer ministry, information and spiritual materials are offered at no cost or obligation to anyone who has experienced miscarriage, stillbirth or the death of a newborn. For details, call Sandy Buck at (704) 948-4587.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — *Coffee Talk for Adults* will meet Jan. 15, 22 and 29, 10:30-11:15 a.m., in the Youth Room of St. Pius X Church, 2210 North Elm St. For more information, call the church office at (336) 272-468.

GREENSBORO — *The Greensboro Council of Catholic Women* is planning a covered-dish luncheon at St. Paul the Apostle Church, 2715 Horse Pen Creek Rd., Jan. 25, (snow date is Feb. 1.) 12-2 p.m. Program will be presented by Jackie Wilson of Ten Thousand Villages store. Please bring your favorite dish to share with friends. For more information, contact Carmen Wood at (336) 545-9266.

GREENSBORO — If you have a special need for prayers, or would like to offer your time in prayer for others' needs, please call the *Prayer Chain* at Our Lady of Grace Church. The Prayer Chain is a sizable group committed to praying for your needs and the needs of your family and friends on a daily basis. To request a prayer or to participate in the Prayer Chain, call the church office at (336) 274-6520, ext. 10 and leave your name, address and phone number.

HICKORY VICARIATE

HICKORY — *An American Red Cross Blood Drive* will take place at St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second Street NE., Jan. 31 2-7 p.m. in Holy Family Hall. Appointments are encouraged. For more information, call the church office at (828) 327-2341.

HICKORY — Father Robert Ferris leads a *Lectionary Bible Study* at St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St., Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor.

Anyone interested is welcome to attend. This study prepares participants for the following Sunday's Mass by reading and studying the liturgical readings for the next week. For more information on this study, contact Kathy Succop at (828) 327-2341 or stalscoordinator@charter.net.

HENDERSONVILLE — *The Widows Lunch Bunch*, sponsored by Immaculate Conception Church, meets at a different restaurant on the first Monday of each month at 11:30 a.m. Reservations are necessary. For more information and reservations, call Joan Keagle at (828) 693-4733.

NEWTON — *The Little Flowers Catholic Girls' Group* is for all Catholic girls ages 5 and up. The group meets the fourth Monday of each month at St. Joseph Church, 720 West 13th St., at 4 p.m. in the Holy Family Hall. For more details, call Debbie Vickers at (828) 495-2039.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

WINSTON-SALEM — *Thinking About Coming Home?* Our Lady of Mercy Church, 1730 Link Rd., is starting a new program for people who have been away from the Catholic Church for awhile and have thought about returning. Teams of three laypeople and one priest will meet three times in January and February to listen, answer questions and help you come back if, and when, you are ready. If you are interested in more information, please contact us at cominghomeolm@yahoo.com or call either (336) 403-5016 or (336) 240-5266.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Jan. 9-13 — Bishops' Retreat
Palm Beach, Fla.

Jan. 17 — 11 a.m. Presbyteral Council Meeting
Diocesan Pastoral Center, Charlotte

More than 800 million children are exploited, says Vatican report

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — More than 800 million children around the world are victims of malnutrition, disease, trafficking and other forms of economic and social exploitation, an annual Vatican report said.

Among the more worrisome trends are the more than 200 million child laborers between 5 and 14 years of age and the increase in street children on several continents, it said.

Millions more children are forced into armed conflict or prostitution. In many countries, births are unregistered, leaving those children open to a lifetime of exploitation, it said.

"They are the scandal of our time. For 860 million children of the world, the future is an unknown, the present is a nightmare that lies on the consciences of adults," said the report, issued Jan. 5 by Fides, the Vatican missionary news agency.

The annual report seeks to draw attention to the plight of young people on the feast of the Epiphany of the Lord, which the church marks as the world missionary day for children.

The Holy Childhood Association,

one of four pontifical mission societies, finances and supports thousands of projects aiding the neediest children in developing countries. In 2004, it allocated \$18 million for nearly 1,800 projects, including programs at schools and orphanages.

The report said that among the estimated 211 million child laborers about 171 million work in hazardous environments — operating dangerous machinery, handling toxic materials or spending hours in poorly ventilated mines, for example.

Human trafficking involves more than a million children each year, it said. The phenomenon is growing, and Europe has become a central hub for the trade in children, it said. Most of the victims are between 8 and 16 years old, destined for forced labor, criminal activities or prostitution; some newborns are also sold for adoption.

The report cited projections that in a few years the number of children in Africa orphaned by the HIV/AIDS pandemic will reach 18 million. Every minute in Africa, it said, one child contracts HIV and one child dies of AIDS.

Pope John Paul II's would-be assassin to be freed from Turkish prison

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Turkish terrorist who shot and seriously wounded Pope John Paul II in a failed 1981 assassination attempt was scheduled to be freed on parole from a Turkish prison Jan. 12.

Since his extradition from Italy to Turkey in 2000, Mehmet Ali Agca served five years of a 10-year sentence for the 1979 murder of a Turkish journalist and two robberies the same year.

But a Turkish court said Agca had completed his prison term and could be released, according to the country's semiofficial Anatolia news agency.

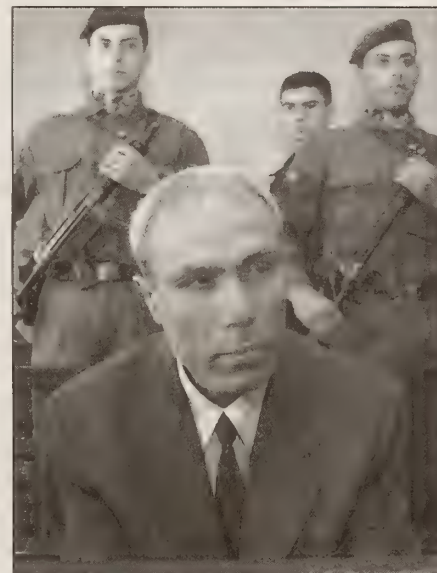
Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said Jan. 8 that the decision to release Agca should be up to the Turkish courts.

Agca, 48, had served 19 years in an Italian prison for his May 13, 1981, assassination attempt on Pope John Paul in St. Peter's Square. Just days after the near-fatal shooting, the pope publicly forgave Agca, and in 1983 embraced his would-be assassin in his Rome prison cell.

Though he was sentenced to life in prison for the shooting, Italian authorities granted Agca clemency in 2000 and returned him to Turkey. At the time, the Vatican said the pope personally intervened in the gunman's release from the Italian prison.

After returning to Turkey, Agca was sent to prison for the murder of the editor of a liberal Turkish newspaper and two robberies committed in 1979.

New Turkish laws reduced Agca's original punishment from life in prison to a 10-year sentence. Additional penal code reforms led a Turkish court recently to further deduct the years Agca



CNS PHOTO BY REUTERS

Mehmet Ali Agca, guarded by Turkish police, sits in court for a hearing in Istanbul in December 2000. Agca, the man who shot and seriously wounded Pope John Paul II in 1981, will be freed from prison this month.

served in Italian prison, thereby completing his sentence.

Cardinal Renato Martino, president of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, said his council did not want to interfere with the Turkish court's decision that determined Agca had "paid his debt to justice."

Pope John Paul's former secretary, Polish Archbishop Stanislaw Dziwisz of Krakow, said the late pope "would have celebrated" upon hearing the news of Agca's scheduled release from prison.

"The Holy Father had forgiven him from the very first moment, sincerely so, and then when he met him in jail he spoke to him like a brother," he said Jan. 9.

Archbishop Dziwisz said the pope had once asked, "How could we show ourselves before the Lord if we didn't forgive each other?"

Greensboro Hibernians donate \$6,000 to charities

Funds will assist local, overseas needy; hurricane victims

GREENSBORO — The Na Cara Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) in Greensboro the recently hosted a state board meeting in conjunction with the formal presentation of donations totaling \$6,000 to national AOH charities for Northern Ireland and the United States, as well as local and diocesan charities.

The funds were raised through the raffling of an all-expenses-paid golf trip to Ireland for four people at \$100 per ticket, with 120 tickets sold.

John J. Meehan, AOH national vice president, attended the meeting and ceremony Dec. 3, 2005 in Greensboro.

During the meeting, he was presented with checks for the Freedom for all Ireland Fund, \$450; Holy Cross/Ardoyne Trust, \$900; Project St. Patrick, \$900 by Patrick Rooney, division president.

Checks were also presented to representatives of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, \$900; Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools scholarships, \$900; Room at the Inn, \$750; St. Vincent de Paul Society, \$250; and Diocese of Charlotte seminar assistance, \$450.

The Division Charity Committee had established the allocations of all the above contributions at higher levels when they became aware of AOH members and their families in New Orleans who were in need of assistance due to Hurricane Katrina.

The committee immediately adjusted the allocations to provide \$500 for two New Orleans divisions, and division officers authorized the checks to be sent immediately to the affected divisions' presidents.

This was before the national AOH disaster relief fund was established, because the officers felt the situation was critical and time was of the essence.

The \$900 donation to Cystic Fibrosis Foundation was given in honor of the Tamborino family, whose several young children suffer from cystic fibrosis. The children's father, Frank Tamborino, is a former grand knight of the Knights of Columbus council, which also includes many AOH members.

Tamborino's wife, Norine, and their children were present and offered their sincere gratitude to the AOH for the donation for research to find a cure.

Each representative of the benefit-

ing charities also spoke in gratitude to the AOH.

"The Na Cara Division members are proud and happy to have been able to provide help to so many people through these charities," said Michael Slane, state director of AOH.

A principal objective of the Na Cara Division in the distribution of the funds was to promote awareness of the AOH — who they are and what they represent — and their presence in the community and the Diocese of Charlotte as a force for good, as well to emphasize the growth and related charitable work being done by the AOH in the South with the brotherhood.

History of the Ancient Order of Hibernians

The Ancient Order of Hibernians is the oldest Catholic lay organization in America.

Formed in New York in 1836, it is the fusion of several organizations derived from a common source born in anger centuries earlier in Ireland.

Beginning in the sixth century, Ireland was subjected to a series of invasions by those who would master the Irish and alter their Gaelic life style. Inflexible opponents like the Vikings were fought until their power was broken; others, like the Normans, were absorbed until they became as Irish as the Irish themselves.

Through it all, the Irish maintained their heritage: language, traditions and religion. The 16th century however, brought their greatest challenge.

The divisions and Hibernian halls across the country have traditionally provided a welcome for new immigrants. Here, the unique art, dance, music and other interests of the Irish are fostered and preserved, making the AOH a home away from home for many.

Together, they are at the forefront of support for issues concerning the Irish such as emigration reform and the Right to Life.

They serve Catholic Church while never forgetting their ancestral homeland, and can always be found actively lobbying, praying, and working for the total independence of a united 32-county Ireland.

New country, new life — new skills



COURTESY PHOTO

Marianne Palafox, English as a Second Language family literacy coordinator for Central Piedmont Community College, presents a certificate of achievement to a Vietnamese refugee who completed a seven-week ESL course.

Catholic Social Services offers language, job skills

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Thanks to Catholic Social Services and Central Piedmont Community College, 17 recent refugees to the Charlotte area now have the English-language and job skills needed to seek jobs in the hospitality industry.

An instructor from CPCC's Pathways to Employment program taught the free classes to the refugees using an apartment rented by CSS.

Pathways to Employment is funded by the state of North Carolina and through grants from organizations including the United Way of the Carolinas and the N.C. Community College System.

Pathways is a community-based initiative that CPCC, CSS, the Department of Social Services, community businesses and other organizations utilize to move participants from welfare to work.

In an effort to meet the needs of the community, CPCC developed a flexible, short-term program that provides academic, social and job-specific training designed to prepare students to enter the workforce as skilled employees.

The CSS-sponsored course focused on English as a Second Language and hospitality skills, such as how to set up and clean a hotel room, said Jennifer Girard, coordinator of the ESL for the diocesan CSS Refugee Resettlement office.

At the end of the seven-week pro-

gram, the students received a certificate to mark their achievement. Representatives from CSS and CPCC were on-hand for a graduation ceremony Dec. 16.

The ceremony was the first such event for most of the refugees, many of whom have only a third- or fourth-grade education. They are Montagnards from Vietnam, where Christians are often persecuted; and Somali Bantu fleeing civil war and ethnic persecution in Somalia.

"The outcome the state looks for — employment for refugees — is one of CSS's goals as well," said Girard.

Girard hopes to expand the program to include other industries, without additional cost, by continuing to use CSS space and state-funded instructors employed by CPCC.

Two new groups of students began ESL classes Jan. 11.

"The demand for classes is increasing due to the arrival of more refugees, without additional funding," said Girard.

In December 2005, 85 Montagnard refugees arrived in Charlotte from Vietnam.

If you would like to volunteer with CSS Refugee Resettlement office, please contact Mary Jane Bruton, volunteer coordinator, at (704) 370-3283.

NEW COVENANT BOOKSTORE

- Books
- Cards
- Videos
- Jewelry
-and more!

336-760-1673

304 Upton St.,
Winston-Salem, NC
www.newcovenantbookstore.com

You could be singing too after more than 125,000 readers see YOUR company's ad here!

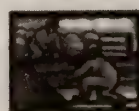


LOW ad rates - easy for small businesses and individuals, too!

Call (704) 370-3332 now!

THE
CATHOLIC
NEWS & HERALD

AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles
Licensed & Insured
FREE ESTIMATES
www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185

'They were going to work very hard for the people they loved.'

Bishop celebrates Mass to remember miners

MINERS, from page 1

McCloy Jr., the only survivor.

Philippi lost three of its residents in the incident, and Bishop Bransfield came to celebrate the Mass to help foster healing and to bring comfort to the community.

The bishop said the black ribbons that draped the front doors of St. Elizabeth Church "signify the sorrow of all of us for the miners who have perished, the one who remains ill and for their families who continue to suffer through these difficult days."

Concelebrating the Mass with the bishop were Father Andy Kranyc, pastor of St. Elizabeth, and Msgr. Mark Ward, pastor of St. Zita Church in Masontown.

During the Mass, Bishop Bransfield thanked Father Kranyc for being present to the families of the miners as they waited for news of their loved ones and for consoling them after they learned of their deaths.

"He was the best representation the church in West Virginia could have," the bishop said, receiving a round of applause from Father Kranyc's congregation in response.

For their families

During his homily, Bishop Bransfield said that not long after he became bishop of Wheeling-Charleston last February, his secretary, Father Paul Hudock, took him to Beckley to tour an area coal mine.

"In seeing this, I had to wonder how difficult it was for these men to work under such conditions," Bishop Bransfield said. "I'm sure that everyone asks, the world asks and our American community asks why people work in these tough places. The answer is their families."

"These men work so hard to achieve a living — a good living — so that they can be good to their children, grandchildren and extended family," he said.

This is the culture of West Virginia, where family is valued and is given priority, he added. He also talked about the work ethic of the people of the Mountain State in providing for their families.

"I'm sure that when these 13 men went in there, their work ethic was clear," Bishop Bransfield said. "They were going to work very hard for the people they loved and for the achievement of the best life for them."

"When our prayers go out to them, we recognize that their vocation, their drive, their willingness to do this under such difficult conditions were not for themselves," he added. "It was for the love of others, which Christ tells us is — with the love of God — the paramount reason that we live."

Those left behind

Concern should now be focused on support for the families of the miners and helping them through their grief, he said.

Through the celebration of the Mass, the church prays that the 12 miners will be cared for by a loving Christ, he added, noting that the greatest reward is resur-



CNS PHOTO BY COLLEEN ROWAN, CATHOLIC SPIRIT

Robert and Barbara Bradley and other members of St. Elizabeth Church in Philippi, W.Va., pray during a Jan. 8 Mass. The community was mourning the loss of three of its members in the Sago Coal Mine explosion in which 12 miners were killed Jan. 2.

rection, which God promises to everyone.

"As a faith-filled state with many, many Christians who do believe that these men have gone to the Lord, it is important that our prayers" continue, Bishop Bransfield said.

"It is our obligation as a community to pray for and support the families left behind, that they are not left behind in another sense of community, that our communities are strong, are vibrant and loving, and that will be shown to the world by the people of West Virginia," he said.

"These men worked hard for the people they loved, just as the Lord loves us. Their passage, we pray, will be one as triumphant as our lord and savior Jesus

Christ," said Bishop Bransfield.

Following the Mass, Bishop Bransfield spoke with the people of the parish, who said they appreciated his presence during this difficult time.

"I would like to thank the bishop for coming. That meant a lot to me," said Steve Guire, a coal miner who is also a St. Elizabeth parishioner. "It just strengthened everyone to know that the bishop cares enough to come."

Bishop Bransfield celebrated the funeral Mass for miner Terry Helms Jan. 10 at St. Zita Church in Masontown, along with Father Ward and Msgr. Jerome McKenna, vicar general of the diocese who is a former pastor of the parish.

West Virginia priest kept vigil with miners' families in tragedy

SAGO, W.Va. (CNS) — When Father Andy Kranyc heard the news of the Jan. 2 explosion at the Sago Coal Mine in Upshur County, which trapped 13 coal miners 260 feet underground, he immediately left to be with the families.

As the son and grandson of Pennsylvania coal miners, Father Kranyc knew well the dangers of the coal mining industry and wanted to be present for the families as they waited to hear the fate of their loved ones.

Upon his arrival he learned that three of the miners were from his community of Philippi, roughly 25 miles from Sago, where he is pastor of St. Elizabeth Church.

Father Kranyc stayed with the families through the duration of the ordeal. He was with them late in the evening on Jan. 3 in the Sago Baptist Church when they were told that 12 of the 13 miners were alive.

Unbeknown to the families, Father Kranyc and ministers of other religious denominations inside the church, the news was wrong and the reality was that

all but one of the miners were found dead. Only 27-year-old Randal McCloy was clinging to life.

Father Kranyc said it was difficult to watch the jubilation of the families dissolve into overwhelming despair and disbelief.

"It was just devastating when the bad news came," he said. "People just couldn't believe it. It was awful."

As the hours passed, Father Kranyc stayed with the families to guide them through this difficult time and to comfort them in their pain and grief. He said he and the other ministers helped them to remember that God was present through this tragedy.

"God could be found with the trapped miners and suffering with them and their families," Father Kranyc said.

The families held on to their faith before and after learning of the deaths of the miners, the priest said, adding that they prayed together asking that God's will be done and for the strength to accept whatever that may be.

I leave a Legacy Through an Endowment

When you establish an endowment with the diocesan foundation, you...

Enable Perpetual Support. Every year, your "legacy" flows with financial aid to the ministry you choose.

Ensure a Strong Future. Allow a parish, school, agency or the diocese to look ahead and plan with confidence.

Enact a Lasting Legacy. Provide your loved ones with a continuing reminder of your values — your faith and the mission of the church.



To receive the free booklet "Better Estate Planning" contact Judy Smith, Director of Planned Giving, 704-370-3320; 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203. jmsmith@charlottediocese.org.

SEEKING 'SHELTER'

Traditional Hispanic celebration re-enacted at St. Gabriel Church

BY ANA NARANJO LOTHSPREICH
SPECIAL TO
THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

CHARLOTTE — An old Hispanic tradition recently came alive in Charlotte.

More than 250 people attended "Las Posadas," a night of bilingual prayer, song and celebration at St. Gabriel Church Charlotte Dec. 20.

The event, celebrated since colonial times in towns across Latin America, is a re-enactment of the Holy Family's journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem.

In Latin America, particularly Mexico, the "Las Posadas" ("shelter") usually includes an outdoor procession from the church to a family's home, repeating the procession to a different house for nine consecutive days.

The "Las Posadas" presentation at St. Gabriel Church was combined with another Hispanic tradition, the Christmas novena, as a result of the Hispanic parishioners' desire to share their traditions with fellow Catholics during the Christmas season.

Twenty adults and children from the parish's Hispanic community played roles or participated in the program, pre-

pared by the church's Hispanic ministry and their choir, Alegria Hispana.

A part of the celebration is the presence of the "santos peregrinos" ("holy pilgrims"), or Mary and Joseph. Two people, children or adults, dress for the role, or the pilgrims may be represented by statues that are carried in the procession.

On their way to their destination, the pilgrims look for a place to rest while those around them deny them shelter.

In Latin America, people usually gather to pray the Christmas novena starting on Dec. 16. The Christmas novena, like many popular Hispanic devotions, is geared around the rosary with various meditations and reflections.

Families organize the novenas at different homes each night and share in the anticipation and reverence of the season.

"We know that many people couldn't meet daily for the Christmas novena, so we wanted to share in one day the story from the Bible that tells us about all that happened, from the annunciation of St. Gabriel to Mary until the birth of Jesus," said Father Edward Sheridan, pastor of St. Gabriel Church.

"We are very pleased with this first-time celebration of 'Las Posadas' that has united our Hispanic community with the rest of the parish," he said. "The English-speaking guests who attended tonight are very enthusiastic to share in this tradition and are eager to attend again next year."

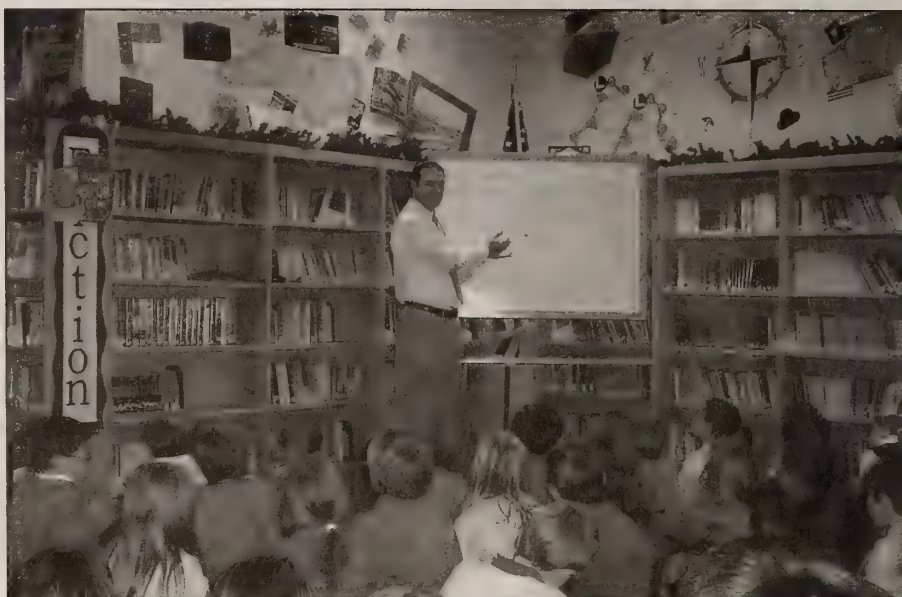
Ana Naranjo Lothspeich, originally from Ecuador, is the Hispanic ministry coordinator at St. Gabriel Church.



COURTESY PHOTO

Two members of St. Gabriel Church's Hispanic community portray the Holy Family en route to Bethlehem, part of the "Las Posadas" program performed at the church Dec. 20.

Enlightening Hanukkah



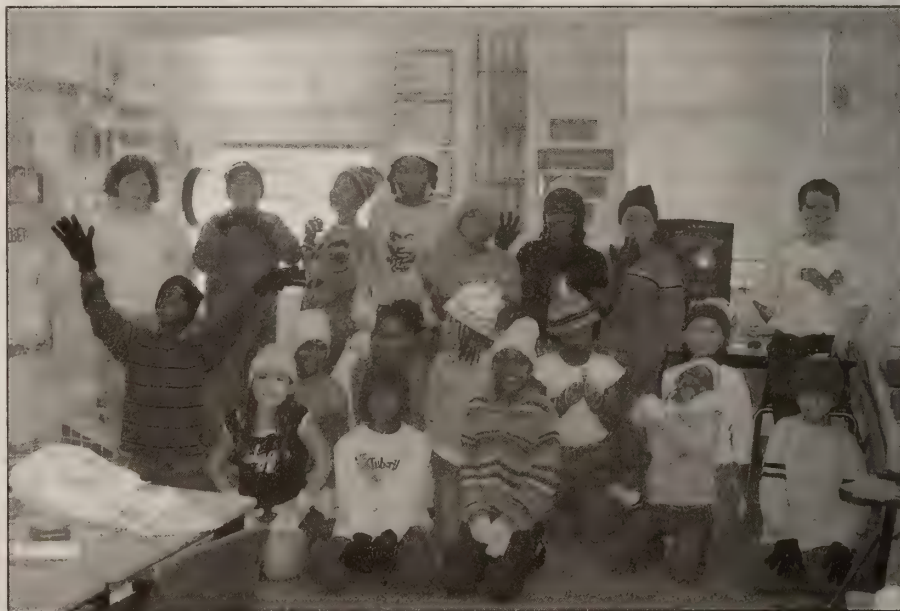
COURTESY PHOTO

Rabbi Jeremy Barras from Temple Beth El in Charlotte talks with third-graders at St. Matthew School in Charlotte Dec. 12.

The rabbi spoke to the students about the Jewish religion and Hanukkah, the eight-day Jewish Feast of Lights, commemorating the rededication of the Temple by Judas Macabaeus in 165 A.D. On the eve of each successive day of the feast, one more candle on the nine-candle Hanukkah menorah is lighted, so that on the eve of the eighth day all nine — the kindling candle plus the eight used to mark the days — are lighted.

"(Rabbi Barras) was fantastic and the students loved listening to him," said Deborah Lee, school librarian.

'Warm Hearts, Warm Hands'



COURTESY PHOTO

Students from Immaculate Heart of Mary School in High Point flank students of Fairview Elementary School, who are wearing their new winter hats and gloves Dec. 18.

Approximately 500 hats, gloves and mittens were collected by Immaculate Heart of Mary School families and donated to Fairview Elementary students for the Catholic school's "Warm Hearts, Warm Hands" project, part of its Advent outreach program.

Fairview Elementary is a "partner school" of Immaculate Heart of Mary School for the 2005-06 school year.

In November 2005, Immaculate Heart of Mary School's annual book fair raised money to purchase books for Fairview Elementary's library. Beginning this January, Immaculate Heart of Mary middle-school students will tutor Fairview Elementary students each week.

Featuring Blue Diamond Exclusively



Malak Jewelers

At the Arboretum (St. Matthew parishioners)

We extend to you the very finest in Jewelry and Service...

Largest Selection - Best Quality & Prices Guaranteed

Certified Loose Diamonds
Platinum, Gold, Fine Jewelry
Sterling silver and watches
Estate Jewelry - Buy & Sell

26 years of Integrity and Experience!

(704) 341-1188 www.malakjewelers.com
8042-800 Providence Rd., Charlotte



Now featuring special
sterling silver medallion
of Pope John Paul II -
complimentary with
purchases over \$50
(one per purchase)

Senate likely to swap for House immigration bill

BILL, from page 1

to its tastes, or just chuck it onto a back shelf and then rally behind a different bill with a better chance of passing in the upper body of Congress.

The 257-page House legislation focuses entirely on enforcement. It includes provisions to criminalize violations of immigration law, including the act of providing aid to illegal immigrants; would make it harder for legal immigrants to become citizens; and would penalize state and local governments that do not pointedly enforce immigration laws, currently only a responsibility of federal agencies.

It would eliminate a visa lottery program that allows up to 50,000 people a year from certain countries to enter the United States legally and would build 700 miles of new fence along the 2,000-mile border with Mexico.

The bill also would expand the employment authorization verification program, while not replacing the flawed database employers use for checking documents.

Not included in the bill were provisions encouraged by President George W. Bush to address U.S. demand for workers from other countries and to provide a way for the millions of people already in the country illegally to regularize their status.

Other options

Organizations that back a more comprehensive approach to immigration



CNS PHOTO BY LUIS GOMEZ

Washington Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick listens to Mounirou Tchagbadou from Togo Jan. 5 at the archdiocesan Refugee Center of Catholic Community Services. The center is part of the church's outreach to refugees.

reform, including the Catholic Church, have thrown their support behind other bills, particularly one sponsored by Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Edward Kennedy, D-Mass.

That bill includes enforcement changes as well as a new worker visa program; improvements in legal immigration procedures so families can be reunited more quickly; and ways for immigrants already in the country illegally

to pay a fine and adjust their status.

The Senate is expected to take up immigration legislation in February. Although the House bill passed by a large majority, few observers expect it to have much support in the Senate. Some predicted it wouldn't get past being assigned to a committee.

Still, as Washington got back to work after the holidays, opponents of H.R. 4437 were taking every opportunity to express their worries about its potential impact.

Catholic concerns

Washington Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick told reporters Jan. 5 that the U.S. bishops are "very concerned about this." One particular worry is that provisions to criminalize immigration violations would be applied to church workers who help needy people without regard for immigration status.

Under current law, being in the country illegally violates only civil law, not criminal codes. By making immigration violations a crime, those who even unknowingly assist people who are in the country illegally could be subject to prosecution.

"People who are trying to help immigrants will be finding themselves turned into criminals," Cardinal McCarrick said. "That's going to include people at churches."

For such church programs to screen out needy people based on their immigration status is not an option, he said, "if you want to do what the Lord told you to do."

In a statement, Don Kerwin, director of the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, known as CLINIC, warned that the bill would overturn two Supreme Court rulings that mandate fair treatment and due process for immigrants who are detained indefinitely by the Department of Homeland Security

'People who are trying to help immigrants will be finding themselves turned into criminals. That's going to include people at churches.'

because they cannot be deported to their home countries.

Those rulings led to a reversal of a previous policy of arbitrarily imprisoning people for years after they had served any criminal sentences when they could not be deported for a variety of reasons, such as a lack of diplomatic relations with the home country.

Kerwin said that under the House bill "we can expect, at minimum, an increase of thousands of indefinite detainees in U.S. detention facilities."

"This would be a huge step backwards," he added. "We should not expand a legal black hole that leaves migrants imprisoned in legal limbo."

Shared criticisms

During a telephone press conference held as the House debated the bill in mid-December, representatives from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the Service Employees International Union, Americans for Tax Reform and the Manhattan Institute joined Bishop Thomas G. Wenski of Orlando, Fla., in criticizing the bill as inadequate and punitive.

Though the interest groups seemed to have common ground only in finding the House bill somehow inadequate, a criticism many shared was its failure to recognize that enforcement alone won't end illegal immigration.

Tamar Jacoby, of the Manhattan Institute, said the House bill takes an ostrichlike approach. Focusing only on enforcement fails to address the economic demand for foreign workers and will drive illegal immigrants further into the shadows of society, she said.

Bishop Wenski said among the House bill's failings is that it ignores the need to help legal immigrants reunite their families. The wait for family reunification visas is as long as 10 years, he pointed out, which adds to the pressure on people to enter the United States illegally.

Frank Sharry, director of the National Immigration Forum, which organized the press conference, said the bill also was supported because the House Republican leadership warned members they might be portrayed as opposed to border enforcement if they voted no.


"We're convinced there is bipartisan majority support for a centrist approach," Sharry said, adding that Senate Judiciary Committee leaders have indicated their interest in a more comprehensive bill.

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels. 

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooreville
704-663-1065

IN THE NEWS

Survey says majority of Hispanics call themselves pro-life

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A survey of Hispanics reported that 57 percent identify themselves as pro-life and support laws requiring parental notification before a daughter under 18 years old can get an abortion.

The survey said only 27 percent identified themselves as pro-choice and 36 percent opposed parental notification before a minor's abortion.

The survey by the Washington-based Latino Coalition, an independent organization specializing in issues affecting Hispanics, was released in Washington Jan. 5.

It reported the responses of 1,000 adult Hispanics surveyed Dec. 10-13 on public policy issues and had a margin of error of plus or minus 3.1 percent.

Seventy percent of the respondents identified themselves as Catholics.

Regarding gay marriage, 62 percent said they opposed it.

On immigration issues, the survey reported that 86 percent favored a temporary worker program that would allow illegal immigrants to legalize their status and permit future immigrants to legally enter the U.S.

Almost 56 percent opposed any new laws that would require employers to hire only workers legally in the country and 53 percent opposed increasing the number of Border Patrol agents along the U.S.-Mexican border.

Robert Deposada, Latino Coalition president, said a breakdown of the results, however, shows a marked difference on specific immigration issues between Hispanic voters who have been in the United States for a long time and recent immigrants who cannot vote.

Voters are better off economically "and tend to be more focused on issues that affect their pocketbooks like taxes, education and health care," Deposada said in a news release about the survey.

"The more recent immigrants tend to have lower incomes, speak mostly Spanish only and are more concerned over immigration policies and language barriers," he said.

Regarding immigration, voters favor stricter border control measures and stiffer penalties against illegal immigrants, he said.

But 82 percent of voters also favor a temporary worker program, said Deposada.

The survey showed that 50 percent of the voters favor increasing Border Patrol agents along the southern U.S. border while 65 percent of the nonvoters opposed increasing the number of agents.

Regarding hiring, 50 percent of voters favor new laws requiring employers to hire only people legally in the country, while 65 percent of the nonvoters oppose such laws.

High school seniors feel abortion is wrong, favor curbs, shows survey

SURVEY, from page 1

sponses to more detailed questions on circumstances in which it should be allowed showed "most seniors regard abortion as morally wrong" and that they "would significantly limit" when a woman could have an abortion.

On abortion issues, the views of seniors who identified themselves as Catholics paralleled the general results, although there was a higher adherence to church teachings among Catholics who said that they went to church more than four times a month.

The survey of 1,000 public and private school seniors was conducted by Hamilton College in Clinton, N.Y., and the polling firm of Zogby International. It was made public at a Jan. 5 news conference in Washington.

The margin of error for the entire survey is plus or minus 3 percent and the margin of error for the 255 Catholic respondents is 6.4 percent.

"The issue of abortion has become so divisive within our country, but we can be thankful that the Catholic Church gives a clear message that life is sacred from conception until natural death," said Maggi Nadol, director of the diocesan Respect Life Office.

"Giving a clear message based on God as the Author of Life, is the teaching we want to hand down to our youth; the message we pray they live and embrace," she said.

The survey showed that seniors are "remarkably conservative on issues surrounding abortion," said an analysis of the poll written by Dennis Gilbert, Hamilton sociology professor and head of the survey team.

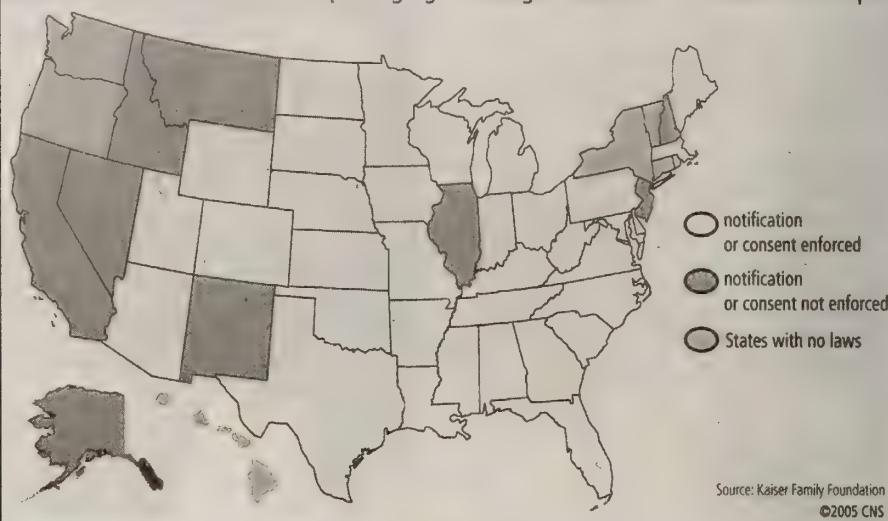
"Religion and reported church attendance are powerful influences on abortion ... opinions," said Gilbert. "Born-again Christians and those who attend services four or more times a month are notably more conservative on (this issue)."

The overall survey reported that 62 percent of the seniors supported the 1973 Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion, but it also showed there was widespread support for limiting access to abortion.

Almost half of the seniors opposed a

Parental Consent and Notification Laws by State

In 35 states, minors must notify or get consent from a parent or guardian to have an abortion. Similar laws in 9 states are on hold pending legal challenges. Six states have no laws on the topic.



right to abortion for girls who are under 18 and are unmarried and in cases where the baby would probably be born with birth defects. Seventy-two percent opposed abortion in the case of a married woman who does not want another child and 60 percent opposed abortion in the case of a woman who is from a poor family that cannot afford more children.

Two-thirds of the respondents would require parental consent before a girl under 18 could have an abortion.

The only strong support for abortion was in cases where the pregnancy was a serious threat to the mother's health (89 percent) and in cases of rape (81 percent).

When asked if they would consider an abortion, 70 percent of the female students said "no." Sixty-seven percent of the male seniors said "no" when asked if they would want their girlfriend to have an abortion.

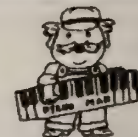
Regarding the morality of abortion, 23 percent said it was always wrong and 44 percent said it was usually wrong. Only 4 percent said it was always acceptable and 28 percent said it was usually acceptable.

Regarding Catholics' answers on abortion, 38 percent of the less frequent churchgoers considered themselves pro-life while 60 percent of the more frequent churchgoers called themselves pro-life.

Among the more frequent church-

goers, 25 percent said abortion should always be illegal and 33 percent said it should be illegal most of the time. For those who go to church less than four times a month, 10 percent said it should be illegal all of the time and 32 percent said it should be illegal most of the time.

30 YEARS EXPERIENCE



ALICE & THE PYANO MAN

Henry C. Rozell III

2nd Generation

Piano Tuner/Technician

Piano Tuning, Repairs, Refinishing

Pianos Bought and Sold

FREE ESTIMATES

704-321-5843

Cell: 704-562-5394



Carolina Funeral & Cremation Center

Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212

704-568-0023

www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma

Owner/Director

Privately, Locally Owned

Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus



Let stairs be our problem... not yours!

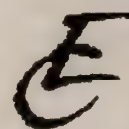
Ask about our Stairway lifts.

- Easily attached to steps (not walls)
- Folds out of the way
- Fits most stairways (straight & curved)
- Very affordable (rent or buy)
- We install

Chair & Equipment Rentals & Sales, Inc.

800 Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC • (800) 333-8431

Member of St. Thomas Aquinas



'Endowments are opportunities ... to provide for the future of the parish.'

St. Pius X Church reaches \$1 million in endowments

LEGACY, from page 1

seems parishioners from decades ago had the foresight to leave a legacy and an endowment so even though they might be gone, the mission of their church would continue."

"Five years ago, the endowment for our parish totaled \$50,000," said Msgr. Marcaccio. "Thanks to the incredible generosity of our parishioners, our endowments now total more than \$1 million."

The foundation provides endowments for the Diocese of Charlotte and its parishes, agencies and organizations. An endowment is a permanent fund in which the principal is never touched.

The income may be used in accordance with the wishes of the donor organization or individual. Once an endowment is established, anyone may contribute to the fund.

Any diocesan entity may establish an endowment with \$2,500 seed money. An individual or family may establish a named endowment with \$25,000.

St. Pius X Church currently has

three educational and four parish endowments established with the foundation — three set up by the parish, two by individual families and two through designations in a parishioner's estate plans.

St. Pius X Church's endowments provide a variety of financial support, including tuition assistance for Catholic school students and assistance for the general, pastoral, spiritual and educational needs of the parish.

The parish's endowments grew in five ways, according to Jim Kelley, executive director, of the foundation: two estate gifts from Roger Kavanagh, fundraising events, one-time gifts, Msgr. Marcaccio requesting contributions and the return on investments of the endowment principle.

"One concern pastoral leaders have is that focusing on endowments or planned giving will negatively impact the weekly offertory," said Kelley. "In fact, estate gifts don't come from income, but from assets."

St. Pius X Church endowed the parish at the same time it paid off the new athletic facility; purchased and paid off a new rectory; made improvements to the church properties; and retired the debt of

the parish center and middle school expansion. During that time, the parish also increased its offertory, as well as the number and scope of parish ministries.

"Some pastors and finance councils are of the mind that you might want to wait to begin an endowment," said Msgr. Marcaccio. "I think that's a huge mistake. Endowments are opportunities for individuals to provide for the future of the parish or institution they cherish. People want to ensure that the things they love will continue to touch the lives of future generations."

Through the creation of endowments, the foundation provides a means to generate future and sustainable income for Catholic entities throughout the diocese.

"While we continue to increase our strong situation through the stewardship of all that is entrusted to us, there is much, much more to be done," said Msgr. Marcaccio. "We wish to continue our outreach to our community in Greensboro and to provide our school with more financial assistance for tuition."

"Together we have set an endowment goal of \$800,000 solely for tuition assistance, so that more children might benefit from a faith-filled education," he said.

Currently, 46 parishes, 13 schools and 12 diocesan agencies have at least one endowment set up through the foundation.

"We've found that the entities that encourage donating to their endowment receive the most contributions," said



PHOTO BY GEORGE COBB

St. Pius X Church in Greensboro recently became the first parish in the diocese to reach the \$1 million mark in endowments.

Kelley. "It is our hope that, over time, each parish, school and agency in the Diocese of Charlotte will have at least one endowment established for its long-term financial security."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on the diocesan foundation and endowments, please call Jim Kelley at (704) 370-3301 or e-mail jkelley@charlottediocese.org.


ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO THE HARVEST?

Then he said to His disciples, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers for His harvest." (Mt 9:37)

I am praying that you will join me in responding to our Lord's request for more "laborers" in harvesting the abundant fruit to be found at Belmont Abbey College. Over 125 years ago the Benedictine Monks came south in response to God's call to begin His work in the vineyard of North Carolina.

He is calling you to place your hands upon the same bricks that were formed and put in place by these holy monks so long ago. I am looking for strong, dedicated, Catholic students to help realize our vision of excellence and virtue. Belmont Abbey is your Catholic College and God is calling you to the "harvest."

Dr. William K. Thierfelder
President


**BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE**
THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED



☐ I WANT TO HELP BUILD OUR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY. PLEASE SEND ME A STUDENT REFERRAL PACKAGE.

If you would like to help Belmont Abbey College by referring or becoming a new student, please fill out this form and send it to us or go online to BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu and click on Referral Package in the Quick Links. We will send you our complete referral/information package with detailed information about the Abbey and all it has to offer!

Your Name _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____
Email _____
Phone _____ No. of Packages Requested _____

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
100 BELMONT-MT. HOLLY ROAD
BELMONT, NC 28012-1802
BELMONTABBEYCOLLEGE.EDU

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Faithbooking

Those who make faith scrapbooks say the albums record God's presence

BY JENNIFER BURKE
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — With an estimated 25 million enthusiasts, "scrapbooking" is a hot hobby right now, according to the Craft and Hobby Association.

But another approach to preserving memories also has quietly gained popularity. "Faithbooking," as it is often called, is not only about preserving memories and photographs but is also about leaving a record of the ways God has worked in a person's life, said Kimberli Brackett.

Brackett is a member of Faithbuilders, a ministry of Christian women who teach nondenominational retreats and seminars about women's spirituality. She also works as a consultant for a scrapbooking company.

Scrapbookers preserve memories by using photographs, stickers and a variety of other tools. Scrapbooking has turned into a \$2.5 billion dollar industry with about 4,000 independent stores selling scrapbooking supplies in the United States, according to the association.

"I think that people really want to preserve their memories so future generations know about them and their lives. It's kind of like getting back to basics," said Terri Martone, co-owner of Scrapbook Creations in Fairport.

On the surface, scrapbooking and faithbooking seem similar. Each involves putting photographs into an album and writing a few thoughts about the memories represented in the albums, but the similarities end there, Brackett said.

The purpose of a faith album is to glorify God, so journal entries should explain how God's presence and work can be seen in the accompanying photographs, Brackett said.

Instead of simply recording the basic information about what is happening in a photograph, faithbookers try to look at it through God's eyes and show future generations what an individual's journey with the Lord has looked like, she added.

Emphasis in a faith album is placed on the spiritual aspect of the pages instead of the decorative aspect, said Sandra Joseph, president of Reminders of Faith, a publishing company specializing in the Christian scrapbook market.

Scrapbookers are often concerned about using the latest techniques and creating complex layouts for their scrapbook pages. Ten years from now those pages might be out of style, but the memories written upon the pages of a faith album will always have value, she said.

In a scrapbook Joseph's grandmother made many years ago, she wrote about the emotional struggles her husband endured when the family was quarantined with polio. Joseph's grandfather thought he had done something wrong to cause his family's illness, and he struggled with his faith, Joseph said.

Reading this story helped Joseph gain a deeper understanding of her grandfather, which she would not have gotten by simply looking at his photograph.

"He was a man who was faithful to God. He struggled through it, persevered through it, and that makes him so real," Joseph said.

"That's what's important to know; that's what helps us hang onto our faith," she said. "Yes, we've had to struggle, but yes, God was faithful, and the same God will be faithful to you."

The Bible could be considered a scrapbook or faith album because it is a record of the early Christians' struggles and lives, she added.

Both Joseph and Brackett believe Christians are called through the Bible to leave a record of God's hand in their lives for future generations. In the fourth chapter of the Book of Joshua, God told the Israelites to leave 12 stones by the bank of the Jordan river to remind their ancestors of the way he had helped them cross the river.

Faith albums can be the "stones" people today leave for the next generation, Joseph said.

The 78th Psalm reminds God's people to tell future generations about his power and praiseworthy deeds.

"We have taken that as verbally and forgotten that the most permanent way we can do that is to write things down. It's this real easy way to show what God has done in our lives," Brackett said.

Any photograph can be used in a faith album, Joseph said. A faith album can also include prayers, inspirational quotes and journal entries about the spiritual markers in one's own life, Brackett said.

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: JAN. 22, 2006

Jan. 22, Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Jonah 3:1-5, 10
Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9
- 2) 1 Corinthians 7:29-31
- 3) Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

When Jesus calls, we must sacrifice

BY JEAN DENTON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

In the beginning of this weekend's Gospel we find Simon and Andrew tossing out their nets in the hope of catching some fish. When Jesus calls to them, saying in effect "leave your work, your boat and your father and follow me because I need you to be reaching for something more than fish," they do it.

Simon's and Andrew's response has dual parts:

- 1) They leave their nets.
- 2) They follow Jesus.

The first part requires sacrifice, the second, trust.

During the last many months I've been watching one of our adult children struggle with searching for a job. She claims she has no direction because she doesn't have a particular "passion" as her siblings do.

Most of her family and close friends

easily recognize what she is passionate about: counseling at-risk children and young teens, and helping them develop social skills to change their life paths.

Friends, family and a few professionals also recognize that she is gifted with the natural abilities that assure her work in this field would make a difference in many lives if she follows the call of her passion.

The problem is she won't, figuratively, leave her nets. Additional education — grad school — is required, and she doesn't want to make the sacrifice of time, money or effort in the classroom. My guess is that she doesn't recognize the call or doesn't trust its truth enough to risk the sacrifice.

We aren't surprised that Simon and Andrew leave and follow because we know where they are going and that great things will happen to them — and to those to whom they will minister. But it's harder to make that decision to step out in trust from the front end.

This passage suggests that we must not only watch and listen for Jesus' call, but we also must be prepared for the sacrifice it will require. The example of Simon and Andrew reminds us that to follow Jesus, with all the attendant peaks and valleys along the journey, eventually will bring the great things of God.

Questions:

What "passion" or tugging at your heart might currently be the calling of God? What keeps you from responding or what sacrifice might be required to follow?

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF JAN. 15-21

Sunday (Second Sunday in Ordinary Time), 1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19, 1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20, John 1:35-42; **Monday,** 1 Samuel 15:16-23, Mark 2:18-22; **Tuesday (St. Anthony),** 1 Samuel 16:1-13, Mark 2:23-28; **Wednesday,** 1 Samuel 17:32-33, 37, 40-51, Mark 3:1-6; **Thursday,** 1 Samuel 18:6-8; 19:1-7, Mark 3:7-12; **Friday (Sts. Fabian and Sebastian),** 1 Samuel 24:3-21, Mark 3:13-19; **Saturday (St. Agnes),** 2 Samuel 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27, Mark 3:20-21.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF JAN. 22-28

Sunday (Third Sunday in Ordinary Time), Jonah 3:1-5, 10, 1 Corinthians 7:29-31, Mark 1:14-20; **Monday,** 2 Samuel 5:1-7, 10, Mark 3:22-30; **Tuesday (St. Francis de Sales),** 2 Samuel 6:12-15, 17-19, Mark 3:31-35; **Wednesday (Conversion of Paul),** Acts 22:3-16, Mark 16:15-18; **Thursday (St. Timothy and Titus),** Titus 1:1-5, Mark 4:21-25; **Friday (St. Angela Merici),** 2 Samuel 11:1-4, 5-10, 13-17, Mark 4:26-34; **Saturday (St. Thomas Aquinas),** 2 Samuel 12:1-7, 10-17, Mark 4:35-41.

The **Catholic Company**

Lake Norman Book Store
maryimmaculata.com

CAROLINA CATHOLIC
BOOKSHOPPE

Mon. thru Sat.
10 am - 6 pm



Now 2 COMPLETE Catholic stores for

- Unique gifts & cards
- Books, rosaries, medals
- Previously read book section (at Lake Norman)
- Video rentals
- Artwork

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

Tastefully Yours Catering
Delicious Menus for You and Your Guests
1401 S Church Street - Suite A - Charlotte, NC 28203
704.632.8040 - tastefullycarolina.com
Located in Charlotte's Southend

Full Service Caterer
Holiday Parties
Receptions
Rehearsal Dinners
Engagement Parties
Bridal Showers
Spa Parties
Visit our cafe for a sampling of the possibilities!
(Wedding tastings by appointment only)



Construction has begun and we're on our way!

It's a new year, full of resolution and hope for the future. It's also a new beginning at Pennybyrn at Maryfield, for you and your retirement future. Construction has started on what will be the area's most sought-after retirement address. Don't hesitate to inquire about this enriching lifestyle offering unparalleled services and amenities as well as the security of on-site health care. Soon, Pennybyrn will be a reality — a new beginning for you and your retirement future — act now!

Call (336) 886-4103 or toll-free (866) 627-9343 to learn more about the exciting developments at Pennybyrn at Maryfield.

PENNYBYRN
at MARYFIELD
A Continuing Care Retirement Community

Sponsored by the Sisters of The Poor Servants of The Mother of God

1315 Greensboro Road, High Point, NC 27260
www.maryfieldliving.org



NP/CNH-Groundbreaking

A 'Last Holiday' worth taking



CNS PHOTO BY PARAMOUNT

LL Cool J, left, Gerard Depardieu and Queen Latifah star in "Last Holiday," a touching tale of dowdy spinster Georgia Byrd (Latifah), who, upon learning she has only a few weeks to live, takes her life savings and goes to Europe where she gets a makeover and learns to live life more fully, changing the lives of a corrupt businessman and less-than-altruistic politicians.

Wayne Wang's remake of a 1950 Alec Guinness movie is marred by some silly slapstick, but mostly it's a feel-good film with the marvelously empathetic Latifah and a positive message about recognizing life's possibilities and having the courage to follow through on them.

Latifah's transformation from drab mouse to glamourpuss is fun to watch, and throughout it all Georgia never loses sight of the basics or her strong moral center.

She chastises a senator, for instance, about not making his promised visit to her church back home. She reminds a businessman that he doesn't have to be ruthless. She gives a businesswoman a strong talking to about the futility and wrongness of her adulterous affair.

Latifah has the kind of charisma that appeals to the masses, and the film is helped by a good supporting cast.

A few instances of crude language, some frank sexual talk and innuendo, and an adulterous situation in an otherwise admirably wholesome film.

The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

Catholic historians' group honors books by two priest-authors

BY CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

PHILADELPHIA — The American Catholic Historical Association honored two priest-authors Jan. 7 during its annual meeting in Philadelphia.

Jesuit Father Stephen Schloesser received the association's John Gilmary Shea Prize for his book, "Jazz Age Catholicism: Mystic Modernism in Post-war Paris, 1919-1939," published in 2005.

Dominican Father Augustine Thompson received the Howard R. Marraro Prize for "Cities of God: The Religion of the Italian Communes, 1125-1325," published in 2005.

Each award carries a \$750 prize.

Father Schloesser holds the chair in Catholic social thought in the Joan and Ralph Lane Center for Catholic Studies and Social Thought at the University of

San Francisco and is an associate professor of history at Boston College in Chestnut Hill, Mass.

Father Thompson is an associate professor of religious studies and history at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

The Shea prize, named for a 19th-century historian of American Catholicism, is given each year to an American or Canadian author whose book is judged to have made the most original and significant contribution to the historiography of the Catholic Church during the 12-month period ending June 30.

The Marraro prize is named for a Columbia University professor who died in 1972 and goes annually to the author of a distinguished scholarly work dealing with Italian history or Italo-American history or relations.

Catholic Communication Campaign announces art contest

BY CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — The Catholic Communication Campaign of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops is asking students in first through sixth grades to illustrate through art "how Jesus would tell the good news today."

The deadline for submissions to the art contest is March 1. Entry information is available online at: www.catholiccommunicationcampaign.org.

Ramon Rodriguez, director of development for the campaign, noted that the campaign's theme is: "How the good news gets around."

"We all know that Jesus was a great storyteller," he said in a news release announcing the contest.

"He told many stories about the good

news, God's love for each of us," he said. "We are inviting students to draw a picture of how Jesus would tell the good news today."

First-, second- and third-place winners will be selected on the basis of originality and creativity and will receive cash prizes.

Winners will be announced May 1 and the winning artwork will be featured on the campaign's Web site during May.

The Catholic Communication Campaign develops media programming, public service announcements and other resources to promote Gospel values. It is funded through a national collection, to be held in most parishes in 2006 the weekend of May 20-21.

PRINCIPAL

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Principal of St. Thomas More School, a practicing Catholic, is the administrator and educational leader of St. Thomas More of the Archdiocese of Atlanta with approximately 500 students and approximately 40 faculty and staff. Appointed by the Archbishop and reporting to the Chancellor, the Principal is accountable to the Archbishop through the Chancellor, for implementation of the mission of Catholic education in St. Thomas More School. The Principal is also responsible for providing leadership and managing the School staff; mentoring and providing mediation and conflict resolution among staff, students, and external sources; developing long and short range plans for the grade School; providing communication and support for teachers, students, chaplains, pastors, and boards; representing the Archdiocese in matters related to St. Thomas More School; and assuring compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws and codes. Some travel required. Send resume, credentials, references and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht,
140 West Myrtle Street,
Duluth, MN 55811-5018
Telephone 218-727-5150
E-mail mruprecht@cpinternet.com

Classifieds

SERVICES

COUNSELING SERVICES: Individuals. Couples. Family. Lucille Moses, BSN, M.Ed. North Carolina Licensed Professional Counselor. 1801 East 5th Street, 108-B, Charlotte. 704-366-6507 or 704-942-4334.

FOR RENT

GREAT HOUSE: Only 2 years old! 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Great condition and nice

neighborhood. Located in Charlotte only minutes from Belmont Abbey. Any length lease available! Call 828-327-4558.

NEW VACATION CABIN: Lake Lure. Mountain views! A great get-away! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, fully furnished. Reasonable rates. Call 828-299-3714.

Classified ads bring results! Over 125,000 readers! Over 49,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

DIOCESAN REQUIREMENTS FOR REPORTING MINISTRY-RELATED SEXUAL ABUSE OF A MINOR

1. Any individual having actual knowledge of or reasonable cause to suspect an incident of ministry-related sexual abuse is to immediately report the incident to the Chancery.
2. The Chancery will then report the incident to the proper civil authorities. The individual reporting the incident to the Chancery will be notified of the particulars regarding the Chancery's filing of the incident with civil authorities.
3. This reporting requirement is not intended to supersede the right of an individual to make a report to civil authority, but is to ensure proper, complete and timely reporting. Should an individual choose to make a report to civil authority, a report is still to be made to the Chancery.

Coordinator of Elementary Religious Education Program St. Mark Catholic Church, Huntersville

Ideal candidate is college graduate with minimum of two years of education experience in parish or school; possesses strong organizational, computer and communication skills; exhibits high threshold of energy and enthusiasm for children and our Catholic Faith. Strong catechetical background preferred with willingness to pursue continuing education through diocese or accredited Catholic college or university. Evening and weekend availability required due to student classes, meetings and special events.

Please send resume to: **St. Mark Catholic Church**
14740 Stumptown Road
Huntersville, NC 28078
c/o Donna F. Smith, DRE.

Principal for Cardinal Newman School COLUMBIA, SC

The ideal candidate will be a practicing Catholic with a master's degree and a minimum of 5 years of administrative experience in a Catholic secondary school. The principal is responsible for all day-to-day operations of the school and the implementation of the school's strategic plan. Reports to the Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Charleston and the Canonical Pastor. For consideration please send resume and cover letter with salary requirements to: Attn: Human Resources, 1662 Ingram Rd, Charleston, SC 29407 or fax 843-402-9071.

Superintendent for the Archdiocese of Atlanta

The Superintendent of Schools, a practicing Catholic, is the chief administrator and educational leader of the Catholic schools of the Archdiocese of Atlanta. Appointed by the Archbishop, the Superintendent is accountable to the Archbishop through the Chancellor, for implementation of the mission of Catholic education in the 18 elementary and secondary schools. The Superintendent is also responsible for implementing the Archbishop's vision for Catholic schools and managing the Office of Catholic School staff; developing long and short range plans for the schools; providing leadership, and support for local school leadership, pastors, religious congregations, principals, and boards; representing the Archdiocese in matters of education; and ensuring compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws and codes. Also responsible for mentoring and providing mediation and conflict resolution among staff, students, and external sources; representing the Archdiocese in educational matters related to archdiocesan schools. Some travel required. Send resume, credentials, references and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811-5018,
Email: mruprecht@cpinternet.com
Telephone: 218-727-5150



Birthday cheers



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Mercy Sister Mary Timothy Warren, vicar for women religious in the Diocese of Charlotte (center), shares a moment with Victoria Stowell (left) and Mariann DeRiso of the diocesan development office during Sister Warren's 80th birthday celebration at the diocesan Pastoral Center in Charlotte Jan. 5.

Sister Warren entered the religious life with the Sisters of Mercy in 1951. After six months of postulancy, she taught at St. Benedict School in Belmont and realized that she had a love of teaching. During her time as a novice, she spent a canonical year studying the vows and working in the motherhouse. Four years later, she made her final vows.

During her nearly 50 years as a woman religious, Sister Warren has worked as a principal and teacher at St. Gabriel School, St. Joan of Arc School and St. Agnes School in Long Island, N.Y. She also was dean of students at Sacred Heart College in Belmont; a cytology technician, director of continuing education and pastoral minister at Mercy Hospital; and the pastoral associate at St. Gabriel Church in Charlotte.

"Many spiritual opportunities have been available to me, and I've been able to participate in things that I would not have had if I hadn't been a part of my community," she said in 2002. "I am grateful to the Sisters of Mercy for all of the opportunities that I have been able to have, and I have enjoyed my life."

A NEW YEAR MEANS IT'S TIME FOR A NEW LOW RATE!

30-Year Fixed:

5.75%

As mortgage brokers, we work with a variety of lenders to find the best loan and rates for your needs & goals!

NEW WORLD MORTGAGE

A Lender For Life

1930 Camden Rd. Suite 2010
Charlotte, NC 28203

Rates subject to change. Certain restrictions on loan size apply. APR varies on loan placement.

Jayne McGonnell
Parishioner of
St. Thomas Aquinas
704.549.4600 x1028
877.402.4600 (tollfree)
704.516.9682 (cell)

Debra Young
Parishioner of
St. Matthew
704.549.4600 x1027
877.402.4600 (tollfree)
704.771.6251 (cell)

Granting help

Sisters of Mercy award more than \$1 million in grants

CHARLOTTE — Sisters of Mercy of North Carolina Foundation announces grant awards totaling \$1,495,318 to 27 nonprofit organizations located in several North Carolina counties.

The grant funds will be used for a wide variety of purposes by the organizations. Supported programs include affordable housing, children's services, crisis and employment assistance, education, food distribution, health care, literacy skills and social services.

Organizations benefiting from the foundation's grant-making activities include Asheville-Buncombe Education Coalition in Asheville, Boys and Girls Club of Transylvania County in Brevard, Crisis Assistance Ministry in Charlotte

and St. Peter's Homes, Inc. in Charlotte.

St. Peter's Homes provides affordable housing and alleviates homelessness by operating McCreesh Place, a single room occupancy apartment community with onsite supportive services for formerly homeless, disabled men.

Since October 1996, the foundation has awarded 610 grants totaling more than \$28 million to organizations assisting unserved or underserved populations.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on the Sisters of Mercy of North Carolina Foundation, call (704) 366-0087 or go online at www.somncfdn.org.

'Child to Child'

Catholic students help collect \$1 million to assist hurricane victims

CHARLOTTE — Children in Catholic schools and religious education programs in the Diocese of Charlotte united with students around the nation to raise more than \$1 million to assist their fellow students affected by the recent Gulf hurricanes.

Through "Child to Child: A Catholic Campaign to Aid Education," local Catholic school students joined the National Catholic Educational Association initiative to collect monetary contributions to help children in areas ravaged by the storms and in other areas impacted by large numbers of evacuee students.

By Dec. 2, 2005, contributions totaled \$1.04 million from 1,254 schools and religious education programs.

Linda Cherry, superintendent of Catholic schools in the Diocese of Charlotte, praised the exceptional charity and initiative of the students.

"The young people in the diocese captured the spirit of the 'Child to Child' campaign," said Cherry. "Through their personal gifts and fundraising efforts, they reached out to their counterparts in areas devastated by the hurricane."

"Their contributions went beyond money; they showed solidarity and support when most needed," she said.

Students put the concepts of social justice into practice in a tremendous way, noted Karen Ristau, NCEA president.

"This truly was a positive example of one student helping another," she said.

According to Cherry, many schools and parishes in the Diocese of Charlotte also reported making substantial contributions directly to local charities or to national organizations, such as Catholic Charities and the American Red Cross.

Other schools and religious education programs adopted parishes impacted by the hurricanes, providing monies and supplies.

Ristau said campaign monies have been distributed to the following archdioceses: Alexandria, Baton Rouge, Biloxi, Galveston-Houston, Houma-Thibodaux, Jackson, Little Rock, Memphis, Mobile, Nashville, New Orleans, San Antonio and Shreveport.

"We are supporting those areas most affected by the storms," said Ristau.

Many dioceses incurred significant financial challenges by enrolling students displaced from the hurricane areas. The Diocese of Charlotte initially enrolled more than 40 displaced students, a number of whom still remain in diocesan schools.

Ristau said all monies collected from students would go for the educational needs of students. NCEA is contributing the necessary administrative services to implement the program.

"While \$1 million can't begin to cover the losses incurred by our educational organizations, it can help a recovering school replace destroyed computers or textbooks, or help a host school provide uniforms, books and tuition for displaced students," said Ristau.

Ristau and Daniel Curtin, executive director of NCEA's department of chief administrators, were in New Orleans Dec. 8 to present the \$1.04 million that had been collected to Archbishop Alfred C. Hughes of New Orleans. They also delivered to area students letters of support from Catholic students around the country.

She and Curtin stayed in the Gulf Coast region for two days, visiting Catholic schools in New Orleans and Mississippi and talking to students and faculty members.

Cherry said the most compelling gift was the Christian charity that motivated young people to give to the "Child to Child" campaign and other humanitarian endeavors.

"As Catholic educators, we strive to teach our students to reach out to those in need," said Cherry. "The response to this catastrophe underscored that our students have gotten the message."

NCEA is the largest private professional education association in the world. The association's membership includes more than 200,000 educators serving 7.6 million students at all levels from pre-kindergarten through graduate school. It was founded in 1904.

Discover Magical Ireland



with Fr. Ed Sheridan,
Pastor of St. Gabriel, Charlotte
June 6-17, 2006

10 nights in western Ireland including Killarney, Galway, Westport, Aran Islands, Knock Shrine, Dingle Peninsula, Kylemore Abbey and more!

\$2,499 plus departure charges of \$200 per person (based on 40 travelers). Deposit \$500.

Includes breakfast daily and six dinners plus first class hotels.

Insurance \$206. Book by Jan. 31, 2006 and get FREE INSURANCE.

Email Diane Brennan at dianebrennan@earthlink.net or call 704-364-5131.

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

The lesson of the Magi

A few weeks ago, as Christmas was approaching, Pope Benedict XVI offered excellent spiritual counsel that caused controversy in our secular media.

Anytime it seems the pope speaks with authority on matters of morality, especially if it involves money, sexuality, the family or political and social justice, it causes controversy in the media. The secular world thinks the Catholic Church is allowed to speak only on matters of faith or spirituality; that our faith has no place in social life and politics; that Christ or his church has no place telling us what to do in our homes, bedrooms or with our money.

But often we don't agree with the secular world. The Christmas mystery proclaims that God entered the human family as a baby precisely to invade our lives, to conquer and overcome the reign of sin in every aspect of our lives. God loves and cares for us so much that he desired to enter the human family and transform it from the inside out.

Therefore, our Catholic faith is to inform our decisions each day, because our decisions have eternal consequences.

As Catholics, we know the pope's voice is not one voice among millions; the pope does not just offer an opinion, but the definitive voice of Jesus Christ, who continues to lead and guide us on Earth. Jesus speaks through his church so that we are led away from the dangers of sin and remain on the path to eternal life.

That is why the media criticized the pope a few weeks ago when he encouraged us to overcome the "commercial contamination of Christmas" by rediscovering the child Jesus. The pope warned us to be careful about the dangers of consumerism, of keeping our focus on the material gifts and becoming attached to them.

Pope Benedict encouraged us to set up the Christmas nativity in our homes. He said, "The manger can be a simple but effective way of presenting the faith and transmitting it to one's children. The manger helps us to contemplate the mystery of God's love who revealed himself in the poverty and simplicity of the Bethlehem cave."

The pope is not condemning gifts, especially since on the feast of the Epiphany, we find even our Lord receiving gifts. We celebrate the arrival of the Magi, the kings from the east. They followed the light of the star to discover the true Light of the World, Jesus Christ.

The Gospel's light is to penetrate the darkness of our world and enlighten the hearts and minds of all men, Jews and Gentiles, believers and unbelievers.

And at their arrival, the Magi present gifts before the Lord that reveal that Jesus is indeed King and Lord. But more important than these gifts, the Magi offer a fourth gift that is offered before these material gifts: they offer themselves.

We are told that when they arrived, "they prostrated themselves and did him homage." They worshipped the Lord. They offered the gift of themselves in

Guest Column

FATHER
MATTHEW
BUETTNER

GUEST COLUMNIST



humble adoration to the Lord before their gifts.

Pope Benedict warned us of the temptation to focus on the material gifts at Christmas. We are tempted by the world to spend much time and money at shopping malls and stores before Christmas. And in the rush that precedes Christmas, we can be tempted to lose our focus on Jesus.

But we have a practical solution, a suggestion based upon the lesson of the Magi.

When Christmas approaches, don't buy any gifts. Don't waste time and money in shopping malls and stores. And while everyone else is wasting their time and money before Christmas, we are keeping our focus on preparing for the birth of Christ, the true and only meaning of Christmas.

If you want your children or your spouse to open gifts on Christmas morning, perhaps they could open a letter from you describing how much you love and appreciate them, how thankful you are for them. Make a gift of yourself to your children, family and friends, as the Magi offered themselves first to Christ.

Then, after Christmas, when everything is on sale and the shopping malls are quiet, spend the time and money to buy gifts for your family and friends. Present these gifts on the feast of the Epiphany, the day when Jesus received his gifts. This suggestion exemplified by the Magi will help to keep our focus on Christ and combat the threat of commercialism at Christmas time.

You will save time, money, headaches and ultimately enjoy Christmas more because you are keeping your focus on the birth of Jesus Christ and the true meaning of Christmas.

We might not change our secular culture of consumerism, but we can prevent it from contaminating our Christmas. One heart at a time, one family at a time, the Christmas mystery will have a profound change in our world.

Beginning now, this new year, let us follow the example of the Magi by making a gift of ourselves, a gift of love. As the Magi followed the light of a star to discover Christ, the Light of the World, follow their example.

They will lead you to true worship by making a gift of yourself to the Lord and your family. Then, we will discover that Christmas will indeed be a time of peace and joy.

Father Buettner is parochial vicar of St. Dorothy Church in Lincolnton.

Most important thing to know is God and his saving grace, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In a world marked by enormous discoveries and intellectual achievements, people must not overlook that the most important thing to know is God and his saving grace, said Pope Benedict XVI.

There are so many things to know and learn in today's information age, but all that knowledge can become "problematic, indeed dangerous, if the fundamental knowledge that gives us meaning and direction" — an awareness of God — is missing, the pope said in his Jan. 11 general audience.

What makes humans different from beasts and other animals is that they are able to recognize the truth and know that awareness of God will become "a relationship and friendship," said the pope.

"It is important in this age that we do not forget God" among all the many things there are to know and discover, he said.

The pope commented on Psalm 144 in which the psalmist makes note of the fragility of the body.

The psalmist asks God what makes him notice and "take thought of" mortal people who are just "like a breath, like a fleeting shadow, feeble and inconsistent,

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



lost in the flow of time that passes by," said the pope.

God descended from heaven with the incarnation of Jesus, he said, and just like the shepherd who carried his lost sheep on his shoulders, Jesus carried on his shoulders the human condition, "our flesh, ourselves."

By becoming man, God became a reality that people could understand and establish "friendship, communion" with, said the pope.

While the psalm is about humanity's weaknesses and distance from "divine splendor," in the end it celebrates a surprising discovery that "next to us is God-Emmanuel, who for the Christian has the loving face of Jesus Christ," the pope said.

Ordinary is extraordinary

The Catholic Church brings us back to Ordinary Time after the joyous waiting of Advent and the shining stars of Christmas. We may feel like the party is over — and now what?

St. Andrew Missal has an answer: "What happens in our churches every Sunday is the fruit of our week. What happens as the fruit of the week past is the beginning of the week to come. Sunday, like all sacraments, is simultaneously a point of arrival and departure for Christians on their way to the fullness of the kingdom. This is not ordinary at all. This is the fabric of Christian living" (quoted by Paulist Press Ordo 2006, p.30).

After Christmas, can we go back with indifference to our work, not changed at all? Or has Christmas possibly burned a new fire and hope into our bones and somehow life can't be the same?

Is there any possibility for you and me to carry Christmas into life? Believe it or not, that is the only possibility.

Mary and Joseph had to do it. After the shepherds, Wise Men, angels and star were gone, Mary and Joseph were left alone with their new child and the tremendous responsibility to take care of him and to help him grow.

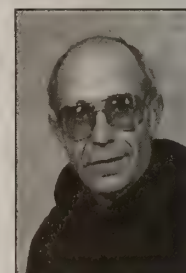
They had the responsibility to carry Christmas into life. How do we do that? We must carry Christmas into our homes.

I am sure Jesus was like any other baby — he got the flu and colds, he cried and kept his parents awake. They took him to synagogue, they read him the Scriptures.

Christmas for Jesus, Mary and Joseph was not an event, it was a way of life. We often talk about Christmas as an event of the past. We remember the good times when we were with one another; meanwhile we unconsciously relegate

Guest Column

CAPUCHIN
FATHER JOHN
C. AURILIA
GUEST COLUMNIST



our Christmas to be an object in the attic to be used next year.

We all know that the greatest theological school is the home; the best church ever built is our home. Sometimes we have a house, but we don't have a home. The Holy Family had a home, but not a house.

Another way of living the ordinary is extraordinary is to carry Christmas in our workplace. Joseph's tools were instruments of work and worship. The clothes to wash and meals to cook were, for Mary, opportunities to serve and to grow.

They both were making these ordinary chores an extraordinary service to God and their daily world better. Every day we make differences. Nothing is ordinary if the work is done with love.

Finally we must carry Christmas in our faith, especially when it is tested. Mary and Joseph knew that moments in their lives would not always be shining stars and glimmering lights.

The Christmas season is over, but our lives are not. The decorations and trees are gone, but the music will always be in our hearts, because in the song of life, we write the words, God writes the music.

Capuchin Father John C. Aurilia is pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in Hendersonville.

The message of 'Evangelium Vitae'

In 2005 we celebrated the 10th anniversary of "Evangelium Vitae" ("The Gospel of Life"), the encyclical written by Pope John Paul II.

"Evangelium Vitae" offers humanity a vision of a just society where every human life's intrinsic value is accepted, respected and protected. It presents the foundational teaching of the social doctrine of the Catholic Church — that God made each one of us in his image, endowed each one of us with immortal souls and calls each one of us to build in this world a society founded on love and respect for human life.

"Evangelium Vitae" addresses the widespread evil of abortion and its pervasive cancer-like effect on the body of humanity, which leads to a disrespect and violation of human life in all stages of its development. There can be no peace, there can be no justice, if this most fundamental gift of God, "the gift of life," is not accepted, protected and respected.

"Evangelium Vitae" stresses that the inherent value of human life is not just a theological belief. It is also based on natural law principles — principles that are accessible to all humanity regardless of faith allegiance (see No. 1 below).

"Evangelium Vitae" sees abortion not only as an evil action resulting from a personal choice to do harm to another, but also as an evil that has social implications to be addressed in a social forum. The encyclical calls for the legal protection of human life, but also calls for social initiatives that promote family, child-rearing and economic systems that affirm life (see No. 2 below).

During a November 2005 meeting of world religious leaders in Vatican City, Pope Benedict XVI spoke of a "healthy society" as one that "always promotes respect for the inviolable and inalienable rights of all people." The foremost right, upon which rests all others, is the right to life.

"Evangelium Vitae" calls us to work for the legal protection of unborn human beings and human beings struggling with severe mental and/or physical disabilities. This January in Washington, D.C., hundreds of thousands of people will pray, rally and "march for life" to protest the 1973 Supreme Court decisions *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* legalizing abortion in all 50 states of our nation.

"Evangelium Vitae" also calls us to work for laws that ensure families are nurtured, poverty is attacked at its root causes, those with disabilities are cared for and welcome in society, and the basic needs of food, shelter and medical treatment are denied to no one.

It is fitting that in January, as the U.S. bishops support the annual March for Life, they also call for greater awareness of, and action against, poverty in the United States.

On Oct. 5, 1995, Pope John Paul II celebrated Mass at Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J. In his homily, he challenged Americans with a message that remains as pressing as ever:

"When the unborn child — 'the stranger in the womb' — is declared to be beyond the protection of society, not only are America's deepest traditions radically undermined and endangered, but a moral blight is brought upon society.

Guest Column

JOSEPH
PURELLO
GUEST COLUMNIST



"I am also thinking of the threats to the elderly, the severely handicapped and all those who do not seem to have any social usefulness. Both as Americans and as followers of Christ, American Catholics must be committed to the defense of life in all its stages and in every condition."

Joseph Purello is director of the diocesan Office of Justice and Peace, Catholic Social Services.

WANT MORE INFO?

Read "Evangelium Vitae" at www.vatican.va/edocs/ENG0141/_INDEX.HTM. For more info on the March for Life Jan. 23, contact Maggi Nadol, Respect Life program director, at (704) 370-3229.

1. "The Gospel of Life" is for the whole of human society. To be actively pro-life is to contribute to the renewal of society through the promotion of the common good. It is impossible to further the common good without acknowledging and defending the right to life, upon which all the other inalienable rights of individuals are founded and from which they develop.

A society lacks solid foundations when, on the one hand, it asserts values such as the dignity of the person, justice and peace, but then, on the other hand, radically acts to the contrary by allowing or tolerating a variety of ways in which human life is devalued and violated, especially where it is weak or marginalized.

Only respect for life can be the foundation and guarantee of the most precious and essential goods of society, such as democracy and peace. There can be no true democracy without a recognition of every person's dignity and without respect for his or her rights.

Nor can there be true peace unless life is defended and promoted. [from "Evangelium Vitae," 101]

2. The Church well knows that it is difficult to mount an effective legal defense of life in pluralistic democracies, because of the presence of strong cultural currents with differing outlooks.

At the same time, certain that moral truth cannot fail to make its presence deeply felt in every conscience, the Church encourages political leaders, starting with those who are Christians, not to give in, but to make those choices which, taking into account what is realistically attainable, will lead to the re-establishment of a just order in the defense and promotion of the value of life.

Here it must be noted that it is not enough to remove unjust laws. The underlying causes of attacks on life have to be eliminated, especially by ensuring proper support for families and motherhood. A family policy must be the basis and driving force of all social policies. [from "Evangelium Vitae," 90]

Mining the facts

Many of us awoke to blaring newspaper headlines a little more than a week ago. The men trapped in the Sago Coal Mine in West Virginia were safe!

After more than 40 hours in a carbon monoxide-filled mine, 12 miners had somehow survived. Late night news reports showed ecstatic family members gathered at a church. Mothers and daughters, friends and neighbors burst into laughter and song praising God's providence for sparing the miners.

You could feel a TV movie in the making as you watched the jubilation. How compelling; a crisis in a small town that responds by gathering together in prayer and then — a miracle!

But the information was all wrong. The miners, all except one, did not escape and the joy quickly turned to anger and hurt.

The misinformation apparently started when someone overheard a cell phone conversation that the miners had been found and assumed that they were alive. The media dutifully looked for a culprit but couldn't find anyone. West Virginia Gov. Joe Manchin was singled out in the "what went wrong" stories because he repeated the "found alive" rumor when he was caught up in the joy of the moment.

The media assumed that an elected official should know all, even if news organizations did not.

A day after the tragedy, most of the satellite trucks were gone, looking as they always do for the next hurricane, the next tsunami, the next tragedy. Of course the media didn't blame itself for its page-one, extra-large headline mis-

Catholics & the Media

DAVID HAINS
GUEST COLUMNIST



take. News organizations were quick to point out that they merely reported what was generally known.

This brings us to an eye opening reality about the news media. It doesn't necessarily report the truth; it reports the best information available at the time.

Usually this is truthful, but don't count on it, especially if events reach an apparent conclusion when the hour is very late. Because this particular bit of erroneous information came in close to deadline for many newspapers, including The Charlotte Observer and USA Today, there wasn't time to confirm the rumor before the printing presses rolled with a headline that goes into the "Dewey Defeats Truman" category of gigantic newspaper blunders.

Perhaps it was an understandable mistake. But I think a page one headline saying "We were wrong and we are sorry" would have been appropriate penance for the news organizations that brought false hope into so many homes.

David Hains is director of communication for the Diocese of Charlotte. Contact him at dwhains@charlottediocese.org.

Bonding, sharing at Mass

Guest Column

SUSAN
DEGUZMAN
GUEST COLUMNIST

I had the good fortune of going to daily Mass with my mom one day over the holidays. This is not an ordinary event for me as my mom lives many miles away in Connecticut.

While I attend Mass on Sundays and holy days, my mother has been attending daily Mass since her recent retirement.

This particular day was Dec. 29 — the anniversary of my brother's passing away 20 years ago. He was 25 when he died, a year older than I.

My siblings and I always make an effort to get in touch with our mother on this day. If possible, one of us tries to be with her. So it was meaningful for me to be able to go to Mass with her. It is at Mass where she is most able to find comfort in her grief.

The church is big, and people sat throughout it — about 75 people there that morning, scattered about the pews.

While it seemed that holding hands during the "Our Father" was not the practice in her parish, a lack of warmth and brotherly love is certainly not an issue among the parishioners.

During the shaking of hands, while we did shake the ones near us, everyone in the parish waved to each other. People were doing 360 degree turns and waving. The waving was like those in Miss America pageants — a straight hand that twists gently at the wrist — and it goes on for quite some time.

Everyone acted as if they knew each other — not because they all live in the same town and had a connection, though it was true for some, but, as my mother later explained, because they all come to morning Mass so often. They know each other's faces.

After the hand shaking and hand waving, everyone returned to their personal and prayerful selves. This group of people appeared different to me now — they were no longer just a scattered group of individuals gathered for Mass, but a community of people who recognized the bond they shared.

When the Mass ended, a few people lingered to chat, but most whisked off in their cars, on to their own errands, families, maybe even jobs. I felt a sense of contentment. This had been a nice way to start the day, especially this day, and especially with my mom.

Susan deGuzman is a correspondent with The Catholic News & Herald.

McDowell County home to angelic parish

MARION — In 1945, the nearest Catholic churches to the town of Marion were dozens of miles away — to the west in Swannanoa, north in Spruce Pine and east in Hickory. In a predominately Baptist-Methodist community that was sometimes less than friendly to Catholicism, it was the perseverance and fidelity of that first tiny group of Catholics that led to the establishment of Our Lady of the Angels Church in Marion and a permanent presence in McDowell County.

Father William McShea, a priest who lived at the Hickory Hotel in the mid-1940s, traveled to Morganton, 22 miles from Marion, each Sunday to celebrate Mass in the home of a non-Catholic family. Later, Father McShea's successor, Father James King, traveled to Marion to celebrate Mass in the county courthouse.

The first Mass was offered Jan. 21, 1951, and a mustard seed was sown.

In 1953, the Marion Catholic community of five families purchased a house on South Main Street and determinedly prepared it for use as a chapel. The musty, plaster-cracked house was badly in need of repairs.

With money raised through bake sales, rummage sales, bazaars and other fundraising events, the building was spruced up. Father Kenneth Parker, then-pastor of the Marion parish, was installed as the first resident pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in Forest City and subsequently, Our Lady of the Angels Church became its mission parish.

With the establishment of the Diocese of Charlotte in 1972, the church was canonically established as a mission St. Charles Borromeo Church in Morganton, under the spiritual guidance of Father Joseph McCarthy.

Eventually, the small community began to raise funds for a new church. In 1970, property was purchased and on Sept. 26, 1976, Marion Catholics, along with Father Paul Wilderotter, recognized the completed construction of their church with a solemn dedication Mass celebrated by then-Bishop Michael J. Begley.

In 1979, Father John Murray became pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Church, followed by Father Kenneth Whittington in 1992. Additionally, Marion Catholics were served by Fathers Richard Evert and John Tuller.

The late Deacon John Gallen, a permanent deacon of the Diocese of Charlotte, is remembered for his leadership in ministerial life. A beautiful stone grotto for Our Lady was built in his memory. The grotto overlooks the entrance of the church, offering a serene place for contemplation.

In the 1990s, further growth was fostered by Father Jerome Aung Shwe, a priest from Burma in residence at Marion. Our Lady of the Angels Church began offering a full Mass schedule, including a Spanish-language Mass for the growing Hispanic population.

On Sept. 18, 2003, Father Gnanapragasam Mariasoosai came to serve as resident priest and administra-

Our Lady of the Angels Church

4258 North Garden St.
Marion, N.C. 28752
(828) 652-8690

Vicariate: Hickory

Administrator: Father Gnanapragasam Mariasoosai

Number of Households: 103



Father Gnanapragasam Mariasoosai

tor of Our Lady of the Angels Church. Originally from the Archdiocese of Madurai in South India, he served as pastor of St. Joseph Church in Spanish Town in Jamaica before coming to Charlotte.

Since Father Gnanapragasam's arrival, the parish has enjoyed a new level of spiritual and community life, revitalized through the dedicated commitment shown by its administrator, who has learned two new languages and cultures.

Parishioners have responded to Father Gnanapragasam with grateful affection, and service to the church and community has grown significantly with active ministries including RCIA; prison ministry; visitation of the sick, elderly and homebound; service and contributions to McDowell Missions; bereavement committee; Meals-On-Wheels; community outreach; social committee; Spanish Bible study and adult faith formation.

There has been a marked increase in faith formation enrollment, reception of sacraments and Catholic ecumenism. A group of Our Lady of the Angels parishioners attended the diocesan Eucharistic Congress in September 2005 and the parish has participated in the Marion City Christmas parade twice.

Through Father Gnanapragasam's leadership, the parish has moved forward in fulfillment of a vision: that the parish should be one Catholic family despite language barriers; that it should anticipate the needs of an increased Catholic population; and that it should be a model of a basic Christian community.

A poignant example of the fruits of that mustard seed sown more than 50 years ago took place on the feast of Our Lady of the Angels in August 2005, when a bilingual novena to the parish's patroness culminated with the first public eucharistic procession down Main Street in Marion.

Staff writer Karen A. Evans contributed to this story.



PHOTO BY GEORGE COBB

Our Lady of the Angels Church in Marion is home to a small but dedicated group of Catholic families.

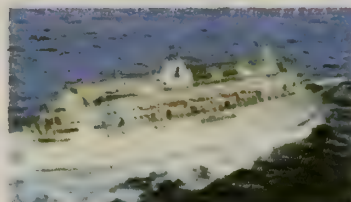
SAVE \$100! REGISTER BEFORE JANUARY 31ST!

Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise —

"The Footsteps of Paul"

Greece and Turkey — May 11-21, 2006

Space is limited—register now!



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,849 for inside cabin (before 1/31/06) - includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

Istanbul — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace

Mykonos — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels

Patmos — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation

Kusadasi & Ephesus — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites

Rhodes — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith

Crete — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion

Santorini — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.



Compassion amid devastation



COURTESY PHOTO BY BETSY FERRELL

Adam Cellurale, a senior at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, and other Catholic campus ministry students from North Carolina befriend students at St. Peter the Apostle School in Pascagoula, Miss., in January. Among other projects, the college students were helping build storage sheds for the school.

Catholic students bring outreach, hope to Mississippi

BY KRISTIE MOE
SPECIAL TO
THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PASCAGOULA, Miss. — The 75-degree weather of the Gulf Coast was a welcome change in climate for most of the students from North Carolina.

But the devastation around them was difficult to ignore. It was the reason they were there.

The 21 students from Catholic campus ministry at Wake Forest University and Salem College in Winston-Salem cut short their Christmas breaks for a "Gulf Coast Service Trip," serving those affected by Hurricane Katrina in Pascagoula, Miss., Jan. 2-9.

For the past four Januaries, the students have traveled to

See STUDENTS, page 5

Marching for life

ABORTION 'NOT THE
AMERICAN WAY,' MARCH
ORGANIZER SAYS

BY NANCY FRAZIER
O'BRIEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — As a World War II veteran, Nellie Gray thinks abortion is "just not the American way."

In the war against Nazi Germany, "my beloved America went over there and stopped the same kind of killing, and then we sat in judgment of them for that at Nuremberg," she told Catholic News Service Jan. 10, referring to the 1946-47 war crimes trials at which German physicians were accused of euthanizing people considered "unworthy of life."

"And now my country is doing the same thing," said Gray, president of the March for Life Education & Defense Fund. "Millions of children

See MARCH, page 13

'Modern form of slavery'

USCCB OFFICIAL CALLS BILL
AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING
GOOD, BUT LACKING

BY CATHOLIC NEWS
SERVICE

WASHINGTON — A bill signed by President George W. Bush Jan. 10 to combat human trafficking was a step in the right direction, but not enough to help children, according to a

See BILL, page 7

Reflection and renewal

Program helps re-energize, invigorate
catechists, educators

BY JOANITA M.
NELLENBACH
CORRESPONDENT

HICKORY — "How do we set balance for ourselves so we can be compassionate? How do we feed ourselves?" Franciscan Sister Geneva Berns asked those gathered at the Catholic Conference Center.

The Jan. 12 gathering, "A

Day Apart for Reflection and Renewal," was an in-service day for campus ministers, catechists, Catholic school educators, parish catechetical leaders and youth ministers in the Diocese of Charlotte.

Sister Berns, who is on the leadership team of the Sisters of St. Francis of Rochester,

See RENEWAL, page 8



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Franciscan Sister Geneva Berns (center) chats with Mary Wright (right), director of diocesan campus ministry, and Sister Eileen Spanier, director of diocesan young adult ministry, Jan. 12.

Around the Diocese

New altar servers in Hickory; Our
Lady of Grace School gets grant

| PAGE 4

Culture Watch

Book of Psalms of the Saint
John's Bible published

| PAGES 10-11

Perspectives

Healing past hurts;
Was there a woman pope?

| PAGES 14-15

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

BAG O' PRAYERS



CNS PHOTO BY DON BLAKE, THE DIALOG

Debbie Schmucker of Newark, Del., was looking for a creative way to keep her 11-year-old son from watching too much television, and designed this nylon Prayer Bag that holds 14 plastic disks that have a different prayer or intention on each side.

Mother markets 'prayers in a bag'

NEWARK, Del. (CNS) — Debbie Schmucker was looking for a creative way to keep her 11-year-old son from watching too much television. She found one, and she has turned her idea into a product that promotes prayer among children.

Schmucker, of St. John the Baptist-Holy Angels Church in Newark, designed the Prayer Bag, an 8-by-8-inch yellow nylon bag that holds 14 plastic disks with a different prayer or intention on each side.

She offers five versions of the bag — prayers for ages 5-7, ages 8-11, bedtime, first Communion and mealtime. A child reaches into the bag to pull out a disk and then decides which of the two prayers or intentions to use.

A few of the disks are blank; if a child picks one of them he can choose his own prayer topic.

Schmucker said the bag has proved to be a good educational tool for her two children.

"It's made my children more aware of what prayer can do and what prayer is. They hear different ways of praying, different words you can use," she said.

"It has raised the awareness that as a Catholic this is something you do not do because you are told to, but because you want to develop a relationship with the Lord."

The Schmuckers have used the mealtime version of the bag to expand their prayers beyond the traditional blessing.

"Mealtime and bedtime are supposed to be times when the family is together," Schmucker said. "It gives the parents a chance to interact with the child."

Schmucker began selling the Prayer Bag on the Internet and at two retail locations just before Thanksgiving. The roots of the Prayer Bag were planted six years ago when Schmucker used to fill an empty tissue box with pictures of activities for Michael.

"The thought is to keep kids involved in something, so that they do not turn to the television," she said.

Now Schmucker wants to help children in other families develop their own fun memories as well as a strong prayer life.

"Praying and developing a relationship with God," she said, "is one of the best gifts you can foster in life."

Fake stem-cell claim shows need for ethics, says bishops' official

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A South Korean doctor's fake claim that he produced embryonic stem-cell lines from human cloning shows that "good ethics" is the backbone of good science and medicine, said a U.S. bishops' pro-life official.

It also proves that human cloning is far from being a viable source of embryonic stem cells that could be used in treating diseases, said Richard Doerflinger, deputy director of the Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

"Lawmakers can best respond to this scandal by enacting a complete ban on human cloning ... and by increasing government support for stem-cell research that is both medically promising and morally sound," he said Jan. 10.

Doerflinger criticized the scientific hoax after South Korea's Seoul National University issued reports in December saying that claims by university researcher Hwang Woo-suk that he had

created 11 stem-cell lines from cloned human embryos were false.

When Hwang announced in February 2004 that they had gotten stem cells from cloned human embryos, it was praised as a major breakthrough in medical research. In another apparent breakthrough, Hwang announced in May 2005 that his team had created 11 stem-cell lines that were genetically matched to patients.

"Will our society insist on exploiting more hundreds of women, and creating and destroying many more thousands of helpless human lives, in pursuit of this mirage? Or will we step back and realize that good ethics is a necessary and integral part of good science and good medicine?" he asked.

The U.S. bishops have opposed human cloning for stem-cell experimentation because it involves destroying the embryo, which is considered human life. The bishops have supported research with adult stem cells and stem cells derived from umbilical-cord blood.

Diocesan planner

ASHEVILLE VICARIATE

ASHEVILLE — The St. Martin de Porres Dominican Laity Chapter meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the rectory building at the Basilica of St. Lawrence, 97 Haywood St. Inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Beverly Reid at (423) 638-4744 or bebereid@adelphia.net.

BOONE VICARIATE

NORTH WILKESBORO — A Catholic Scripture Study group meets at St. John Baptiste de La Salle Church, 275 CC Wright School Rd. Visit www.catholicscripturestudy.com for more information. Classes meet Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m. Please call Rob Hicks at (336) 957-7193 for more information or if you plan to attend.

SPRUCE PINE — A Rosary of Intercession for Priests is recited each Friday at St. Lucien Church, 695 Summit St., before the 9 a.m. Mass. Prayers are offered for bishops, priests and deacons, and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. For more information, call the church office at (828) 765-2224.

SPARTA — St. Frances of Rome Church, Hendrix and Highlands Rds., sponsors the *Oration of Divine Love Prayer Group* in the parish house the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 1 p.m. Call (336) 372-8846 for more information.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

HUNTERSVILLE — Trina Palmer, executive director of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Senior Centers, will answer questions and provide literature to help seniors with decisions in selecting a *Medicare Plan*. This session will be held in the Worship Area of St. Mark Church, 14740

Stumptown Rd., Jan. 27, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. This session is open to all older adults, caregivers of older adults and soon-to-be caregivers of older adults. Registration is not required. For more information, call Mary Alice Hollars, parish Elder Ministry coordinator, at (704) 549-4825.

CHARLOTTE — The Evangelization Committee of St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd., will offer the *Catholics Returning Home* program Thursdays through Feb. 23. Catholics Returning Home is a welcoming program for Catholics who have been away from the church. Topics include concerns, the Mass, changes since Vatican II, reconciliation, and Catholic beliefs, prayer and spirituality. For more information, call the St. Gabriel parish office at (704) 364-5431.

CHARLOTTE — *Pathfinders*, a peer-led support group for separated and divorced adults, offers education, support and fellowship through the divorce process. The group meets Tuesdays, 7:30-9 p.m., in St. Gabriel Church's Ministry Building, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, call Nancy at (704) 752-0318.

CHARLOTTE — *TGIF on Wednesday* is a support group for separated or divorced women and men. All are welcome to join us for encouragement and discussion with others making similar journeys at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. in the New Life Center, Room 114. If you have any questions, call Bonnie Motuz at (704) 543-8998.

HUNTERSVILLE — A *Mass to Honor Deceased Loved Ones* is celebrated the last Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. St. Mark Church, 14740 Stumptown Rd. For more information, call Pam Schneider at (704) 875-0201.

CHARLOTTE — A *Support Group for Caregivers of a Family Member with Memory Loss* meet the last Monday of each month, 10-11:30 a.m., at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, contact Suzanne Bach at (704) 376-4135.

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-mail: catholicnews@charlotte-diocese.org

JANUARY 20, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 15

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

No crime in Vatican during papal transition, says judge

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Despite the massive influx of visitors to the Vatican during the period of papal transition in April 2005, for two weeks that month robbers and criminals stayed away, or at least decided to be on their best behavior.

A Vatican judge reported Jan. 13 that from the day of Pope John Paul II's death April 2 to his funeral April 8 and the first seven days of Pope Benedict XVI's pontificate, starting with his election April 19, the 108-acre Vatican City State was without crime.

Nicola Picardi, promoter of justice for the Tribunal of Vatican City State, said no crimes were reported and no charges were brought to the Vatican's court during those two weeks in April, a fact he called extraordinary, considering "at least 6 million people" flooded the Vatican during this period of papal transition.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — *Coffee Talk for Adults* will meet Jan. 22 and 29, 10:30-11:15 a.m., in the Youth Room of St. Pius X Church, 2210 North Elm St. For more information, call the church office at (336) 272-468.

GREENSBORO — *The Greensboro Council of Catholic Women* is planning a covered-dish luncheon at St. Paul the Apostle Church, 2715 Horse Pen Creek Rd., Jan. 25, (snow date is Feb. 1) 12-2 p.m. Program will be presented by Jackie Wilson of Ten Thousand Villages store. Please bring your favorite dish to share with friends. For more information, contact Carmen Wood at (336) 545-9266.

HIGH POINT — In February, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 4145 Johnson St., will launch the *Hope of Seeing Everyone Again* program (HOSEA) to invite Catholics who have distanced themselves from the Catholic Church, for whatever reason, to return. Small Christian communities will meet weekly for six to eight weeks to discuss various issues and concerns and to receive pastoral referrals and guidance. An open house will be held Feb. 21, 7-8 p.m., and will include a brief presentation on Catholic inquiry classes, the inactive Catholics program and continuing faith formation program. A tour of the church and refreshments will follow. To learn more, e-mail Rich Pohlman at tosfranciscan-letters@yahoo.com.

HICKORY VICARIATE

HICKORY — *An American Red Cross Blood Drive* will take place at St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second Street NE., Jan. 31, 2-7 p.m. in Holy Family Hall. Appointments are encouraged. For more information, call the church office at (828) 327-2341.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

MURPHY — *A Charismatic Prayer Group* meets Fridays at 3:45 p.m. in the Commons of St. William Church, 765 Andrews Rd. join us for praise

"Experience has taught us that the number of charges and reports" of criminal activity greatly increase during times when "huge crowds of pilgrims and tourists converge" on the Vatican, he said.

Picardi said per capita crime rates in Vatican City State remain high, however.

He said that in 2005, 472 criminal cases were reported — almost one crime per resident for a country with only 492 inhabitants — and 486 civil suits were brought before the court.

Such high rates do not mean Vatican City State citizens are "more litigious" or delinquent, he said, since the number of cases involving Vatican residents was negligible.

The high per capita crime rate stems from the sheer volume of people — some 18 million each year — that stream through the Vatican to visit St. Peter's Basilica and the Vatican Museums, he said.

music, witness, teaching, prayers and laying on of hands for those in need. For more details, call Gery Dashner at (828) 494-2683.

WAYNESVILLE — *Adult Education Classes* are held the first three Wednesday evenings of each month beginning at 6:45 p.m. in the St. John the Evangelist Church Social Hall, 234 Church St. For more information, call Charles Luce at (828) 648-7369 or e-mail luce54@aol.com.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

WINSTON-SALEM — *Thinking About Coming Home?* Our Lady of Mercy Church, 1730 Link Rd., is starting a new program for people who have been away from the Catholic Church for awhile and have thought about returning. Teams of three laypeople and one priest will meet three times in January and February to listen, answer questions and help you come back if, and when, you are ready. If you are interested in more information, please contact us at cominghomeolm@yahoo.com or call either (336) 403-5016 or (336) 240-5266.

WINSTON-SALEM — St. Benedict the Moor Church, 1625 East 12th St., hosts a 12:15 p.m. prayer service, *Veni Sanctus Spiritus*, the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. All are welcome to reflect on God and refresh the spirit in the middle of a day. For more information call Sister Larretta Rivera-Williams at (336) 725-9200.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Pope condemns efforts to offer abortion pill, urges family protection

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In a talk that touched on controversial election-year issues in Italy, Pope Benedict XVI condemned efforts to introduce the abortion pill and urged steps to protect the traditional family based on marriage.

The pope made the remarks Jan. 12 in a speech to civil officials of the Rome region. His comments prompted an immediate flurry of reactions across the political spectrum in Italy, where general elections will take place in April.

The pope thanked the officials and the population of Rome for the strong religious sentiments they showed during the death and funeral of Pope John Paul II last year. That kind of spiritual intensity, he said, should bear fruit in the civil arena, especially on family issues.

In particular, he said, young couples and their families need support — for example, in paying for housing, nursery schools and kindergartens. Such assistance for the traditional family should not be seen as a concession to Catholic morality, but as respect for "elementary truths regarding our common humanity," he said.

"It is a grave error to obscure the

value and functions of the legitimate family founded on marriage, attributing to other forms of union an improper legal recognition for which, in reality, there is no real social need," he said.

The pope called for protection of the unborn. He said it was especially important for the state to provide concrete forms of assistance to pregnant women who face financial and other difficulties.

Furthermore, he said, the state should avoid introducing "drugs that hide in some way the serious nature of abortion" as a "choice against life." The pope was referring to attempts in Italy to introduce the RU-486 abortion pill in some regions on an experimental basis, which has also surfaced as an election issue.

The pope's comments brought praise from Italian Health Minister Francesco Storace, who last year blocked some regions from experimenting with the RU-486 drug and who wants pro-life groups to be allowed to counsel women seeking abortions.

Leaders of Italy's Communist Refoundation Party said the pope was interfering in political questions.

Protesting the 'Culture of Death'



CNS PHOTO BY LOU DEMATTEIS, REUTERS

Death penalty opponents sing in front of San Quentin State Prison late Jan. 16, shortly before the execution of convicted murderer Clarence Ray Allen, 76, in San Quentin, Calif. San Francisco Auxiliary Bishop John C. Wester said the execution contributes to the "culture of death." Allen, a Choctaw Indian who was deaf, legally blind and had difficulty walking, was pronounced dead at 12:38 a.m. Jan. 17. He was convicted for ordering the murders of three people in 1980.

Meeting aims to help people learn to coexist amid their diversity

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Catholic organizers expressed hope that a Washington meeting of major world religious leaders April 26-27 will help people learn to live together amid their diversity after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks sparked a focus on their cultural differences.

"It is a duty to underline that coexistence is possible in this world during the difficult period after 9/11," said Italian Msgr. Ambrogio Spreafico, vice president of the Sant'Egidio Community, a Rome-

based lay organization that is the meeting's main organizer and one of its sponsors.

"People in the U.S. are living in coexistence but are unaware of it. There are tensions," he said. "We think dialogue is the answer to the clash of civilizations."

The meeting is called the 2006 International Prayer for Peace. It will be held at Jesuit-run Georgetown University, meeting sponsor. The other sponsors are The Catholic University of America and the Archdiocese of Washington.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Jan. 22-23 — March for Life
Washington, D.C.

Jan. 30 — 9 a.m. Mass
St. Patrick Cathedral, Charlotte

Jan. 29 — 2:30 p.m. Catholic Schools
Week Mass
St. Gabriel Church, Charlotte



COURTESY PHOTO

Bishop Peter J. Jugis and Father Jose Enrique Gonzalez-Gaytan stand with 28 new altar servers blessed at St. Aloysius Church in Hickory Dec. 12, 2005.

New altar servers blessed

Hispanic participation rising at Hickory parish

HICKORY — The Hispanic community at St. Aloysius Church is becoming more involved in the celebration of the Mass.

During the Dec. 12 Mass celebrated by Bishop Peter J. Jugis on the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, 28 new altar servers were blessed — 26 of whom are Hispanic.

"That day was an exciting one for us servers since we have worked hard to buy the vestments by selling food after Mass and holding raffles," said Antonio Garza, 16, who has been an altar server for four years.

"As part of the ceremony, each of the altar servers had sponsors aiding them in getting dressed in the new vestments and carrying out the responsibilities of being altar servers," he said.

When Antonio first started altar serving in 2001, there were only two Hispanic altar servers. Antonio credits the recent addition of 26 Hispanic altar servers to Father Jose Enrique Gonzalez-Gaytan, parochial vicar.

"When Father Enrique arrived (in July 2003), he began to recruit young people to serve in this ministry," said Antonio. "Like the Hispanic community, the number of altar servers began to increase. Thanks to his commitment, we have 26 (Hispanic) servers and we're still recruiting."

"Father Enrique had the great idea of working on this ministry and the results are these dynamic children and youths very dedicated to their ministry," said Laura Garza, parish director of Hispanic ministry and Antonio's mother.

"They really take it seriously and with great responsibility," she said.

Soon after his arrival, Father Gonzalez began weekly faith formation classes for the Hispanic parishioners.

"The significance for the parish is that the Hispanic community is increasing and that the youths are getting involved in our parish life," said Garza, a native of Mexico.

"It is not easy in our days to see

more than 20 children and youths getting together every week to practice and to learn more about our faith with so much enthusiasm," she said. "They are setting the example for other youth to join our parish activities and ministries."

Antonio said being an altar server is beneficial in many ways.

"Aside from the many roles an altar server can perform during Mass, I have learned much about the Catholic Church and the Catholic faith in general," he said. "Every week at Mass is a new experience and lesson for me, whether I am serving or not."

"Serving has brought me closer to my friends and to my faith," said Antonio. "It has enriched me and made me a better servant of God."

During the Mass, 17 new extraordinary ministers of holy Communion also were blessed. Father Gonzalez had prepared the group for several weeks prior, with classes on the liturgy of the Eucharist and how to serve in the role.

"These celebrations are a new experience for our parish and they show the dedication and willingness of our people to serve our parish and, overall, to serve God," said Antonio.

May Your Hands Be Blessed!

Learn Rosary Making



Call or visit our website for your introductory offer!

LEWIS & COMPANY

P.O. Box 268, Troy, NY 12181

(800) 342-2400

rosaryparts.com

Granting help

FUNDS WILL HELP BRING 'BRIGHT IDEAS' TO OUR LADY OF GRACE SCHOOL



COURTESY PHOTO

Marvin Norman of EnergyUnited presents a Bright Ideas grant for \$1,000 to Katie Houston, second-grade teacher at Our Lady of Grace School in Greensboro, and Father James Ebright, parochial vicar of Our Lady of Grace Church, during the school's weekly Mass Nov. 30, 2005. Teachers also received gift bags with special supplies for their classrooms.

The funds will enhance and enrich the school's annual multicultural program, which focuses on four different countries each year.

This year, kindergarten-through-third-grade students will study Antarctica, Germany, Mexico and Kenya.

Laurie Kennedy-Malone, school board vice-chairperson, worked with the faculty to write the grant proposal.

The Bright Ideas program was initiated 10 years ago by North Carolina's electric cooperatives to provide classroom teachers with money for projects that otherwise would not be funded. Since then, the cooperatives collectively have awarded Bright Ideas grants totaling more than \$2 million to teachers in kindergarten-through-12th-grade levels across the state.

EnergyUnited is a utility company that serves more than 110,000 electricity customers in 19 North Carolina counties.

Many Annuity Owners Lose Money. Will YOU?

Some annuity owners lose money because they didn't know what questions to ask when they bought, and their salesperson did not volunteer any information.

If you own an annuity or are considering taking advantage of their many benefits, my **FREE** report, "Using Guaranteed Annuities to Help You Survive Your Retirement," will tell you what questions to ask.

The report is **FREE** and shows you how to get more benefits from your existing assets and help preserve your annuity value.

Call 800-800-4960, ext. 7405 (24 hours)

for your **FREE** report!

Dr. Richard Pucciarelli

Certified Senior Advisor

Member of Asset Protectors and Advisors Group



'WE ARE UNITED WITH THEM THROUGH THE LOVE OF GOD.'

Catholic students bring outreach, hope

STUDENTS, from page 1

Costa Rica for their service trips. This year, they chose a small, predominantly African-American Catholic school in Mississippi as the place they needed to be.

"We all felt honored and privileged to serve the people of Pascagoula in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina," said Julie Ostergaard, Catholic campus minister at Wake Forest and Salem.

"Seeing photos or watching news coverage of the damage to people's homes gives just a glimpse of the magnitude of the destruction," she said.

Putting aside aches in their backs, splinters in their fingers and blisters on their feet, the students worked hard to help out at St. Peter the Apostle School.

"My church and my school were completely destroyed. My rectory and the convent were flooded with 4 feet of water. It's terrible here," said Josephite Father William Norvel, pastor of St. Peter the Apostle Church in a Sept. 16 interview with the Denver Catholic Register, archdiocesan newspaper.

"We waited until a month after the hurricane struck before we began making phone calls to the Gulf Coast," said Ostergaard.

They were eventually directed to Sister Bernadette McNamara, principal of St. Peter the Apostle School, part of which had been deemed unsafe and demolished.

"She said they needed storage buildings. The items they had salvaged from their main building, which had collapsed onto itself during the storm, were taking up space in the small classrooms of the remaining building."

With a discount from Lowes Home

Improvement and a generous donation from a student's father to cover the cost of the materials, the college students ordered the materials needed to build four storage sheds.

Upon arriving at the school, the students' expectations changed — St. Peter the Apostle School did need the four storage sheds, but they also needed much more help than the students realized.

While some of the students built the sheds, others hauled away debris that had accumulated since the hurricane's aftermath. Glass and trash were picked up so children could play in the fields around the school. The college students filled in puddles of standing water with wheelbarrows full of sand.

"Students picked up nickel-sized shards of glass from the schoolyard, a meticulous task which took two days to fill five garbage bags full," said Ostergaard.

The students spent the rest of their week working in rotating teams to attack projects as quickly and efficiently as possible. Some cleared trash, others sorted through donations of food and clothing from a FEMA trailer.

"It had been on the school property for weeks, with no one having the time to empty it," said Ostergaard. "Our students tirelessly emptied out its contents," throwing away ragged clothes and "carefully sorting the remaining clothes into labeled boxes."

Some went out into the Pascagoula community, giving away basic necessities and supplies, while others transported school supplies and desks to the new sheds.

By the end of the week, the students had finished their tasks — four sheds were standing in addition to the help given to the community of Pascagoula. But for many of the students, the most important aspect of the trip was the



COURTESY PHOTO BY BETSY FERRELL

Katie Ball, a senior at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, works with students at St. Peter the Apostle School in Pascagoula, Miss., in January. Among other projects, the college students were helping build storage sheds for the school.

fellowship they shared with the residents of Pascagoula, especially the playtime with the children during work breaks.

"At the end of the week, our skills had improved as English majors learned how to build a wooden frame, computer science majors hammered tar paper and shingles onto shed roofs and division I football players got tagged by first-graders in a game of touch football," said Ostergaard.

Many of the residents shared their hurricane experiences with the college students, inspiring them to work harder. Several volunteers said they saw God in the faces and words of the people they were helping.

"Many people here have nothing. I mean nothing," said Ruth McGee, one of few parishioners at St. Peter the Apostle Church who still have homes. "But it seems like people out there care, even though we're just lowly little old Mississippi."

For Father Norvel, one of the more uplifting moments in the aftermath of the hurricane came when he greeted the volunteers, whom he likened to angels of mercy.

The last day at St. Peter the Apostle

School, Sister McNamara thanked the college students for their hard work, which was showcased on news stations in Mississippi.

"Our college students chose to give up part of their Christmas break to serve other people," said Ostergaard. "Our nightly reflections and daily Masses helped us to reflect each day on the people we met in Pascagoula and to remember we are united with them through the love of God."

"We, as Americans and as Catholics, have the privilege to reach out to others and to assuage some of their suffering during this time," she said.

"Repeatedly, the men and women we met there, rich and poor alike, asked us to remind others not to forget about them as their stories fade from the limelight and from the media," said Ostergaard. "They do not want to be forgotten."

Catholic News Service contributed to this story.

Kristie Moe is a sophomore at Salem College in Winston-Salem.

BINGO
it's here!!!

St. Matthew K of C
BINGO at the new
South Charlotte Banquet Center
every Monday evening

Doors open: 6 pm
BINGO starts: 7 pm sharp!

Food and refreshments available
NON-SMOKING FACILITY
CASH ONLY - ATM AVAILABLE

9009 Bryant Farms Rd.

Directions: from 485- exit Rea Road (south). Right on Ballantyne. Past St. Matthew, turn left on Elm Lane (which turns into Bryant Farms Road). K of C Banquet Center is approximately 2 miles on the left.



IN THE NEWS

Hard work, dedication and ... attitude

Abbey alum, BB&T president to share business secrets

BELMONT — How do they do it, the Donald Trumps, Bill Gateses and Sandra Day O'Connors of the world? How do you get on the right path to success?

One man says he knows. He thinks the blueprint to success in life may have a lot to do with your attitude.

Belmont Abbey College alum Luis Lobo, president for BB&T's Washington Metropolitan Region, will discuss his book, "It Is Your Attitude," at the college Feb. 1. The event, co-sponsored by Belmont Abbey College and BB&T, is free and open to the public.

Lobo has treaded professional ground that few Hispanics have in order to become regional president of BB&T's Potomac Region. But Lobo says that writing the book "was never a commercial interest."

"It was my way of communicating some of my life's events coupled with broad observations over the last 20 years in the banking industry," said the native of Costa Rica who grew up in Lincoln, N.C.

"It Is Your Attitude" covers a variety of subjects, including how and why people fail or under perform; dealing with fear of failure; and 10 practical tips for improving your attitude.

The book features a real-world case study that shows the difference attitude can make within a business community.

Lobo said he believes people fail for several reasons. They may have a sense of entitlement and believe, even after a series of setbacks, that success will be



Luis Lobo

served to them on a platter.

"People driven by this fear are so focused on doing everything possible to avoid a setback that they lose balance with their personal, familial and spiritual lives," he said.

Lobo earned degrees in economics and business administration in 1983 from Belmont Abbey College.

In 2005, Belmont Abbey College inducted him into its inaugural Distinguished Alumni Wall of Fame.

WANT TO GO?

Luis Lobo will discuss "It Is Your Attitude" in the Student Commons at Belmont Abbey College at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 1. The event is free and open to the public.

Nation's bishops, Catholic college heads to have local dialogues

WASHINGTON (CNS) — At a Jan. 10 meeting in Washington, the U.S. bishops' Committee on Education approved a set of questions to guide local dialogues nationwide between diocesan bishops and the presidents of Catholic colleges and universities in their diocese.

The dialogues are to be conducted by May 3, the date on which "The Application of 'Ex Corde Ecclesiae' for the United States" took effect five years ago.

"Ex Corde Ecclesiae," Latin for "from the heart of the church," is Pope John Paul II's 1990 apostolic constitution on Catholic higher education, which set norms to assure the Catholic mission and identity of Catholic colleges and universities worldwide and called on national bishops' conferences to establish implementing norms applying the general norms within the context of their own countries.

Bishop Robert J. McManus of Worcester, Mass., chairman of the education committee, said that the guiding questions were themselves the result of a dialogue process between bishops and Catholic college and university presidents.

Questions deal with Catholic identity and character of the colleges and universities, communion with the local church, incorporation of the spirit and norms of "Ex Corde" and continued dialogue.

Auxiliary Bishop Walter J. Edyvean of Boston, who chairs the committee's Subcommittee on Bishops and Catholic College and University Presidents, said

the five-year progress review was called for by the U.S. implementation norms, not the Vatican document.

Specific questions that could arise in some of the local dialogues, such as possible revision of some institutions' statutes in light of the new Vatican and U.S. norms, would depend on individual bishops and presidents.

Bishop McManus said the guiding question on incorporation of the spirit and norms of the Vatican and U.S. documents includes a reference to dialogue on the implementation of the ecclesiastical "mandatum," or authorization to teach, that the norms say a Catholic theologian must have to teach in a Catholic institution of higher learning.

The relationship of faculty to Catholic identity and mission is the major theme to be discussed at the Feb. 4-6 annual meeting of the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, whose members are presidents of the country's Catholic higher education institutions. They collaborated with the education committee in drafting the guiding questions that will set the framework for the upcoming five-year review dialogues.

Richard Yanikoski, ACCU president, said that the feedback he receives from bishops and presidents "has been positive, helpful, and I think bodes well both for the institutions and the dioceses in fostering a constructive relationship than has been typical in the last several decades."

ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO THE HARVEST?

Then he said to His disciples, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers for His harvest." (Mt 9:37)

I am praying that you will join me in responding to our Lord's request for more "laborers" in harvesting the abundant fruit to be found at Belmont Abbey College. Over 125 years ago the Benedictine Monks came south in response to God's call to begin His work in the vineyard of North Carolina.

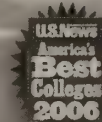
He is calling you to place your hands upon the same bricks that were formed and put in place by these holy monks so long ago. I am looking for strong, dedicated, Catholic students to help realize our vision of excellence and virtue. Belmont Abbey is your Catholic College and God is calling you to the "harvest."

Dr. William K. Thierfelder
President



BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED



☐ I WANT TO HELP BUILD OUR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY. PLEASE SEND ME A STUDENT REFERRAL PACKAGE.

If you would like to help Belmont Abbey College by referring or becoming a new student, please fill out this form and send it to us or go online to BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu and click on Referral Package in the Quick Links. We will send you our complete referral/information package with detailed information about the Abbey and all it has to offer!

Your Name _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____
Email _____
Phone _____ No. of Packages Requested _____

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
100 BELMONT-MT. HOLLY ROAD
BELMONT, NC 28012-1802
BELMONTABBEYCOLLEGE.EDU

FROM THE COVER

Human trafficking bill can be better, USCCB official says

BILL, from page 1

representative of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

"In general, I think the revisions are solid and necessary and the allocation of money is good," said Sister Mary Ellen Dougherty of the bishops' Migration and Refugee Services.

Sister Dougherty, a member of the School Sisters of Notre Dame and manager for outreach, education and technical assistance in MRS' human trafficking program, said the final version of the bill "didn't go far enough for us as far as children are concerned."

She said the legislation, called the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act, fails to empower Department of Health and Human Services officials to make decisions about the eligibility of children (to receive refugee benefits) "without having to wait an unreasonable amount of time."

She also wanted to see more steps taken to make sure that immediate guardians are appointed to children who have been trafficking victims.

Sister Dougherty praised the legislation for making human trafficking a "criminal offense under the uniform code of military justice" and for "increasing penalties for domestic trafficking."

She also commended the legislation's inclusion of residential treatment facilities for juveniles who had been subjected to trafficking.

The bill renewed the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, the first comprehensive federal law for the prosecution

"Make no mistake, this law will protect women and young girls at home and abroad and is a victory for victims of this abhorrent crime."

— Rep. Chris Smith, R-N.J.

of traffickers. Rep. Chris Smith, R-N.J., was the chief sponsor of both bills.

According to estimates by the Congressional Budget Office, the new legislation will provide \$361 million over the next two years to combat trafficking.

Smith said the new trafficking legislation "provides law enforcement with the necessary tools to continue the liberation of the unfortunate women and children who are forced into horrific, abusive conditions."

"Make no mistake, this law will protect women and young girls at home and abroad and is a victory for victims of this abhorrent crime," he added.

The legislation reauthorizes and expands appropriations for anti-trafficking programs in the United States and abroad and offers solutions to specific scenarios, such as peacekeeping missions, to combat trafficking problems.

It authorizes programs geared toward reducing the demand for commercial sex in the United States and preventing human trafficking of U.S. citizens within the country. It also provides new funding for the FBI's investigation of domestic and international trafficking.

The legislation also:

— Expands the ability to prosecute traffickers for violations of money



CNS PHOTO BY LARRY DOWNING, REUTERS

U.S. President George W. Bush speaks at a ceremony prior to signing the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building in Washington Jan. 10. Pictured at left is Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

laundering, racketeering and civil and criminal forfeiture statutes.

— Requires that the State Department include in the annual Trafficking in Persons Report information on the steps taken by international organizations to prevent the involvement of their personnel with trafficking.

— Terminates all government grants, contracts and cooperative agreements with contractors who engage in human trafficking or procure commercial sex acts during the period when the grant is in effect.

— Establishes a grants program through the Department of Health and Human Services to assist American citizens who are victims of human trafficking and directs the department to establish a pro-

gram to create residential treatment facilities for juveniles subjected to trafficking.

— Establishes a grants program for states and local law enforcement totaling \$50 million in 2006 and 2007 to investigate and prosecute those who traffick in people and criminals who purchase commercial sex acts within the United States.

Prior to signing the legislation in a ceremony attended by MRS officials Margaret MacDonnell, Nyssa Mestas and others, Bush described human trafficking as "an offense against human dignity, a crime in which human beings, many of them teenagers and young children, are bought and sold and often sexually abused by violent criminals."


"Our nation is determined to fight and end this modern form of slavery," he said.

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels. 

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065

125,000 people will read these words this week!



Shouldn't they see YOUR COMPANY'S name here?

LOW ad rates - easy for small businesses and individuals, too!

Call (704) 370-3332 now!

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

The Catholic Company,

LOOK!

Catholic Gift Shop in South Charlotte!

Now open at St. Matthew Catholic Church • New Life Center - Rm. 104
Corner of Rea Rd. and Ballantyne Commons Parkway

Hours:
Monday-Friday 9-3
Sunday 10-2
704-927-4313
(Call for info or directions)

Bring in this ad for 15% off your purchase.

(Not valid on "sale" items.)

Exp. 2/28/06

FROM THE COVER

Program helps re-energize, invigorate catechists, educators

RENEWAL, from page 1

Minn., presents workshops nationally on various issues such as addiction, abuse, self-esteem, empowerment, spirituality, and grief and loss.

"With humor, she made us feel good about ourselves," said Anne Stowe, pastoral assistant at St. Andrew the Apostle Church in Mars Hill. "She really made us understand that we are God's partners. We can relax and work with God."

Sometimes, Stowe said, her job can seem routine, but Sister Berns "made me feel it's a privilege again. I feel energized."

Father James Hawker, vicar of education for the Diocese of Charlotte and pastor of St. Luke Church in Mint Hill, opened the program, reminding the attendees of the importance of community.

"In the story of the paralytic, four people brought him to Jesus," Father Hawker said. "Forward in faith together, and that's what we are."

He added, "The mission is bigger than all or any of us, because the Holy Spirit guides us in our complementarity. Diversity is diversity of ministry and diversity of culture."

"There are layers of complementarity and diversity, but it all comes together at moments like this (day of recollection)," he said.

"We hesitate to identify with Jesus, but we are Jesus. We all must have certain qualities, (be) approachable, respectful, welcoming," said Father Hawker.

Balance and burnout

"We work with the people of God as a person of God to touch each person and avoid compassion burnout," Sister Berns said.

Compassion burnout happens when people let their ministries' demands deplete them to exhaustion, leaving them no reserves of strength.

"When you fill someone else's bucket, yours also gets full," Sister Berns said. "Stay away from those who simply drain your bucket. Giving away too much of yourself leaves you burned out."

Balance in ministry meshes religion and spirituality.

"Religion teaches the principles of faith," she said. "Anyone can learn the principles. Living (those principles) is the spirituality. Rigidity is fear-based."

For ministry, a balanced life is essential through self-care: making sure one engages in healthy practices such as eating properly, getting enough rest and exercise, developing interests outside of ministry, having caring friends, taking time for prayer and meditation.

It's also important, she said, to maintain spiritual balance: surrender, which means letting go, realizing that "something bigger is in charge";

"Religion teaches the principles of faith. Living those principles is the spirituality."

— Franciscan Sister Geneva Berns

purification, through practices such as reconciliation; living in the now instead of staying in the past or focusing on the future; recognizing those "epiphany" moments of special understanding; living and loving wisely and learning from mistakes; staying authentic — being the person one really is.

"If I don't have time for God, if I work all the time, my life is not balanced," Sister Berns said. "If there's a 'God hole' (an absence of God) in us, we fill it with drugs, gambling, work, shopping, sex, other addictions."

Shadows of shame

So how does someone develop an authentic core within himself or herself?

"That core is like a candle wick," Sister Berns said. "If it's not strong, it can't stay straight to burn evenly and it drowns itself."

Don't criticize others but rather affirm them and help them to accept themselves as they are, she advised.

"A person whose flame has gone out needs to be fanned into flame," she said. "They may always have had others make their decisions so they haven't been affirmed in making decisions for themselves."

Someone with high self-esteem doesn't compare himself or herself with others, but those with low self-esteem have been told they lack something.

Sister Berns asked if anyone had been told he or she wasn't beautiful, talented, or anything else he or she might be lacking.

"Shame is the blackest cloud hanging over us," she said. "Shame tells us we're not enough. So don't focus on the negative. If you focus on the positive, the negative will take care of itself."

Overcoming loss

Other areas that affect a balanced life are past hurts that others have inflicted and the losses everyone suffers.

Forgiveness of those who have caused hurt can be very freeing.

"Whenever I can't let go of someone who hurt me, I handcuff myself to that person," Sister Berns said. "Know who's living in your head rent free."

Acknowledging loss can also ease hurt.



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Franciscan Sister Geneva Berns speaks during "A Day Apart for Reflection and Renewal" at the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory Jan. 12. The program was for campus ministers, catechists, Catholic school educators, parish catechetical leaders and youth ministers.

"What are the tears going on in your life: losing someone you love, job loss, other losses?" she asked. "Make a cloth heart, tear it to represent the loss, then journal about it to grieve the loss."

Richard Borsuk, of St. James the Great Church in Concord, said he's planning to start a ministry similar to a "Theology on Tap" discussion group.

He appreciated Sister Berns' talk

about "relationships with people, building people up instead of tearing them down, trying to understand where people are coming from."

"All of us are on some path to holiness," Sister Berns said.

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail jnell@dnet.net.

get ignited!

Come hear these great Catholic speakers

Dr Alice Von Hildebrand

George Weigel

Stephen Ray

Dr Jacques Mistrot

Ignited By Truth

Catholic Conference

February 17-18, 2006

Raleigh, North Carolina

Bringing to light the truth of the teachings of the Catholic Church and igniting in our hearts a love for our Faith

For complete details and online registration, visit:
www.IgnitedByTruth.com

IN THE NEWS

JUDGING A JUDGE

Alito hearings hit many topics, make clear his possible votes on few

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — By the time Judge Samuel Alito Jr.'s Senate confirmation hearings finished Jan. 13, he had answered around 700 questions over the better part of three days, and spent nearly the same amount of time listening to senators explaining their own views and parsing his answers.

Alito, a judge on the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals since 1990, spent hours responding to questions on everything from his judicial theories to his membership in a controversial group called Concerned Alumni of Princeton.

And while some Democratic members of the Judiciary Committee in particular never seemed happy with Alito's answers, it appeared likely he would be approved by both the committee and the full Senate. Floor debate and a vote of the full Senate would follow the Jan. 24 scheduled vote of the committee.

Among the subjects pursued persistently by senators on the committee was abortion and whether Alito might be likely to vote to overturn laws, including *Roe v. Wade*, that made it legal.

He also fielded questions about his views on the separation of church and state, immigration and capital punishment, amid the hours of back and forth on legal precedents and his rulings as a judge.

Like other recent nominees to the court, Alito declined to be specific when senators attempted to get him to explain how he might vote in certain types of cases that might come before the court.

And despite the attention given to the religious beliefs of the previous nominee for the same seat, almost no mention was made of the Catholic nominee's personal religious influences.

Alito was named to replace White House counsel Harriet Miers as President George W. Bush's nominee to the Supreme Court. Miers withdrew her name amid a chorus of criticism about her credentials for the position.

With few of Miers' personal legal writings to consider, some of her supporters emphasized her membership in an evangelical Protestant church as the basis for arguing that she would be likely to vote in opposition to legal abortion.

At Chief Justice John Roberts' confirmation hearings in September, he was asked how being Catholic might

influence his approach on the court.

"There's nothing in my personal views based on faith or other sources that would prevent me from applying the precedent of the court faithfully," Roberts said.

In response to later questions, he said he rules strictly on the basis of law, not on his faith: "I don't look to the Bible or any other religious sources."

Alito's response to the same question was similar.

"My personal religious beliefs are important to me in my private life," he told Sen. Richard Durbin, D-Ill., who is also a Catholic.

"But my obligation as a judge is to interpret and apply the laws of the United States and not my personal religious beliefs," he said.

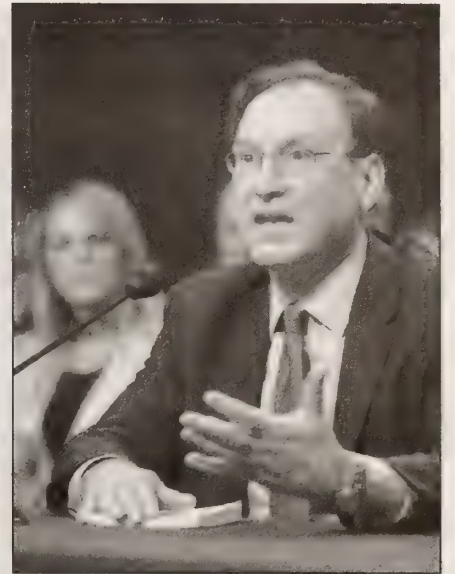
If confirmed, Alito would become the fifth Catholic on the court. Until Roberts was named, the three Catholics then on the court was a record. Justices Antonin Scalia, Anthony Kennedy and Clarence Thomas also are Catholic.

Questioning aimed at figuring out how Alito might rule on cases over abortion and other areas of law received less direct responses than did the one about his religious beliefs, however.

For example, in response to Durbin's question about whether *Roe v. Wade*, the 1973 decision legalizing abortion, is "settled law of the land," Alito responded:

"It is a precedent. If settled ... it can't be re-examined, then that's one thing," Alito said.

"If settled means that it is a precedent that is entitled to respect as 'stare



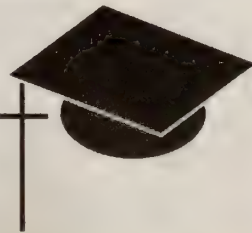
CNS PHOTO BY PAUL HARING

U.S. Supreme Court nominee Judge Samuel Alito Jr. answers questions on the second day of his Senate Judiciary Committee confirmation hearings on Capitol Hill in Washington Jan. 10.

decisis,' and all of the factors that I've mentioned come into play, including the reaffirmation and all of that, then it is a precedent that is protected, entitled to respect under the doctrine of 'stare decisis' in that way," he said.

"Stare decisis" is a legal term meaning that once an issue has been decided in court, all future cases with similar circumstances follow that precedent. One argument for keeping abortion legal is that the "right" to abortion is settled law and therefore should continue.

Catholic Schools
Character. Compassion. Values.



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

January 29 - February 4

The eight Catholic schools that make up the MACS school system are strongly committed to building character, fostering compassion, and instilling values in our students.

Character. Your child will develop a connection with the spiritual — essential for building a strong and principled character.

Compassion. Students care not only about themselves, but others and the world around them.

Values. Your child will develop the core Catholic values for a successful and meaningful life.

MACS
Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools

Visit us online to learn more about the eight MACS schools located across the Charlotte-Mecklenburg area or call Admissions at (704) 370-3273.

www.charlottediocese.org/macs



Mass with Bishop Peter Jugis

Celebrate the start of Catholic Schools Week!
Sunday, January 29 at 2:30 pm

St. Matthew Catholic Church
8015 Ballantyne Commons Parkway

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Old is new again

Book of Psalms of The Saint John's Bible published

BY CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

COLLEGEVILLE, Minn. — The Liturgical Press of St. John's Abbey in Collegeville has announced the release of the Book of Psalms of The Saint John's Bible, a full-color reproduction of the first handwritten illuminated Bible to be created in 500 years.

The 9.75-by-15-inch hardbound Psalms volume is about two-thirds the size of the hand-illuminated vellum pages that form the original manuscript.

The 80-page Book of Psalms is the second published volume of what will eventually be a seven-volume work. The first volume, Gospels and Acts, was published in 2005.

The entire 1,150-page illuminated Bible manuscript is slated for completion in 2007. The \$4 million project began in 1998 when the Benedictine monks of St. John's Abbey commissioned one of the world's foremost calligraphers, Donald Jackson, to serve as artistic director and illuminator.

Jackson is senior scribe to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's Crown Office.

In conjunction with the publication of Psalms, St. John's Abbey announced a schedule of its "Illuminating the Word" exhibit tour featuring more than 60 actual manuscripts, examples of preliminary sketches and tools of the artists, and explanations of the nature and history of the monumental project.

In 2006 it will be shown at locations in Nebraska, Texas and Oct. 6-Dec. 15 at the Library of Congress in Washington.

"I believe the Book of Psalms will be one of the favorite books to see when the Bible is exhibited," said Benedictine Father Michael Patella, chairman of the Committee on Illumination and Text, which oversees the project.

For the text of Psalms, Jackson

created a distinctive font with a lighter-weight script than is being used for the rest of the Bible to underscore the poetic, musical character of the Psalms.

The Saint John's Bible is divided into seven groups of biblical books: Pentateuch, Historical Books, Wisdom Literature, Psalms, Prophets, Gospels and Acts, and Letters and Revelation.

Jackson and his team of artists and calligraphers use quill pens and other traditional tools, colors, inks and metals to write and illuminate the biblical text on sheets of vellum, or fine calfskin. Like some of the great medieval Bibles, each bound volume will measure 2 feet by nearly 3 feet when laid open.

But modern computer technology has also been used in a variety of ways, from planning the layout of the entire work to creating high-resolution digital photos of each manuscript page for reproduction in book form and in separate fine art prints that are available for purchase from Liturgical Press.

The art itself also incorporates modern technology. For example, for the five major "choir book" illuminations in Psalms, Jackson took musical recordings of the Psalms, including Gregorian chant, and converted them into a digital format on a computer.

He created voice prints on the computer screen with colorful patterns and wave formations that he photographed and used as one of the thematic unifiers through all five of the brilliant red, blue and gold illuminations.

Artistic renderings of those patterns also float in gold on the margins and between texts throughout the book.

The New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, a translation widely used throughout the English-speaking world, was used for the text and notes.

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: JAN. 29, 2006

Jan. 29, Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Deuteronomy 18:15-20
Psalms 95:1-2, 6-9
- 2) 1 Corinthians 7:32-35
- 3) Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

Never doubt God's word, Jesus' authority

BY DAN LUBY
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Years ago a routine chest X-ray revealed, in the ominous terminology of medical reports, "an anomaly," a quirk the doctor couldn't quite explain.

I was advised to consult other physicians more expert in thoracic medicine, more adept at interpreting the mysteries of radiology. The internist suggested that it would probably be safe to go slow, checking periodically for a few years to spot any changes.

The radiologist acknowledged that this particular film was outside his area of expertise, but his advice was emphatic.

"If it were my X-ray," he said, "I'd have that nodule taken out."

When I expressed my anxiety, he suggested I consult a thoracic surgeon. If the surgeon, with all his experience, thought it prudent to wait, it probably was.

When I finally met the surgeon, his

demeanor was quite different from the other two doctors. He was thorough and attentive as the others had been, but he spoke with unique authority, the fruit of decades of diagnostic instinct and surgical experience.

I immediately sensed that his advice would be prudent and wise, and knew I would follow it, regardless of its direction. Happily, the intervening years proved his conservative, wait-and-see advice sound.

My "anomaly" remains stable.

In Sunday's Gospel, synagogue participants who hear Jesus' teaching and witness his dominion over the spirit of captivity are "astonished" and "amazed" because, they say, he teaches with authority.

Jesus doesn't cite experts or statistical evidence to authenticate his vision of God's love and truth. He teaches and acts from the unique experience of one who knows not simply "about" God, but God himself.

When it comes to speaking on God's behalf — the heart of prophecy — who could be more trustworthy than Jesus, God's very Word become one of us? As the new year unfolds, may we listen with confidence to that Word.

Questions:

What helps you to recognize and respond to the authority of Jesus? What is one way you can listen to the Word with greater openness?

Scripture to Illustrate:

"The people were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority" (Mark 1:22).

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF JAN. 22-28

Sunday (Third Sunday in Ordinary Time), Jonah 3:1-5, 10, 1 Corinthians 7:29-31, Mark 1:14-20; Monday, 2 Samuel 5:1-7, 10, Mark 3:22-30; Tuesday (St. Francis de Sales), 2 Samuel 6:12-15, 17-19, Mark 3:31-35; Wednesday (Conversion of Paul), Acts 22:3-16, Mark 16:15-18; Thursday (St. Timothy and Titus), Titus 1:1-5, Mark 4:21-25; Friday (St. Angela Merici), 2 Samuel 11:1-4, 5-10, 13-17, Mark 4:26-34; Saturday (St. Thomas Aquinas), 2 Samuel 12:1-7, 10-17, Mark 4:35-41.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF JAN. 29-FEB. 4

Sunday (Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Deuteronomy 18:15-20, 1 Corinthians 7:32-35, Mark 1:21-28; Monday, 2 Samuel 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13, Mark 5:1-20; Tuesday (St. John Bosco), 2 Samuel 18:9-10, 14, 24-25, 30-19:3, Mark 5:21-43; Wednesday, 2 Samuel 24:2, 9-17, Mark 6:1-6; Thursday (Presentation of the Lord), Malachi 3:1-4, Hebrews 2:14-18, Luke 2:22-40; Friday (St. Blaise, St. Ansgar), Sirach 47:2-11, Mark 6:14-29; Saturday, 1 King 3:4-13, Mark 6:30-34.

WE'VE CHANGED OUR NAME!

We'll now both be known as

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES

Mon. thru Sat.
10 am - 6 pm

The **Cath^olic** Company
Lake Norman Book Store

CAROLINA CATHOLIC
BOOKSHOPPE



BIG BOOK SALE NOW
at the Monroe Road location!

- Unique gifts & cards
- Books, rosaries, medals
- Previously read book section (at Lake Norman)
- Video rentals
- Artwork

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

Groce
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

1401 Patton Ave. 72 Long Shoals Road
Asheville, NC Arden, NC
(828) 252-3535 (828) 687-3530

**Assuring
Absolute
Integrity**

Asheville's Catholic Funeral Directors
Dale Groce • John Prock

Toll-free (888) 874-3535

Pre-arrangements and obituaries on-line at www.grocefuneralhome.com

God is calling

Advertisements, ringtones, programs help to attract vocations

BY PATRICIA KASTEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Although religious habits aren't seen too often on television, Wisconsin viewers saw them on advertisements this past fall during the "7th Heaven" and "Gilmore Girls" series on the WB network.

A marketing study by the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity in Manitowoc showed that television programming with religious or moral messages reaches their target group of college-age women who are open to the call to religious life.

The study confirmed what Sister Julie Ann Sheahan of the order's vocations office had already suspected.

"Young women in contact with our vocation office have told me how decisive and selective they try to be when deciding which programs to watch or Web sites to visit," said Sister Julie Ann. "Most do make TV viewing choices based on their faith beliefs."

So the sisters developed a series of six television advertisements — to complement current radio and print advertising — built around the community's signature line: "The world needs you. God calls you. We invite you."

Various sites where the sisters are stationed, including St. Peter's Mission School in Bapchule, Ariz., and St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Greenwood, Miss., were used in filming the commercials.

Television advertisements may seem a unique way to search out vocations, but Sister Julie Ann said that, while "personal invitation is always best, we became convinced that real conversations can begin by using the language of images and music."

The order's Web site — www.fsccll.com — also offers

free ringtones featuring a woman singing the words "called to be," part of the nuns' "Peace and All Good" theme song.

"As consecrated women we are encouraged by our church to make known the beauty and truth of our lives through the marvels of technology," Sister Julie Ann said. "We hope our simple, beautiful 'called to be' ringtone may inspire young women to discover and discern their unique call from God."

Many methods

The Franciscan sisters aren't the only ones to use advertisements to promote vocations, particularly near National Vocations Awareness Week, which was Jan. 8-14.

In the Diocese of Providence, R.I., the annual vocations awareness campaign features a 30-second television commercial that has been aired locally on cable stations such as Animal Planet, Comedy Central, ESPN, TNT and TV Land since the last week of December and will run until the end of January.

The commercial opens with Providence Bishop Thomas J. Tobin standing in front of the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul, followed by footage of priests performing baptisms, delivering sermons and ministering to the sick.

"Catholic priesthood is a life of sacrificial love," the bishop says. "I believe that Jesus continues to call others today into this life of service. If you or someone you know is considering the priesthood, please log onto our Web site, catholicpriest.com."

In Pittsburgh, the Capuchin Franciscan Friars of the St. Augustine province are trying a more long-term approach to increasing vocations. In December, they began a new novitiate program that brings together 14 men from eight of the order's provinces to spend a year at St. Conrad Friary in McCandless Township.

'Grandma's Boy' should be evicted



CNS PHOTO BY 20TH CENTURY FOX

Allen Covert and Doris Roberts star in "Grandma's Boy," an unspeakably bad comedy about a video-game tester who moves in with his grandmother after he's evicted for nonpayment of rent. Nonstop gross-out humor, rough and crude language, sexual situations and innuendo, nudity, heavy drug use, hedonistic worldview. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is O — morally offensive. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.

While the program results in part from a decrease in vocations, it also recognizes that "a lot of what we learn we learn through a peer group," said Capuchin Father William Wiethorn, co-director of the novitiate.

Individually, each province's numbers were small. By bringing them together the order can offer a more extensive preparation period. The Capuchins also wanted to build a sense of brotherhood in an order that is represented around the world.

Capuchins today number more than 11,000 friars active in 101 countries. At the end of their year the novices will profess

temporary vows and return to their home provinces to continue studies toward the Capuchin priesthood or brotherhood.

"This is a highly spiritual year, with a lot of prayer, and input from us, and experts in Franciscan spirituality coming in from different provinces," Father Wiethorn said.

"A very strong emphasis is on our brotherhood. We want them to be willing to work and do things together. That's important," he said.

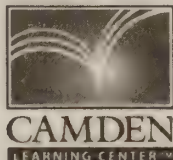
Contributing to this story were Michael Brown in Providence and Patricia Bartos in Pittsburgh.

Start the New Semester at the Top of the Class

CAMDEN LEARNING CENTER™
is a personalized educational center offering specialized tutoring for all ages in:

Reading • Phonics
Written Language • Math
Study Skills
SAT/ACT Preparation

Let Camden™ help



Felicia Susi, Owner/Director
Parishioner, St. Matthew Catholic Church
& Parent, St. Matthew Catholic School student

South Charlotte
(704) 752-4234

www.camdenlearningcenter.com

Join Fr. Frank Cancro in Asia

Discovering the Dragon: An Asian Adventure



I would love the opportunity to share my year with you! My sabbatical in Asia is an amazing experience. Your heart will be opened to these wonderful people as you experience their culture and learn of their encounters with the West and with Christianity.

Come join us on this exciting adventure... May 20 – June 4

HIGHLIGHTS

Hong Kong – Victoria Peak, Aberdeen and Stanley Market
Hanoi, Vietnam – The Temple of Literature, One Pillar Pagoda and the Old Quarter, plus a five-hour cruise on Halong Bay with lunch; Ho Chi Minh City – Reunification Palace, Notre Dame Cathedral and Cu Chi Tunnels, remaining from the Vietnam War.
Siem Reap, Cambodia – Ancient City of Angkor, its Temples and Angkor Wat
Bangkok, Thailand – Wat Bowonniwate Temple, Grand Palace and much more
Chiang Mai, China – Elephant Camp and Hill Tribe Tour

12 Nights Superior and Deluxe hotel accommodations throughout, daily breakfasts upon arrival, and five lunches and/or dinners.

Price from Los Angeles \$3,989, includes current airport departure taxes and visa fees (subject to change) and gratuities.

Space is limited. Registrations must be received by March 1, 2006.

For information, please call, Linda Ander Travel at 1-877-377-3277 or e-mail: LindaAnder777@hotmail.com. Also visit our webpage at www.LindaAnderTravel.com.

Court rejects federal effort to prohibit physician-assisted suicide

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In a 6-3 ruling, the Supreme Court Jan. 17 upheld Oregon's physician-assisted suicide law, rejecting the U.S. attorney general's attempt to use federal drug control laws to stop doctors from prescribing lethal doses to people who are terminally ill.

Writing for the majority, Justice Anthony Kennedy said although the federal government may apply drug laws to states, the "authority claimed by the attorney general is both beyond his expertise and incongruous with the statutory purposes and design."

If the attorney general's argument were to stand, the government could apply the same logic to other types of medical judgments, Kennedy wrote.

"He could decide whether any particular drug may be used for any particular purpose, or indeed whether a physician who administers any controversial treatment could be deregistered," or effectively barred from practicing medicine, Kennedy wrote.

The attorney general would have such power even though the law limits his authority to the registration and control of drugs "and despite the statutory purposes to combat drug abuse and prevent illicit drug trafficking," he said.

Kennedy was joined in the majority opinion by Justices John Paul Stevens, Sandra Day O'Connor, Stephen Breyer, David Souter and Ruth Bader Ginsberg. Justice Antonin Scalia wrote a dissenting opinion, in which he was joined by Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Clarence Thomas. Thomas also wrote a separate dissent.

In his dissent in *Gonzales v. Oregon*, Scalia said it was perfectly valid for the

Justice Department to define "legitimate medical purpose" in applying its own regulation, and to conclude that the term cannot be applied to intentionally assisting suicide.

"Our presumption that the Controlled Substances Act creates a uniform federal law regulating the dispensation of controlled substances ... means that this objective standard must be a federal one," he wrote.

Scalia also took issue with the majority's finding that assisted suicide is a legitimate medical practice.

"The fact that many in Oregon believe that the boundaries of 'legitimate medicine' should be extended to include assisted suicide does not change the fact that the overwhelming weight of authority (including the 47 states that condemn physician-assisted suicide) confirms that they have not yet been so extended," he wrote.

"If the term 'legitimate medical purpose' has any meaning, it surely excludes the prescription of drugs to produce death," he concluded.

In an amicus, or friend-of-the-court, brief urging the court to uphold the federal restrictions on lethal drugs, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and other church organizations argued that assisting suicide is not a legitimate medical purpose. In fact, the brief said, establishing a medical distinction between assisted suicide and effective pain control has led to more effective treatment of pain.

Oregon became the first state to legalize physician-assisted suicide when voters passed the Death With Dignity Act in 1994. The law took effect after a 1997 voter initiative to repeal the statute failed. Oregon remains the only state to permit physician-assisted suicide.

Coordinator of Elementary Religious Education Program St. Mark Catholic Church, Huntersville

Ideal candidate is college graduate with minimum of two years of education experience in parish or school; possesses strong organizational, computer and communication skills; exhibits high threshold of energy and enthusiasm for children and our Catholic Faith. Strong catechetical background preferred with willingness to pursue continuing education through diocese or accredited Catholic college or university. Evening and weekend availability required due to student classes, meetings and special events. Info: 704-948-1306; dsmith18@bellsouth.net

**Please send resume to: St. Mark Catholic Church
14740 Stumptown Road
Huntersville, NC 28078
c/o Donna F. Smith, DRE.**

PRINCIPAL

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Principal of St. Thomas More School, a practicing Catholic, is the administrator and educational leader of St. Thomas More of the Archdiocese of Atlanta with approximately 500 students and approximately 40 faculty and staff. Appointed by the Archbishop and reporting to the Chancellor, the Principal is accountable to the Archbishop through the Chancellor, for implementation of the mission of Catholic education in St. Thomas More School. The Principal is also responsible for providing leadership and managing the School staff; mentoring and providing mediation and conflict resolution among staff, students, and external sources; developing long and short range plans for the grade School; providing communication and support for teachers, students, chaplains, pastors, and boards; representing the Archdiocese in matters related to St. Thomas More School; and assuring compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws and codes. Some travel required. Send resume, credentials, references and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht,
140 West Myrtle Street,
Duluth, MN 55811-5018
Telephone 218-727-5150
E-mail mruprecht@cpinternet.com



Diocesan Tribunal Office*

**Full-Time Position as Paralegal,
Tribunal Notary, Administrative Assistant**

**Reports to the Director of the Tribunal
at Charlotte Pastoral Center**

Job requirements: Paralegal certificate. Self-directed; proficient communication skills. Detail-oriented position, involving record creation/record keeping, and computer literacy. Unimpaired reputation. A practicing Catholic.

Inquiries are confidential. Please send resume to Sister Sheila Richardson, Director, at Tribunal@charlottediocese.org.

*The Diocesan Tribunal processes and decides marriage nullity cases.

Classifieds

SERVICES

COUNSELING SERVICES: Individuals. Couples. Family. Lucille Moses, BSN, M.Ed. North Carolina Licensed Professional Counselor. 1801 East 5th Street, 108-B, Charlotte. 704-366-6507 or 704-942-4334.

Classified ads bring results! Over 125,000 readers! Over 49,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

Superintendent for the Archdiocese of Atlanta

The Superintendent of Schools, a practicing Catholic, is the chief administrator and educational leader of the Catholic schools of the Archdiocese of Atlanta. Appointed by the Archbishop, the Superintendent is accountable to the Archbishop through the Chancellor, for implementation of the mission of Catholic education in the 18 elementary and secondary schools. The Superintendent is also responsible for implementing the Archbishop's vision for Catholic schools and managing the Office of Catholic School staff; developing long and short range plans for the schools; providing leadership, and support for local school leadership, pastors, religious congregations, principals, and boards; representing the Archdiocese in matters of education; and ensuring compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws and codes. Also responsible for mentoring and providing mediation and conflict resolution among staff, students, and external sources; representing the Archdiocese in educational matters related to archdiocesan schools. Some travel required. Send resume, credentials, references and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811-5018,
Email: mruprecht@cpinternet.com
Telephone: 218-727-5150



FIGHTING FOR LIFE

Abortion not 'American way,' march organizer says

MARCH, from page 1

continue to be killed. It just continues on and on and on."

That's why the theme for the 33rd annual March for Life Jan. 23 in Washington is "Roe v. Wade Violates the American Way."

The 2006 march will take place the day after the anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court decision that lifted most state restrictions on abortion, since Jan. 22 falls on a Sunday this year. The march always takes place on a weekday to permit marchers to visit the offices of their representatives in Congress afterward.

"Marchers for life educate Washington officialdom at all three branches of our government that a preborn human person, with an unalienable right to life, exists at fertilization, and that abortion kills a preborn human, traumatizes mothers and fathers, and assaults all members of our society, including feminists/abortionists," according to materials distributed by the March for Life.

Pro-life events

Groups from the Diocese of Char-

lotte are planning to participate in the March for Life.

Because of construction, this year's march has a different starting point — Seventh Street and the National Mall, the long park west of the Capitol. The March for Life usually begins at the Ellipse, located between the White House and the Washington Monument.

But the 2006 march, which begins at noon Jan. 23, will be surrounded by the usual complement of pro-life events and activities.

The National Prayer Vigil for Life opens Jan. 22 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington with an 8 p.m. Mass celebrated by Cardinal William H. Keeler of Baltimore.

The vigil — sponsored by the basilica, the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities and The Catholic University of America — also includes a rosary for life, night prayer, Holy Hours, morning prayer and the opportunity for confession.

It ends at 7:30 a.m. Jan. 23 with a Mass of penance and prayer.

Special events for young pro-lifers include the American Collegians for Life student leadership conference Jan. 21 on the Catholic University campus and a rally for life and youth Mass on the morning of Jan. 23 at Washington's MCI Sports Arena.

The March for Life Education & Defense Fund also is sponsoring an educational convention Jan. 21-22 at the Hyatt Regency Washington Hotel on Capitol Hill.

Scheduled events include talks by Archbishop Raymond L. Burke of St. Louis and Bobby Schindler, the brother



COURTESY PHOTO

A contingent of people from the Diocese of Charlotte walks toward the Supreme Court during the annual March for Life in Washington Jan. 24, 2005. This year's march takes place Jan. 23.

"Millions of children continue to be killed. It just continues on and on and on."

— Nellie Gray, president of the March for Life Education & Defense Fund

of Terri Schiavo; screenings of films on ultrasound images and partial-birth abortion; and individual testimonies by men and women who have suffered varied abortion experiences.

Raymond L. Flynn, national chairman of Catholic Citizenship and former U.S. ambassador to the Vatican, will be honored at the fund's 24th annual Rose Dinner scheduled for the evening of Jan. 23 at the Hyatt Regency.

Coast to coast

In addition to the anti-Roe events traditionally staged in the nation's capital, two major marches are also planned for the West Coast.

In San Francisco, thousands are expected to take part in the second annual Walk for Life West Coast Jan. 21.

The 2005 event was the first large-scale Roe v. Wade anniversary demonstration to be held in the Bay Area. It drew 7,000 pro-lifers.

As they walked along the city's waterfront, the marchers at times were met with jeers and crude signs from many of the 3,000 abortion supporters who staged a counterdemonstration.

In a statement on the Web site for this year's march, organizers told pro-

life participants to expect the same reaction but to remember their own event is to remain peaceful.

"Please come prepared to be 100 percent peaceful. Our witness to peace in the face of such vile hostility is our greatest contribution to the pro-life movement," the statement said.

In Los Angeles, the archdiocesan Commission for Catholic Life Issues and Hispanics for Life are sponsoring a March for Life/Life Chain Jan. 22.

Participants, also expected to be in the thousands, will meet at Our Lady of the Angels Cathedral and then process with pro-life signs through the streets of downtown Los Angeles.

The event "will be a reflection of the cultural diversity of the Catholic Church, which is uniting in prayer to end the 33-year slaughter of our unborn brothers and sisters. Hispanics in particular are overwhelmingly pro-life," said Astrid Bennett Gutierrez, board member of Hispanics for Life.

In endorsing the event, Cardinal Roger M. Mahony of Los Angeles said the "Life Chain is a way to make the proclamation (that) to be human is to be called to protect life and to promote human dignity."

THE ORATORY

434 Charlotte Avenue, P.O. Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586
(803) 327-2097

26th CARDINAL NEWMAN LECTURE

Saturday, February 25
9:30 am to 4 pm

Fr. Donald Cozzens

Fr. Donald Cozzens is a priest and faculty member at John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio. Besides teaching theology, Fr. Cozzens is highly respected among laity and leaders in the American Catholic Church and in the ecumenical community through his writing and speaking. His scholarly and pastoral work is available in articles and notably "The Changing Face of the Priesthood" from Liturgical Press.

The Newman Lecture is an annual gift from the Rock Hill Oratory to the regional Church to celebrate the life and ministry of Cardinal John Henry Newman of the Oratory.

The Newman Lecture is open to all without charge or pre-registration. The schedule includes noontime Eucharist and an early afternoon chamber music concert.

Everything For ...
First Communion
www.YourSpecialPlace.net

Carolina Funeral & Cremation Center
*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

DO ADS WORK? LISTEN TO THIS:

"We have been very pleased with the readers' response to our ad in The Catholic News & Herald. We advertise our caregiver services in a number of publications and none has produced the interest and response we've received from The Catholic News & Herald."

— Jill B. Stewart, Owner, Visiting Angels

THE CATHOLIC NEWS HERALD

CALL TODAY for low rates to tell over 125,000 readers every week about YOUR company! 704-370-3332

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Healing past hurts and anger

Turning to Jesus is key to healing

If you are struggling with the pain of past hurts and unresolved anger, please read this column.

Buried resentments are difficult to escape. The embers of anger may keep burning, but there is always grace. With God's help, spiritual healing is possible.

Lots of people suffer from this kind of emotional distress. They want to heal their wounds, but they don't know how.

"The whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. There is not soundness, only bruises and bleeding wounds, but the wounds are not softened with oil" (Is 1:5, 6).

Whenever the pain of life becomes too much for you, turn immediately to Jesus. He may seem to ask the impossible, but his words supply the healing balm of wisdom, a wisdom that will soften the wound with oil. Here is the formula for success.

Think about what Jesus said the night before he died. He explained his purpose on earth in these words, "I have told you all these things that your joy may be full."

Among his teachings we find the mandate to forgive. Jesus told us to forgive because he wanted us to be free of emotional pain.

The Lord also asks you to forgive your "enemy" not once but "70 times seven." What does that mean in practical terms?

It means that to get rid of the distress you will need to forgive the one who hurt you. Holding onto resentment will only diminish your capacity for joy.

You can break free! There are three things to consider in order to get started.

—First, admit that you have been deeply hurt and that you are angry. Don't go into denial about it. Repressed anger will only cause more distress.

—Second, accept the fact that you must treat your wounds in order for

Spirituality for Today

FATHER JOHN CATOIR
CNS COLUMNIST



them to heal.

—And third, decide to treat them by doing what Jesus asked of you — namely, forgive the other person whether you feel like it or not.

Forgiveness is in the will. You don't have to have good feelings toward the person when you forgive him or her. Good feelings will come in time.

Forgive the person as an act of obedience to the Lord. This may sound impossible at first, but blind faith in the power of God will enable you to heal.

You do not even have to face the person who hurt you. You can do this spiritually — that is, by simply approaching that person in your imagination. Forgive him or her in the privacy of your own heart.

You do this not necessarily for the benefit of the other person; you do it for the Lord and for yourself.

You never have to force feelings of any kind when you forgive. Put the issue of your feelings aside for now, and forgive because Jesus asks it of you.

Some bitterness may linger for a time, but if that happens say a short prayer for the person each time, a "Hail Mary" perhaps. This will serve as a sign to you that you have decided to forgive and forget.

To forgive is to turn off the furnace that fuels the resentment. Once that is done, all you need to do is wait patiently. Time heals all wounds.

If you need help in this process, try talking to a friend or a trusted priest. The sacrament of reconciliation brings God's grace to the healing process. The confessional experience can soothe a troubled soul.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

Restoring unity among Christians requires prayer, pope says

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The restoration of full unity among Christians is a "holy cause" that requires prayer even more than human efforts, Pope Benedict XVI said.

The pope focused on ecumenism at his weekly general audience Jan. 18, the first day of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

Departing from his prepared text, the pope also announced that his first encyclical, "Deus Caritas Est" ("God Is Love"), would be released Jan. 25, the closing day of the week of prayer.

Although the encyclical is not specifically tied to the theme of ecumenism, he said, "the foundation is ecumenical because God's love and our love is the condition for unity among Christians and for peace in the world."

In his prepared text and in extemporaneous remarks, Pope Benedict said Christians must pray and work for unity, but they also must give thanks to God for the progress already achieved in bringing Christians closer together.

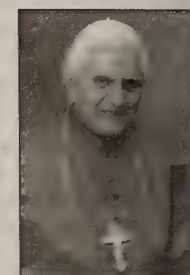
Pope Benedict said much hard work has led to a rediscovery of brotherhood among different Christians, to strong bonds of solidarity among them, and to a growth in unity and in agreement about matters of faith, although "certainly in an uneven way in the various dialogues" with different churches and communities.

Pope Benedict said the prayer week is an occasion for Christians "to reflect on the drama of the division of the Christian community and together to ask Jesus 'that all would be one so that the world might believe.'"

"Public and private prayers, the con-

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



version of hearts and holiness of life" must be the centerpiece of efforts to restore Christian unity, he said, because the key problem is "obedience to the Gospel in order to do the will of God with his necessary and effective help."

The faith that Christians share, despite their divisions, is what gives them the possibility of praying together, he said.

"Communion in Christ supports the whole ecumenical movement and is the reason for seeking the unity of all Christians in the church of God," he said.

"This is what distinguishes the ecumenical movement from every other initiative of dialogue and relationship with other religions and ideologies," he said.

Pope Benedict said that, like Pope John Paul II "who did so much and suffered so much for the ecumenical questions," he would celebrate the end of the week of prayer Jan. 25 at Rome's Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls.

"I will pray with our Orthodox and Protestant brothers and sisters and thank God for all he has given us and pray that he will guide us on the path to unity," the pope said.

"We continue to pray because we are aware that the holy cause of the re-establishment of Christian unity is beyond our poor human efforts and that definitive unity is a gift of God," he said.

Holy Angels thanks its many supporters

Holy Angels is so fortunate to be located in the Diocese of Charlotte. As we celebrate our 50th anniversary this year, we do so knowing the support that has been shown through the years will continue. Our recent holiday season is an example of the great love and support of the Catholic community.

On behalf of our residents and staff, Holy Angels would like to say thank you to the individuals, companies, churches, schools and other groups who supported us so generously this Christmas season.

So many shared with us their time, talents and treasures. Our residents received gifts of beautiful music from Christmas carolers, presents from Santa, delicious food, equipment, clothing and much

more. Donations were sent to Holy Angels in memory and in honor of loved ones.

The year 2006 will continue to be filled with joy at Holy Angels. With your help, Holy Angels is able to provide a home of unconditional love and unlimited possibilities for children and adults with mental retardation and physical disabilities, many of whom are medically fragile.

We ask for your continued prayers and support during the coming year. Thank you again and please accept our best wishes for a healthy and prosperous New Year.

— Regina P. Moody
President/CEO, Holy Angels
Belmont

Letter to the Editor

Was there ever a woman pope?

Q. In a discussion about popes, a friend stated that a book he once read claimed there were two female popes in the Catholic Church. If this is true, who were they and when were they popes? (Delaware)

A. Every once in awhile the legend surfaces, usually in some anti-Catholic tracts, about a Popess Joan. This is possibly what you remember.

The story of Popess Joan is a bizarre one that first appeared in the 13th century, nearly 300 or 400 years after she was alleged to have lived. After a distinguished career as a scholar, she disguised herself, so the story goes, so effectively that she became a priest, a cardinal in the Roman Curia and finally pope.

She reportedly reigned for two and one-half years as Pope John Angelicus (or Joan or Gilberta; stories vary), sometime between the years 800 and 1100. Her sex was discovered when she gave birth to a child during a papal procession near the Colosseum.

According to one variation of the tale in an appendix of J.N.D. Kelly's Oxford Dictionary of the Popes, she died on the spot and was buried. Because of the scandalous event popes thereafter avoided using the street.

The legend is given no credibility whatsoever by historians. I know of no

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



other supposed woman pope in the history of the church.

Transubstantiation and faith?

Q. Recently you explained how the moral character of the priest or other minister of a sacrament does not affect the validity of the sacrament.

Along the same line, a priest said a few weeks ago, as I understood him, that the transubstantiation of the bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ at Mass takes place through the "faith of the congregation."

I'm a convert to the Catholic faith, but that would seem to make the validity of the Eucharist very subjective. Could he be right? (New York)

A. I have a strong suspicion that

whatever the priest said was seriously misunderstood. This is not a point of Catholic doctrine easily mistaken.

Especially during the Reformation years, some Protestant theologians seemed of the opinion that the eucharistic presence of Christ depended on the strong faith of the congregation. If people didn't believe in his presence during the liturgy, he was not there.

That idea has been contrary to Christian faith since the first century. Catholic theology and doctrine have never come close to such a theory.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church echoes our ancient belief several times. "In the institution narrative (during the Eucharistic Prayer)," it says, "The power of the words and the action of Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit, make sacramentally present under the species of bread and wine Christ's body and blood" (No. 1353).

It is the power of Christ's act and the power of the Holy Spirit that effect the transformation of the elements into the body and blood of our Savior through the words of the priest. Lack of faith may diminish the spiritual effects of the sacrifice and sacrament for an individual believer, but it cannot nullify the action of Jesus and his Spirit.

Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at Box 5515, Peoria, IL 61612.

An example for us all

The Human Side

FATHER EUGENE HEMRICK
CNS COLUMNIST



Why Hollywood takes such an interest in Pope John Paul II

Over the last few months, three films on Pope John Paul II have appeared on television along with several documentaries. Why are filmmakers in such a rush to create competing versions of the late pope's life?

One answer is that the pope's life was filled with the perfect ingredients of a good movie: pathos, intrigue and tragedy.

At an early age he lost his mother. His brother died when the future pope was 12, then as a young man he lost his father. When his father died, he confided it was the loneliest moment in his life.

Some three years later, he was struck by a car and came close to dying.

No doubt, many of us who have experienced similar losses identify closely with John Paul II. His suffering endears him to us.

Another reason for fascination with him is his historic stature. He helped bring down communism in Poland. And much of Pope John Paul's work behind the scenes is responsible also for the collapse of communism in Europe.

Add to this that he went to Israel and asked forgiveness for the sins Catholics committed against the Jews, and we have two of many extraordinary and historic moments in his life.

His appealing personality was made for Hollywood. No matter what language he spoke, the words rang with dramatic feeling. He endearingly revealed his human side when he joked with audiences, especially with young people. His love for young people, along with his athleticism and infectious smile, blessed him with an attractive youthfulness of his own.

In those early days, the young Karol Wojtyla realized that God's breath is in everyone and must always be respected because it is the basis of our dignity. In the late pope's talks, we hear a man who truly loves us because he recognizes God's breath in us.

When we marvel at Pope John Paul's energy, it is more than physical stamina we admire. It is the breath of God energizing him.

What is most attractive about him is that he energized us to desire a fuller life and to defend and promote the divine dignity with which God endowed all human-kind. His example taught us to seek not so much respect for ourselves but to generate respect for others in inspiring ways.

In this formula we have the makings of the best Hollywood script any screenwriter could hope to produce!

Reporting back on Wal-Mart

Updated on responses to poor working conditions

A few months ago I wrote about three Bangladeshi garment workers whom I heard speak at St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia. They explained that they were forced to sew garments in hot factories with poor ventilation, 14 to 18 hours a day, six to seven days a week, for approximately 17 cents an hour.

I asked readers to write to the chief executive officer of Wal-Mart, Lee Scott, requesting he use his considerable influence to help improve the miserable wages and inhumane conditions endured by workers in factories producing goods sold by his corporation.

Specifically, the National Labor Committee asked us to urge Wal-Mart to take steps with these factories to ensure that all garment workers receive one day off a week, three months paid maternity leave, humane working conditions and 20 cents more for each garment they make.

I requested readers to send their letters to me so that I could forward them in bulk to Scott. Realizing that most people — even concerned people — do not write letters to legislators or corporate CEOs, I expected to receive only about 30 letters.

Wow! Was I surprised!

More than 700 schoolchildren, elderly folks, priests, sisters, brothers, teachers, doctors, business leaders and

Making a Difference

TONY MAGLIANO
CNS COLUMNIST



homemakers responded. After reading every single heartfelt letter, I mailed them off to Wal-Mart and awaited a response.

Early in the new year, Beth Keck, Wal-Mart's director of international corporate affairs, called me. And now I am reporting back to you as I promised.

Keck said there are 200 auditors working to ensure that factories contracting with Wal-Mart are in compliance with their own national labor laws.

However, Barbara Briggs, senior associate for the National Labor Committee, told me that this auditing has no transparency: "It is completely under the control of Wal-Mart, and it is not published."

By conducting off-site interviews with workers, "we have learned that these factories often have serious human rights violations," said Briggs, explaining

that it is quite common for workers to labor 70 hours a week; many work between 80 and 100 hours.

Because workers are paid on average 17 cents an hour, they feel compelled to submit to these grueling schedules in order to put food on the table.

When I asked Keck if Wal-Mart would disclose the names and addresses of every factory that produces garments for their stores so that independent investigations could be conducted, she said they are considering it. But she expressed concern over the added administration costs.

Briggs said Wal-Mart has detailed control over its international vendor supply system and that it would be a small cost to reveal who their suppliers are.

Briggs said that it is very important that the public keep up the pressure on Wal-Mart until real change occurs.

To learn how you can continue to help, visit the National Labor Committee at www.nlcnet.org and get on their e-mail list. If you do not have access to the Internet, please call the NLC at (212) 242-3002 and ask that information on the Wal-Mart campaign be periodically mailed to you.

Briggs assured me that we have made a difference here. For the sake of these poor workers, let's keep at it!

Immaculate Conception Church a diverse parish in Rutherford County

FOREST CITY — A Catholic presence had been established in Rutherford County as early as the 1840s, but the faithful had no place in which to worship together until more than a century later, when Immaculate Conception Church was dedicated in 1950.

Starting in the 1880s, churchgoers could travel to Shelby in Cleveland County to attend Mass in a mission church established by the Benedictines of Mary, Help of Christians Abbey (today Belmont Abbey). About six Catholic families made the journey in those early years.

During the 1940s, Belmont Abbey's multi-county "nullius" (not under diocesan jurisdiction) status was reduced to Gaston County alone, and the remaining parishes were placed under diocesan jurisdiction. Consequently, Msgr. Lawrence Newman, pastor of St. Mary Church in Shelby, led an effort to establish a mission in Rutherford County.

Local Catholics, with assistance from the Catholic Extension Society, began construction of a new church and named it in honor of the Immaculate Conception. Bishop Vincent S. Waters of Raleigh dedicated the structure in September 1950.

The church remained a mission for the next 22 years, although the Immaculate Conception community welcomed its first resident pastor, Father Kenneth Parker, in 1969. The parish was comprised of 25 families at the time. Also, a mission community in Marion — later to establish Our Lady of the Angels Church — was placed under Father Parker's pastoral care.

In January 1972, the Diocese of Charlotte was formed. As such, Immaculate Conception Church became a parish.

With continued growth came the need for enhancements to the church facility. A rectory and parish hall complex was constructed, and then-Bishop Michael J. Begley of Charlotte dedicated the new building in December 1978. Our Lady of the Angels Church became a mission of St. Charles Borromeo Church in Morganton in 1981.

Father Gabriel Meehan was appointed pastor in 1986. During his pas-



PHOTO BY GEORGE COBB

Although there was a Catholic presence in Rutherford County as early as the 1840s, the area Catholics had no church in which to worship together until more than a century later, when Immaculate Conception Church was dedicated in 1950.

torate, a special outreach to the Hispanic community was developed. A parish goal of offering a Spanish-language Mass was realized in May 1995, and later a faith formation program in Spanish was begun as well.

Father Jose Antonio Juya, administrator of St. Dorothy Church in Lincolnton, assists Father Herbert Burke, Immaculate Conception Church's current pastor, in the church's Hispanic ministry by celebrating some of the Spanish-language Masses each month.

Deacon Andrew Cilone has served the parish since his ordination to the permanent diaconate in 1983. With his unique talent as a singer, Deacon Cilone, who previously sang with well-known performer Bobby Vinton, leads the parish in song at weekend Masses.

Father Burke has added eucharistic adoration and recitation of the rosary preceding three of the four Sunday Masses. Many parishioners like to come

early and combine Mass and adoration, Father Burke said.

Saturday evenings Father Burke joins the youth group for social and spiritual activities, including recitation of a decade of the rosary and a Bible study emphasizing apologetics.

Father Burke also heads up the

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

1024 West Main St.
Forest City, N.C. 28043
(828) 245-4017

Vicariate: Gastonia

Pastor: Father Herbert T. Burke

Permanent Deacon: Deacon Andrew J. Cilone

Number of Households: 241



Father Herbert T. Burke

parish RCIA program, using a book he wrote, "A Scriptural Catechism"; it has just been revised with a forward message and imprimatur from Bishop Peter J. Jugis.

Immaculate Conception parishioners and clergy participate in ministry work and activities such as prison ministry and live productions both of the Nativity at Christmas and the Passion at Easter.

Immaculate Conception Church has continued to grow as a community of faith into the new millennium. An additional 7.5 acres have recently been purchased adjacent to the church, and the parish is preparing to build a new church to accommodate its continuing growth.

Staff writer Karen A. Evans contributed to this story.

SAVE \$100! REGISTER BEFORE JANUARY 31ST!

Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise —

"The Footsteps of Paul"

Greece and Turkey — May 11-21, 2006

Space is limited—register now!



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,849 for inside cabin (before 1/31/06) - includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

Istanbul — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace

Mykonos — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels

Patmos — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation

Kusadasi & Ephesus — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites

Rhodes — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith

Crete — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion

Santorini — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?



AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles
Licensed & Insured
FREE ESTIMATES

www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185

Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Charlotte 704-334-6421

Pineville 704-544-1412

Mint Hill 704-545-4864

Derita 704-596-3291



Letting the sun back in

Memory garden
brings healing,
hope to family

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

LIBERTY, N.C. — On a large plot of land in Randolph County, a small garden sits outside a house that has been owned by the Williams family for generations.

A blue-and-white sign just outside the garden reads "Tanner Lee Williams, Sept. 28, 2003." Two stone benches provide a quiet place to sit and remember a life that never was.

On Sept. 28, 2003, with just two weeks left in her pregnancy, Diana Gardner-Williams began having

See GARDEN, page 5



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Diana Gardner-Williams points out a photograph of her first son, Tanner, to her 15-month old son, Shivere, as they sit in the memory garden she and her husband planted. They designed the memory garden to honor Tanner, who was stillborn Sept. 28, 2003.

CONTINUING THE TRADITION

Sisters of Mercy celebrate 105 years in Asheville

BY CAROLE MCGROTTY
CORRESPONDENT

ASHEVILLE — Three Sisters of Mercy are continuing 105 years of serving people in western North Carolina.

It began when three Sisters of Mercy opened an 18-bed tuberculosis sanitarium in 1900. They originally intended to open a school, but the need for the sanitarium changed their plans.

After new treatments were implemented for treating the

See SISTERS, page 9

Courage and fidelity

Pope blesses Swiss Guards on corps'
500th anniversary

BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — On the 500th anniversary of the founding of the world's oldest active army, Pope Benedict XVI gave his apostolic blessing to a contingent of Swiss Guards who were lined up in formation in St. Peter's Square.

From his apartment window in the Apostolic Palace

Jan. 22, the pope thanked this "well-deserving" corps for its "500 years of service."

He imparted "a heartfelt" apostolic blessing to about 70 guards gathered in the square and to former guards who were watching the event from Fribourg, Switzerland, via a live, televised link.

See GUARD, page 7



CNS PHOTO BY POOL VIA REUTERS

Swiss Guards attend a special Mass in the Sistine Chapel at the Vatican Jan. 22. The elite corps, which is charged with the protection of the pope and Vatican, is celebrating its 500th anniversary.

Upholding decision

COURT ORDERS REVIEW OF
RULING STRIKING DOWN
ABORTION NOTIFICATION LAW

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — In a rare unanimous decision in an abortion-related case, the Supreme Court Jan. 18 reversed a lower court's ruling that struck down New Hampshire's parental notification law.

The opinion written by retiring Justice Sandra Day O'Connor sent back to the appeals court the issue of the law's lack of an exception in cases where the teen's health is at imminent risk from continuing the pregnancy.

A spokeswoman for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops welcomed the ruling, saying she hoped "it will end the disposition of lower courts to enjoin the enforcement of reasonable common-sense abortion regulations for years while challenges are appealed."

See LAW, page 8

#BXNPDVQ.....3-DIGIT 275
#420836#
NC COLLECTION
UNC
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001

S37 P1

Around the Diocese

Hibernians elect new
officers; Silent No More
in Charlotte

Culture Watch

Pope's first encyclical;
St. Louis Jesuits return
with new CD

In Our Schools

St. Michael students
buzz Bee; tasty lesson at
Immaculate Heart of Mary

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

HOLY GOALIE



CNS PHOTO BY SANDY BERTOG, CATHOLIC NEW WORLD

Chicago Auxiliary Bishop Thomas J. Paprocki prepares to get on the ice after suiting up to practice with the Chicago Blackhawks Jan. 12. Bishop Paprocki, 53, who has been playing hockey since he was a boy, was profiled in the December issue of USA Hockey magazine and was pictured wearing his episcopal robes and holding a hockey stick.

Hockey-playing Chicago bishop skates with Blackhawks

CHICAGO (CNS) — The puns are obvious: "Who IS that masked man?" "Stick with me, kid." And, of course, "Hey, fella, you're on thin ice."

But in this case, the "fella" would be Chicago Auxiliary Bishop Thomas J. Paprocki — all dressed up in a Chicago Blackhawks uniform and ready to take to the ice at the United Center.

Neither is it all for show.

Bishop Paprocki, 53, has been involved with hockey for a long time — as a fan and a player.

He was profiled in the December issue of USA Hockey magazine, where he was pictured in his episcopal robes holding a hockey stick and helmet.

The article's headline, appropriately enough, was "Holy Goalie."

Bishop Paprocki has been playing floor hockey since he was a boy, but it's only been in the past decade that he's taken to the ice. Now, twice a week he plays at McFetridge Ice Center stopping pucks in an over-30, no-check league.

The bishop is also a veteran marathon runner, which he does just to stay

in shape for hockey.

The feature in USA Hockey led to an invitation from the Blackhawks to attend a team practice Jan. 12 and get a little ice time with the team.

"I was in the net and facing the Blackhawks. Several players took shots at me," he said. "I stopped several until one of the players said, 'Has anyone scored yet?'"

"On the next shot, Mark Bell ripped one past me," said the bishop. "Then Denis Savard came over and took a few shots. My head is still spinning from his moves, but I think I did manage to stop at least one of his shots."

However, Bishop Paprocki conceded that he "lost count of the ones that went through."

It was a day he'll never forget, he said.

Is a career on the ice in the offing? The bishop laughed and said, "None of the Blackhawk goalies should feel their jobs are threatened — and the cardinal doesn't have to worry that I'm going to give up my day job."

Would-be papal assassin ordered back to prison in Turkey

Agca claims he is 'Messiah' at police station

ROME (CNS) — The Turkish terrorist who shot and seriously wounded Pope John Paul II was ordered to return to prison, where he was expected to remain for several years.

On Jan. 20 the Turkish Supreme Court overturned a lower court's release of Agca eight days earlier. Agca's release had prompted widespread criticism in Turkey and around the world.

Agca, 48, was apprehended by police at his home and offered no resistance when he was taken back into custody. As he entered a police station in Istanbul, he shouted in several languages, "I am Messiah. I am not the Son of God, I am Messiah."

Agca has frequently made wild and fanatical claims to the press and to justice officials.

Agca had served 19 years in Italian prisons for shooting the pope in 1981. He

was extradited in 2000 to Turkey, where he served five years for the 1979 murder of a liberal Turkish newspaper editor.

In early January, a Turkish court cited new penal laws and the time served in Italy and said Agca could be set free. Prosecutors appealed the decision, and the Supreme Court said there was no legal basis for deducting the time Agca spent in Italian prisons from his sentence in Turkey.

Turkish officials had not yet decided how long the papal assailant would remain in prison, but news reports said he could serve time until 2014.

The Vatican had reacted to Agca's release with official indifference, saying the decision was up to the Turkish court system. Several church officials, however, had emphasized that Pope John Paul forgave his would-be assassin.

Diocesan planner

BOONE VICARIATE

BOONE — Internationally known theologian Megan McKenna will discuss *Resurrection Stories of the Gospels* at St. Elizabeth Church, 259 Pilgrims Way, Feb. 19, 12:30-2:30 p.m. McKenna uses poetry, stories and images from the Catholic tradition and other religious traditions to show how images and words are meant to convert and transform and bring meaning and hope to the world. This event is free and open to the public. For information and to register, please call Bob McHugh at (704) 753-2012 or Marie-Michele Darcy at (704) 556-1215.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — A *Polka Mass* will be celebrated at St. Ann Church, 3635 Park Rd., Feb. 4 at 4:30 p.m. For details, call Jim Rebold at (704) 525-1832.

CHARLOTTE — Larry DeWalt of Hospice & Palliative Care Charlotte Region will speak on "How Death Impacts our Children" Feb. 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m., at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd., Ministry Center, room C. DeWalt will present the following topics for discussion: how different age groups cope with death and how they grieve; understanding the different ways you can help children heal after a loss; and how families can work together to heal after a loss. For more information, call the church office at (704) 364-5431.

MINT HILL — Internationally known theologian Megan McKenna will discuss *Resurrection Stories of the Gospels* at St. Luke Church, 13700 Lawyers Rd., Feb. 18, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. McKenna uses poetry, stories and images from the Catholic tradition and other religious traditions to show how images and words are meant to convert and transform and bring meaning and hope to the world. This event is free and open to the public. For information and to register, please call Bob McHugh at (704) 753-2012 or

Marie-Michele Darcy at (704) 556-1215.

CHARLOTTE — An inquiry class for the *St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order* will meet the second Saturday of each month, 12-2 p.m. Classes take place at Our Lady of Consolation Church, 2301 Statesville Ave. Those interested in learning more about the SFO and the Franciscan way of life are invited to attend. The order also gathers the first Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. at Our Lady of Consolation Church. For more information, call Tom O'Loughlin at (704) 947-7235.

CHARLOTTE — The Evangelization Committee of St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd., will offer the *Catholics Returning Home* program Thursdays through Feb. 23. Catholics Returning Home is a welcoming program for Catholics who have been away from the church. Topics include concerns, the Mass, changes since Vatican II, reconciliation, and Catholic beliefs, prayer and spirituality. For more information, call the St. Gabriel Church office at (704) 364-5431.

HUNTERSVILLE — *Elizabeth Ministry* is a peer ministry comprised of St. Mark Church parishioners who have lost babies before or shortly after birth. Confidential peer ministry, information and spiritual materials are offered at no cost or obligation to anyone who has experienced miscarriage, stillbirth or the death of a newborn. For details, call Sandy Buck at (704) 948-4587.

GASTONIA VICARIATE

BELMONT — *First Saturday Devotions* take place on the first Saturday of each month at Belmont Abbey Basilica, 100 Belmont-Mt. Holly Rd. Devotion begins at 9:30 a.m. with the recitation of the rosary, followed by reconciliation and Mass. For more information, call Phil or Terri at (704) 888-6050.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — "Vatican II: What was it? What changed? What now?" Forty years after the Second Vatican Council, we are still beginning to understand the many ramifications the Council has had on the Catholic Church. A faith formation

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-mail: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

JANUARY 27, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 16

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Pope asks Christians to end discrimination against migrants

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI called on Christians to shun all forms of discrimination and welcome the migrants in their midst.

Marking the Vatican's celebration of World Day for Migrants and Refugees Jan. 15, the pope called on people to recognize the benefits of migration and overcome "every form of discrimination, injustice and disdain for the human person, because each person is an image of God."

Addressing visitors in St. Peter's Square after reciting the midday Angelus prayer, the pope said the movement of people is a "sign of the times."

While the movement may be voluntary or forced, legal or clandestine, motivated by work or study, Pope Benedict said, the arrival of newcomers from far away can lead to a knowledge of and respect for ethnic and cultural differences.

Pope Benedict expressed hope that

Catholics would help their communities overcome "difficulties of acceptance and integration" as they welcome migrants and refugees.

In his main Angelus talk, Pope Benedict focused on the Sunday Gospel reading in which Jesus invites Andrew and John to follow him, telling them, "Come and see."

The pope said Jesus' words offer guidance for the new year, which should be "a time in which we renew our spiritual journey with Jesus in the joy of seeking him and finding him always."

"The truest joy" people can have comes from meeting, following, knowing and loving Jesus, the pope said.

A constantly renewed effort to know and love Jesus more deeply is necessary not because Jesus changes — "Christ is the same yesterday, today and always" — but because "we, our world and history are never the same," he said.

group will meet Thursdays, Feb. 2-23, at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of St. Paul the Apostle Church, 2715 Horse Pen Creek Rd. For more information, call the church office at (336) 294-4696.

HIGH POINT — Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 4145 Johnson St., will offer a free Spanish course Thursdays, 7-8:30 p.m., Feb. 2-March 23. For more information or to register, please call Nancy Skee at (336) 884-0522.

GREENSBORO — The Reemployment Support Group of St. Paul the Apostle Church will meet Feb. 2, 7:30-9 p.m., in Room 8 of the Parish Life Center, 2715 Horse Pen Creek Rd. If you are currently out of work or looking to make a career change, join us for encouragement, support and informative topics to help you in your job search. For more information, call Colleen Assal at (336) 294-4696, ext. 226.

HICKORY VICARIATE

HICKORY — An American Red Cross Blood Drive will take place Jan. 31, 2-7 p.m., at St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second Street NE., in Holy Family Hall. Appointments are encouraged. For more information, call the church office at (828) 327-2341.

HICKORY — A Charismatic Mass is celebrated the first Thursday of each month in Sebastian Chapel of St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St. NE., at 7 p.m. For further information, contact Joan Moran (828) 327-0487.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

SALISBURY — Elizabeth Ministry is a peer ministry comprised of Sacred Heart Church parishioners who have lost babies before or shortly after birth. Confidential peer ministry, information and spiritual materials are offered at no cost or obligation to anyone who has experienced miscarriage, stillbirth or the death of a newborn. For details, call Renee Washington at (704) 637-0472 or Sharon Burges at (704) 633-0591.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

MURPHY — A Charismatic Prayer Group meets Fridays at 3:45 p.m. in the Commons of St. William Church, 765 Andrews Rd. Join us for praise music, witness, teaching, prayers and laying on of hands for those in need. For more details, call Gery Dashner at (828) 494-2683.

FRANKLIN — Respect Life meets the first Wednesday of every month after the 5:30 p.m.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Jan. 29 — 2:30 p.m.
Catholic Schools Week Mass
St. Gabriel Church, Charlotte

Jan. 30 — 9 a.m.
Mass
St. Patrick Cathedral, Charlotte

Pope, church officials have full schedule of ecumenical events

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — By mid-January, Pope Benedict XVI and the Roman Catholic Church already had a full schedule of ecumenical events planned for 2006.

The Catholic-Orthodox international commission is scheduled to meet in September for the first time in six years. Commission members plan to return to the theological discussion of church authority and primacy abandoned in the 1990s as Catholics and Orthodox struggled to overcome tensions caused by the renewed life and activity of the Eastern Catholic churches after the fall of communism.

While the Anglican Communion continues to deal with internal tensions created by differences over homosexuality and the Church of England — the Anglican mother church — considers ordaining women bishops, Vatican officials said contacts would continue, although both issues raise questions for possible unity.

However, the official launching of a new phase of the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission will have to await a decision by the Anglicans' Lambeth Conference, scheduled to meet in 2008.

The Catholic-Lutheran dialogue is nearing completion of a document on "the apostolicity of the church," looking at the

continuation of church teaching and tradition from the time of the apostles.

The document had been scheduled for completion last fall, but after Lutherans and members of some Reformed churches entered into eucharistic sharing agreements in Germany, new questions arose about the need for an ordained minister to preside at the Eucharist.

The Catholic-Methodist dialogue is scheduled to finish work by July on a statement about how far each community can go in recognizing the church of God present in each other. The World Methodist Council also is scheduled to vote in July on formally adopting the 1999 Catholic-Lutheran agreement on justification.

The Catholic Church and a group of Pentecostal churches are working on a document explaining what both mean by "baptism of the Holy Spirit" and its role in the salvation of individual Christians.

While the dialogues continue and several of them prepare to complete important documents, the highlight in ecumenical relations for the Catholic Church in 2006 is expected to be Pope Benedict's planned November meeting with Ecumenical Orthodox Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople.

The pope hopes to travel to Istanbul, Turkey, for the feast of St. Andrew, patron saint of the patriarchate.

Bingo!



CNS PHOTO BY KAREN CALLAWAY, NORTHWEST INDIANA CATHOLIC

Jamie Clark (center), an eighth-grader at St. Paul School in Valparaiso, Ind., cheers for partner Ed Hampson as Hampson scores a "bingo." Senior citizens from the parish were invited to spend an afternoon playing games with the middle-school children early in the new year. More than 2.4 million students in nearly 8,000 Catholic schools across the United States and the Diocese of Charlotte will celebrate Catholic Schools Week Jan. 29-Feb. 4. Look for local coverage soon in The Catholic News & Herald.

The **Catholic** Company_{nc}

LOOK!

catholic gift shop in south charlotte!

Now open at St. Matthew Catholic Church • New Life Center — Rm. 104

Corner of Rea Rd. and Ballantyne Commons Parkway

Hours:

Monday-Friday 9-3
Sunday 10-2

704-927-4313

(Call for info or directions)

Bring in this ad for 15% off
your purchase.

Offer valid thru 2/28/06

Exp. 2/28/06

Proud to serve



COURTESY PHOTO

Newly elected officers of the Ancient Order of Hibernians Sons of Erin Division are seen in this photo taken after their installation at the Knights of Columbus Council 770 Hall in Charlotte Jan. 12. Pictured are (from left) Mike Dolan, of St. Matthew Church in Charlotte, marshal; Bruce Thompson, of St. Vincent de Paul Church in Charlotte, chair of standing committee; John Eury, of St. James the Greater Church in Concord, recording secretary; John Ryan, of St. Vincent de Paul Church, president; Hugh Downie, of St. Matthew Church, vice president; George Mooney, of St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte, sentinel; and Gene Shields, of St. Gabriel Church in Charlotte, financial secretary. Not pictured are Matt Crawley, of St. Mark Church in Huntersville, treasurer; and Tim Lawson, of St. Ann Church in Charlotte, past president and past state board president.

The new officers, who were elected in December and installed by Lawson, will serve through 2006.

Founded in New York in 1836, the Hibernians is the oldest Catholic lay organization in the United States.

The Sons of Erin Division will once again be running its 4th Annual Irish Book Drive for Charlotte Catholic High School and Holy Trinity Catholic Middle School in Charlotte in March. Other upcoming projects include historic preservation at historic St. Joseph Church in Mount Holly.

Meetings are the second Thursday of the month at the Knights of Columbus Council 770 Hall in Charlotte. For more information, visit <http://ncaoh.homestead.com>.

Silent No More in Charlotte

'I regret my abortion,' say women



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

A man carries his young son past women holding signs reading "I regret my abortion" during a Silent No More rally in uptown Charlotte Jan. 19. Eight women spoke to a group of about 30 people and many passersby about their experiences as post-abortive women. The Silent No More campaign has three main goals: to make the public aware that abortion is harmful emotionally, physically and spiritually to women and others; to reach out to women who are hurting from an abortion and let them know help is available; and to invite women to speak about abortion's negative consequences.

For abortion myths and realities, see *ROE REALITY CHECK* on page 8.

Look for coverage of this year's March for Life in Washington, D.C. Jan. 23 in the next issue of The Catholic News & Herald.

BISHOP MCGUINNESS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Catholic Schools 
Character. Compassion. Values.

- College preparatory program of the highest quality
- Spiritual life focused on personal growth grounded in meaningful values
- State-of-the-art facility conveniently located in the heart of the Triad
- Low student/teacher ratio
- Extensive athletic, technology and fine arts programs

For more information call: 336-564-1011

or visit our website at www.bmhs.us

1725 NC Hwy 66 South • Kernersville, NC 27284

Start the New Semester at the Top of the Class



Felicia Susi, Owner/Director
Parishioner, St. Matthew Catholic Church
& Parent, St. Matthew Catholic School student

South Charlotte
(704) 752-4234

www.camdenlearningcenter.com

**CAMDEN
LEARNING CENTER™**
is a personalized
educational center offering
specialized tutoring
for all ages in:

Reading • Phonics
Written Language • Math
Study Skills
SAT/ACT Preparation

Let Camden™ help.



FROM THE COVER

Memory garden brings healing, hope to family

GARDEN, from page 1

contractions. During labor, an ultrasound showed that there was no movement from the baby — the umbilical cord was wrapped three times around Tanner's neck.

When Gardner-Williams and her husband, Todd Williams, were told Tanner was stillborn, all the dreams they had had for their son vanished in an instant.

"The happiest day of our lives was when we found out we were pregnant," said Gardner-Williams. "His name was picked out as soon as we found out it was boy ... so his identity was well established by Sept. 28."

In the months that followed, the Williamses struggled to deal with their grief. Neither had practiced the Christian faith in many years — Gardner-Williams was raised Catholic, while her husband was raised Methodist.

"It was really hard for us, because we didn't have a faith to fall back on," said Gardner-Williams. "Tanner's death brought me to St. Pius."

Shortly before Christmas, Gardner-Williams found herself at St. Pius X Church in nearby Greensboro.

Although she had not been to Mass or reconciliation in nearly 20 years, Gardner-Williams entered the confessional and poured out her grief and guilt to Msgr. Anthony Marcaccio, pastor.

"I thought (Tanner's death) was a punishment," said Gardner-Williams. "He (Msgr. Marcaccio) said God is merciful and is not out to punish us."

"Planting a memory garden can provide healing and remembrance ..."

— Diana Gardner-Williams

Msgr. Marcaccio recommended she read Psalm 51 — "Wash away all my guilt; from my sin cleanse me. ... A clean heart create for me, God."

In addition to the comfort she found at her new church, Gardner-Williams discovered help at the Haven of Hope and Healing, a nonprofit pregnancy and infant loss center in Graham, N.C.

Just a month after losing Tanner, the Williamses, both landscape designers, began planting a "memory garden" on Williams' parents' property to honor Tanner.

"When a loved one passes, the road to healing is usually a long and challenging one," said Gardner-Williams. "Planting a memory garden can provide healing and remembrance as a tribute to a deceased loved one."

Working on weekends for the next six months, the Williamses created a beautiful, peaceful garden where they can sit and remember their son.

A family friend made a cross out of cedar, and next to it a wooden stand displays a picture of Tanner. Wind chimes and metal butterflies surround the garden's perimeter.

The Williamses planted 30 varieties of flowers and trees, most of them white to

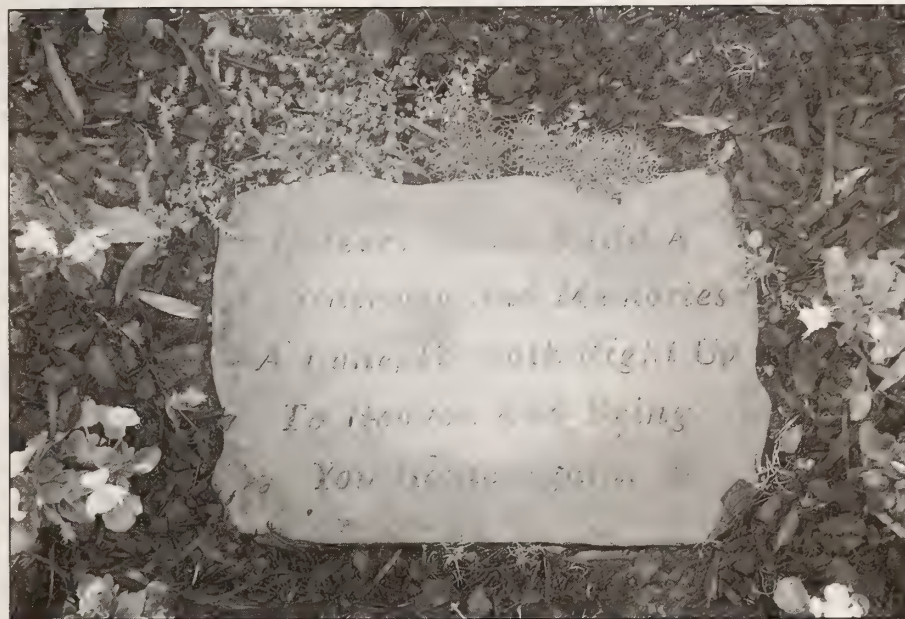


PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

This engraved paving stone sits at the entrance to Tanner Williams' memory garden. The inscription reads, "If tears could build a stairway, and memories a lane, I'd walk right up to heaven and bring you home again."

symbolize hope and purity. The garden was designed so that whatever the season, plants are always blooming — from snow bells in January, through gardenias in summer, to Christmas Lenten Roses.

On May 15, 2004, about 50 friends and family members gathered to celebrate the dedication of Tanner's memory garden.

Gardner-Williams said the date holds special significance, because May 15 is the feast of St. Isidore the Farmer, patron of farmers and rural communities. Isidore married a young woman who also became a saint, Maria de la Cabeza, and they also had a son who died as a child.

Over time, the Williamses were renewed in their faith and are now active members of St. Pius X Church. They designed and installed a memory garden at the church for parishioners to enjoy.

Just four months after the heart-breaking loss of Tanner, the Williamses found out they were pregnant again.

They weren't trying to conceive,

and the second pregnancy brought more anxiety than joy.

"We got pregnant too soon, but I'm glad we did," Gardner-Williams said.

On Oct. 17, 2004, a healthy son, Shivere Joseph Williams, was born. Shivere is a derivative of two Hebrew names meaning "gift of God" and "truly giving."

Last summer, the Williamses built a home just 400 feet away from Williams' parents' home, where Tanner's garden is planted. The family often comes and sits in the garden to remember the son they lost, and celebrate the son they now have.

"Tanner brought about so much good in our lives," said Gardner-Williams. "I'd rather have him here, but we wouldn't be participating and taking classes at church ... we're more open spiritually."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

Join Fr. Frank Cancro in Asia

Discovering the Dragon: An Asian Adventure



I would love the opportunity to share my year with you! My sabbatical in Asia is an amazing experience. Your heart will be opened to these wonderful people as you experience their culture and learn of their encounters with the West and with Christianity.

Come join us on this exciting adventure... May 20 – June 4

HIGHLIGHTS

Hong Kong – Victoria Peak, Aberdeen and Stanley Market

Hanoi, Vietnam – The Temple of Literature, One Pillar Pagoda and the Old Quarter, plus a five-hour cruise on Halong Bay with lunch; Ho Chi Minh City – Reunification Palace, Notre Dame Cathedral and Cu Chi Tunnels, remaining from the Vietnam War.

Siem Reap, Cambodia – Ancient City of Angkor, its Temples and Angkor Wat

Bangkok, Thailand – Wat Bowonniwat Temple, Grand Palace and much more

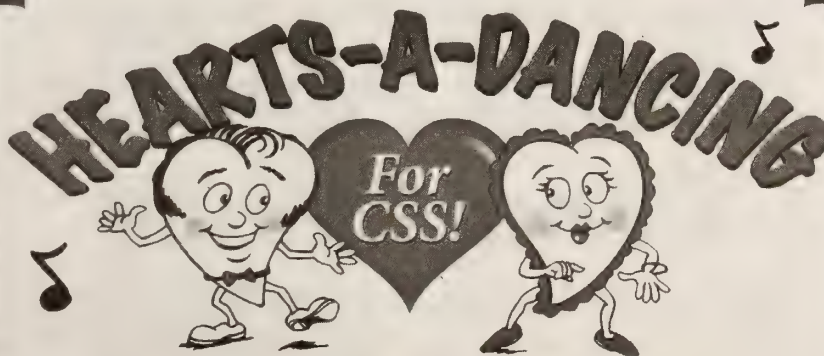
Chiang Mai, Thailand – Elephant Camp and Hill Tribe Tour

12 Nights Superior and Deluxe hotel accommodations throughout, daily breakfasts upon arrival, and five lunches and/or dinners.

Price from Los Angeles \$3,989, includes current airport departure taxes and visa fees (subject to change) and gratuities.

Space is limited. Registrations must be received by March 1, 2006.

For information, please call, Linda Ander Travel at 1-877-377-3277 or e-mail: LindaAnder777@hotmail.com. Also visit our webpage at www.LindaAnderTravel.com.



February 11, 6:30-10:30 pm

Catholic Social Services presents Sweetheart Dinner/Dance
to benefit CSS in the Western Region

Featuring Sid the Surf
Silent Auction and Door Prizes

THE HELLENIC CENTER
227 Cumberland Avenue, Asheville

\$25 (Cash Bar/Casual Attire)

Tickets and Information: 828-255-0146

Major Sponsors: Wachovia
Preferred Properties of Asheville, Inc.
Preferred Storage – Climate Control



Catholic Social Services
Diocese of Charlotte

Providing Help. Creating Hope. Changing Lives.

IN THE NEWS

Poll shows Americans see poverty increasing, fear becoming poor

NEW ORLEANS (CNS) — Nearly two-thirds of Americans are concerned that poverty will increase in the U.S. in 2006 and 63 percent are worried that they may become poor themselves, according to a new poll commissioned by the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, the U.S. bishops' domestic anti-poverty program.

Results of the national "Poverty Pulse" survey, commissioned annually by CCHD for the past six years, were made public Jan. 19 in New Orleans.

More than seven in 10 (71 percent) said they think there are more poor people today than a year ago, and more than half (56 percent) had donated money to organizations that assist the poor.

Asked how Congress should spend tax money, respondents ranked "helping the poor and needy" fourth (12 percent)

behind health care (29 percent), education (27 percent) and national defense (13 percent). When asked to identify the most significant cause of poverty, the No. 1 response (18 percent) was lack of work that pays a living wage.

Nearly a third of the respondents (31 percent) said they believe the federal government has "the greatest responsibility" to address poverty.

Nearly as many (29 percent) said responsibility rests with the public, while 17 percent said the poor themselves were most responsible and 2 percent said churches were.

This year's survey was conducted by the Harris Interactive Service Bureau. Participants in the poll were 1,131 members of the general adult population.

The margin of error was plus or minus 3 percent.

DO ADS WORK? LISTEN TO THIS:

"We have been very pleased with the readers' response to our ad in The Catholic News & Herald. We advertise our caregiver services in a number of publications and none has produced the interest and response we've received from The Catholic News & Herald."

— Jill B. Stewart, Owner, Visiting Angels

THE
CATHOLIC
NEWS & HERALD

CALL TODAY for low rates to tell over 125,000 readers every week about YOUR company! 704-370-3332

A NEW YEAR
MEANS IT'S
TIME FOR A
NEW LOW
RATE!



30-Year Fixed:

5.75%

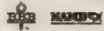
As mortgage brokers, we work with a variety of lenders to find the best loan and rates for your needs & goals!



NEW WORLD
MORTGAGE

A Lender For Life

1930 Carillon Rd. Suite 2010
Charlotte, NC 28203



Rates subject to change. Certain restrictions on loan size apply. APR varies on loan placement.



Jayne McGonnell
Parishioner of
St. Thomas Aquinas
704.549.4600 x1028
877.402.4600 (tollfree)
704.516.9682 (cell)



Debra Young
Parishioner of
St. Matthew
704.549.4600 x1027
877.402.4600 (tollfree)
704.771.6251 (cell)

Father Walter Grabowski to Host
Catholic Group with Daily Mass on This

19-Day Panama Canal Cruise

Holland America Line Cruise of a Lifetime!

Join your Spiritual Director Father Walter Grabowski, pastor of Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church in Eden, NY. This will be Father Walter's third cruise as YMT's chaplain. On October 23, 2006, you'll board the ms Ryndam in Los Angeles. Mexican Riviera ports include: Cabo San Lucas; Puerto Vallarta; & Puerto Santa Cruz Huatulco. Next there's Quetzal, Guatemala. Here you may tour the museums, or visit a jade factory or volcano. On November 1 you'll find yourself in Costa Rica. Next is the highlight, the daytime Panama Canal crossing where you will be raised and lowered by giant locks. You will slowly float through the lush jungle and cross the rugged continental divide via 45 miles of canals and the largest man-made lake in the world, Gatun Lake. Next visit Cartagena, Colombia; Costa Maya, Mexico; and Cozumel, Mexico, in the Caribbean Sea. You'll fly home from Tampa November 10. Prices (per person, double occupancy) start at only \$2224 for outside ocean view staterooms; and \$3099 for larger outside staterooms with private balcony. Add \$539 port/taxes/gov't. fees/services. Add \$500 round trip airfare from Charlotte.

Last chance! Deposits are now due. Cabins are selling out fast!

For information, reservations, & brochure call 7 days a week:

'YOUR MAN' TOURS 1-800-968-7626

Flynn & O'Hara
School Uniforms

Montford Abbey Shopping Center
1730 Abbey Place
Charlotte, NC 28209
704-525-0002

www.flynnohara.com
Fax: 215-637-6392
800-441-4122

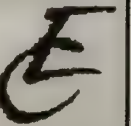


Let stairs be our
problem... not yours!

Ask about our Stairway lifts.

- Easily attached to steps (not walls)
- Folds out of the way
- Fits most stairways (straight & curved)
- Very affordable (rent or buy)
- We install

Chair & Equipment Rentals & Sales, Inc.
800 Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC • (800) 333-8431
Member of St. Thomas Aquinas



Please pray for the
following priests who
died during the month
of February:

Rev. Edward Beatty 1990
Rev. Lawrence Hill 1985
Bishop Michael J. Begley 2002

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

FROM THE COVER

Pope blesses Swiss Guards on corps' 500th anniversary

GUARD, from page 1

Pope Benedict recalled how on Jan. 22, 1506, "Pope Julius II welcomed and blessed the first contingent of Swiss Guards" that arrived in Rome after the pontiff requested the soldiers come to protect the pope and the Apostolic Palace.

"This is how the Swiss Guards were born," Pope Benedict said.

The pope said his special blessing for the guards was a sign of his "appreciation and recognition" of their service and fidelity.

Earlier Jan. 22, Cardinal Angelo Sodano, Vatican secretary of state,

celebrated Mass for the Swiss Guards in the Sistine Chapel.

He highlighted the strength and generosity shown by the first 150 Swiss soldiers who made the four-month trek from Switzerland to Rome to protect the life and safety of the pope.

He told the guards that "we must cleanse and renew ourselves every day in our service to God and in our fidelity to his holy church."

He added that the Swiss Guards' motto of "Acriter et Fideliter," or courage and fidelity, was "a daily call" to live according to such values.

The Swiss Guards kicked off their jubilee celebrations June 21, the date Pope Julius requested the service of



CNS PHOTO BY ALESSIA GIULIANI

A Swiss Guard, holding a traditional halberd, looks up as Pope Benedict XVI bestows a special blessing on the Swiss Guards at the Vatican Jan. 22. The pontiff's blessing came on the 500th anniversary of the elite corps that serves to protect the pope and the Vatican.

Swiss soldiers, renowned for their loyalty and bravery.

Commemorative events were set to continue throughout 2006, culminating in a contingent of former Swiss Guards marching to Rome from Bellinzona, Switzerland. The guards were to arrive in time to take part in the annual swearing-in ceremony of new guards May 6 in the Vatican.

The Vatican and Switzerland also were planning a series of commemorative stamps and coins to mark the

500th anniversary.

The Vatican's commemorative stamps, featuring artwork by former guard Rudolf Mirer, went on sale in November 2004 at the Vatican and in Switzerland, marking the first Vatican-Swiss stamp package.

In anticipation of the anniversary, a history of the Swiss Guard written by Sgt. Christian-Roland Marcel Richard was released in November. It was the first time that an active guard published a book describing life in the corps.

HAPPY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK!

WE'VE CHANGED OUR NAME!

Mon. thru Sat.
10 am - 6 pm

We'll now both be known as

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES

The **Catholic** Company
Lake Norman Book Store

CAROLINA CATHOLIC
BOOKSHOPPE



**BIG BOOK SALE NOW
at the Monroe Road location!**

- Unique gifts & cards
- Books, rosaries, medals
- Previously read book section (at Lake Norman)
- Video rentals
- Artwork

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205



Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma

Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

NEW COVENANT BOOKSTORE

- **Books**
- **Cards**
- **Videos**
- **Jewelry**
- **....and more!**

336-760-1673

304 Upton St.,
Winston-Salem, NC
www.newcovenantbookstore.com

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels.

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065

Review of ruling striking down abortion notification law ordered

LAW, from page 1

Deirdre McQuade, director of planning and information for the bishops' pro-life secretariat, said the court missed a chance to address the "substantive legal questions" raised in the case, leaving more question than answers, especially about health exceptions in abortion-related laws.

Lower courts had declared the New Hampshire law invalid because it lacked a health exception. But the Supreme Court said that problem could be fixed without throwing out the whole statute.

"That law reflects the common sense principle that caring parents know best what their children need," McQuade said Jan. 19.

"But neither the lower courts nor state legislatures have been given the guidance necessary to address these issues. And that is unfortunate," she said.

The ruling made clear from its opening words that the court was not addressing abortion precedents, only the question of what remedies are available in the case of medical emergencies.

"We agree with New Hampshire that the lower courts need not have invalidated the law wholesale," wrote O'Connor.

"Only a few applications of New Hampshire's parental notification statute would present a constitutional problem. So long as they are faithful to legislative intent, then, in this case the lower courts can issue a declaratory judgment and an injunction prohibiting the statute's unconstitutional application," she wrote.

The 2003 law has been blocked from taking effect by legal challenges. It would require pregnant teens who want to have an abortion to notify a parent or guardian 48 hours ahead of time. The law provides for a judge to bypass notifying a parent under certain circumstances and for the requirement to be waived if the pregnancy puts the young woman at risk of dying.

It does not provide for exceptions when the girl's health is at risk. The state argued that such a provision is unnecessary because the judicial bypass and other state laws would cover those situations.

During oral arguments in the case at

the Supreme Court in November, Justice Stephen Breyer noted that the definition of a "health risk" has been interpreted so broadly that "lots of people think of 'health' as a way of having abortion on demand," under any circumstances.

In sending the case back to the lower court, the justices said the District Court and the 1st U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals "chose the most blunt remedy" by blocking enforcement of the statute and thereby invalidating it entirely.

O'Connor said that the conclusion "is understandable, for we, too, have previously invalidated an abortion statute in its entirety because of the same constitutional flaw." In *Stenberg v. Carhart* in 2000, the court struck down Nebraska's law banning partial-birth abortion because it lacked a health exception.

But, she noted, "the parties in *Stenberg* did not ask for, and we did not contemplate, relief more finely drawn."

In the New Hampshire case, the state recognized "the possibility of a modest remedy," O'Connor wrote, with the attorney general conceding at oral argument that "carefully crafted injunctive relief may resolve this case."

"Only a few applications of New Hampshire's parental notification statute would present a constitutional problem," the opinion said. "So long as they are faithful to the legislative intent, then, in this case, the lower courts can issue a declaratory judgment and an injunction prohibiting the state's unconstitutional application."

The justices said the lower court could address the concern about exceptions with either an injunction prohibiting some applications of the law or by finding that the Legislature's intentions require that the whole statute be thrown out if it cannot be enacted as is.

The opinion noted that 44 states have laws requiring parental notification or parental consent for minors to obtain abortions. New Hampshire is one of four states that do not provide exceptions for health risks.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and Bishop John B. McCormack, who heads the statewide Diocese of Manchester, N.H., had filed an amicus, or friend-of-the-court, brief urging the statute be upheld.

Roe Reality Check

BELOW ARE THE FIRST OF SEVERAL MYTHS VS. REALITIES REGARDING ROE V. WADE AND ABORTION, TAKEN FROM "ROE REALITY CHECK" ON THE U.S. CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS' WEB SITE.

Myth: "High Court rules abortions legal the first three months."

Fact: Abortion is legal through all nine months of pregnancy.

Despite the Jan. 23, 1973 claim by the New York Times that "Roe v. Wade made abortion in the first three months of pregnancy legal, the Supreme Court rules in *Roe v. Wade* that abortion may not be restricted at all in the first trimester. In the second trimester abortion may be regulated only for the mother's health.

After "viability," abortion may be prohibited except where necessary to preserve the mother's health.

Roe's companion case, *Doe v. Bolton*, defined maternal "health" as: "all factors — physical, emotional, psychological, familial, and the woman's age — relevant to the well-being of the patient."

Thus, abortion is legal — and cannot be prohibited — in the seventh, eighth or ninth months of pregnancy if any of these reasons is invoked.

"[N]o significant legal barriers of any kind whatsoever exist today in the United States for a woman to obtain an abortion for any reason during any stage of her pregnancy." (S. Rep. No. 98-149, at 6 (1983)).

Myth: Most abortions are done because of maternal or fetal health problems, or in cases of rape or incest.

Fact: Abortions are rarely done for these reasons.

According to an Alan Guttmacher Institute survey, women cite these as the main reason for an abortion in a very small percentage of cases each year: 1 percent "rape or incest"; 3 percent "woman has health problem" (physical or mental); 3 percent "fetus has possible health problem."

For all other abortions, the main reason cited is:

- 21 percent "unready for responsibility";
- 21 percent "can't afford baby now";
- 16 percent "concerned about how having a baby could change her life";
- 12 percent "has problems with relationship or wants to avoid single parenthood";
- 11 percent "is not mature enough, or is too young to have a child";
- 8 percent "has all the children she wanted, or has all grown-up children";
- 1 percent "husband or partner wants woman to have abortion";
- 1 percent "doesn't want others to know she has had sex or is pregnant";
- <0.5 percent "woman's parents want her to have abortion";
- 3 percent "other."

Under *Roe v. Wade*, abortions for these reasons or any other reason must be legally permitted.

Myth: Most Americans favor U.S. abortion law.

Fact: Most Americans actually oppose it.

A recent Harris Interactive poll claims 52 percent of Americans favor *Roe v. Wade* and 47 percent oppose it. But the poll describes *Roe* as "the U.S. Supreme Court decision making abortions up to three months of pregnancy legal."

That's wrong. The fact is, *Roe* made abortion legal through all 9 months of pregnancy.

In the same poll, 72 percent of Americans said abortion should be illegal in the second three months of pregnancy, and 86 percent said abortion should be illegal in the last three months of pregnancy.

Even support for abortion in the first three months is open to question. In a 2004 Zogby International poll, 61 percent of Americans said abortion should not be permitted after the fetal heartbeat has begun. This occurs in the first month.

So why do 52 percent of Americans say they favor *Roe v. Wade*? Because they don't really know what *Roe* did.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more *Roe Reality Check* myths and realities, visit www.usccb.org/prolife/realitycheck.htm.

Featuring Blue Diamond Exclusively

Malak Jewelers

At the Arboretum (St. Matthew parishioners)

We extend to you the very finest in Jewelry and Service...

Largest Selection - Best Quality & Prices Guaranteed

Certified Loose Diamonds
Platinum, Gold, Fine Jewelry
Sterling silver and watches
Estate Jewelry - Buy & Sell

26 years of Integrity and Experience!

(704) 341-1188 www.malakjewelers.com
8042-800 Providence Rd., Charlotte



Now featuring special
sterling silver medallion
of Pope John Paul II -
complimentary with
purchases over \$50
(one per purchase)

Create a winning event



Having your meeting
or conference at the
center makes you a
winner every time!

We can help you turn an ordinary
conference, meeting, retreat, or banquet
into a special event! You plan the event,
we'll provide the environment!

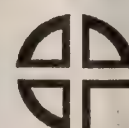
1551 Trinity Lane, Hickory, NC

(828) 327-7441 or toll-free at

(888) 536-7441

info@catholicconference.org

www.catholicconference.org



**The Catholic
Conference
Center**

FROM THE COVER

Sisters of Mercy celebrate 105 years serving in Asheville

SISTERS, from page 1

disease, the facility became known as St. Joseph's Hospital in 1938.

November 2005 marked the 105th anniversary of continuous service in Asheville by the Sisters of Mercy.

"We respond to the needs of the time," said Mercy Sister Maria Goretti Weldon, director of mission and values at the Sisters of Mercy Services Corporation.

Sister Weldon credits the support of the local community with being essential to the longevity of the Sisters of Mercy in western North Carolina.

"Throughout the years, the people of this area have supported us in providing quality health care to all those in need," she said.

Another reason for their success, said Sister Weldon, is that the Sisters of Mercy have lived up to their order's name. No one is turned away for financial reasons, she said.

The Sisters of Mercy of the Americas have vowed to minister to the poor, sick and uneducated, especially women and children in need. Catherine McCauley opened the House of Mercy in Ireland in 1827 as a home for working girls and orphans and a school for poor children. As other women joined her, she founded the Sisters of Mercy in Dublin in 1831.

"My hope is that we will be able to continue to serve the wonderful people of western North Carolina for many years to come."

— Mercy Sister Maria Goretti Weldon

Within 50 years of McCauley's death in 1843, the Sisters of Mercy were serving all over the world.

It was at the request of a priest at St. Lawrence Church (now the Basilica of St. Lawrence) that the first Sisters of Mercy came from their Belmont motherhouse to Asheville. Today, as in the beginning, three sisters remain and reside in the convent near St. Joseph's Hospital.

In addition to Sister Weldon, Mercy Sister Anita Sheerin serves as pastoral associate at St. Eugene Church and Mercy Sister Carmen Cruz is a chaplain at Mission Hospitals in Asheville.



PHOTO BY CAROLE MCGROTTY

Mercy Sisters Anita Sheerin, Maria Goretti Weldon and Carmen Cruz are continuing 105 years of service by the Sisters of Mercy in the Asheville area.

Although widely known for urgent care centers, the Sisters of Mercy Services Corporation also generously continues to support several ministries and charitable organizations with the proceeds from the sale of St. Joseph's Hospital to Mission Hospitals in 1996.

Among the recipients of their support are a thrift store, a temporary

residence and detox center, a home for women and children recovering from abuse and a general contracting business, which builds affordable housing for qualified applicants.

"My hope is that we will be able to continue to serve the wonderful people of western North Carolina for many years to come," said Sister Weldon.

ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO THE HARVEST?

Then he said to His disciples, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers for His harvest." (Mt 9:37)

I am praying that you will join me in responding to our Lord's request for more "laborers" in harvesting the abundant fruit to be found at Belmont Abbey College. Over 125 years ago the Benedictine Monks came south in response to God's call to begin His work in the vineyard of North Carolina.

He is calling you to place your hands upon the same bricks that were formed and put in place by these holy monks so long ago. I am looking for strong, dedicated, Catholic students to help realize our vision of excellence and virtue. Belmont Abbey is your Catholic College and God is calling you to the "harvest."

Dr. William K. Thierfelder
President



BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED



☐ I WANT TO HELP BUILD OUR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY. PLEASE SEND ME A STUDENT REFERRAL PACKAGE.

If you would like to help Belmont Abbey College by referring or becoming a new student, please fill out this form and send it to us or go online to BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu and click on Referral Package in the Quick Links. We will send you our complete referral/information package with detailed information about the Abbey and all it has to offer!

Your Name _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____
Email _____
Phone _____ No. of Packages Requested _____

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

100 BELMONT-MT. HOLLY ROAD
BELMONT, NC 28012-1802
BELMONTABBEYCOLLEGE.EDU

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

'God Is Love'

Pope says first encyclical explores dimensions of love, charity

BY JOHN THAVIS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Pope Benedict XVI offered a sneak preview of his first encyclical, saying the text would explore the different dimensions of love and charity.

In impromptu remarks at his general audience at the Vatican Jan. 18, the pope announced that the text, "Deus Caritas Est" ("God Is Love"), would be released Jan. 25.

"In this encyclical I want to explain the concept of love in its various dimensions. In today's terminology, the meaning of love often is far from that which we know as Christians," he said.

The text, about 50 pages in all, has been described by sources as a spiritual reflection on Christian love and erotic love, the church's work of charity and its mission to announce Christ.

The pope said his goal was to demonstrate that "love is one movement with different dimensions."

"Eros, this gift of love between a man and a woman, comes from the same source of the goodness of the Creator as does the possibility of a love which renounces the self in favor of the other," he said.

Self-sacrificial love can transform erotic love so that "one no longer seeks his own joy and pleasure, but seeks first of all the good of the other person," he said.

He said the transformation of eros into charity was a "journey of purification" that impacts one's immediate family and the larger families of society, church and world.

The pope also alluded to the second part of the encyclical, which examines the church's charitable work in relation to love. He said he makes the point that the personal act of love that comes to humanity from God should be reflected in the church's own actions at an organizational level.

"The church as church, as a commu-

nity in its institutions, must love," he said.

He said the church's charity, however, is "not just an organization like other philanthropic organizations" but expresses "the more profound act of the personal love God has created in our hearts."

The pope said he considered it providential that the encyclical, which was delayed for weeks, would finally come out on the day he will close the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

While not specifically focused on ecumenism, he said, the encyclical's foundation is ecumenical because "God's love and our love is the condition for unity among Christians and for peace in the world."

Vatican sources said the encyclical was delayed by a number of revisions in the text and that translation of the revisions was completed Jan. 17.

One source said an earlier version of the encyclical was circulated to Vatican departments and a small number of theologians last fall, resulting in a significant number of suggested changes. Subsequent editing of the text included wording modifications, new explanatory sections and revision of the conclusion, he said.

The encyclical takes its theme and title from a passage in the First Letter of John, "God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him."

The pope says these words clearly express the centrality of the Christian faith, the Christian image of God, and the vision of man and his path.

According to a brief excerpt published by the Italian news agency ANSA, the encyclical warns that in contemporary society the division between erotic love and the self-sacrificing spiritual love proposed by Christianity is resulting in sexual degradation.

The complete text of the encyclical was released to journalists at a press conference Jan. 25.

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: FEB. 5, 2006

Feb. 5, Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Job 7:1-4, 6-7
Psalms 147:1-6
- 2) 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23
- 3) Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

Prayer can transform drudgery into fulfillment

BY SHARON K. PERKINS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Every Dec. 31, I get a double whammy — the end of another calendar year and my own birthday, both of which lead me to take stock of my life in a big way.

Like most people, I make resolutions for improvement within the usual categories of nutrition, work habits, exercise, spiritual practices, etc., all with the best of intentions.

In early February, the noble, high-minded resolve of the new year is tempered by the daily drudgery required to keep those resolutions. Even the most compelling of intentions are barren without what I call "grunt work," meaning the numerous repetitive, tedious and necessary duties I would rather put off or delegate, tasks that by their persistent ordinariness overwhelm me, sap my energy and erode my enthusiasm.

While I would not equate my lot with Job's miserable situation, I can certainly echo some of his sentiments.

In contrast to Job's lament, we read the accounts of the ministries of Jesus in Mark's Gospel and St. Paul's letter to the church at Corinth. In Mark's short passage about Jesus' work of healing, preaching and casting out demons — and it was "work" in the fullest sense of the word — one can almost sense the daily rhythm of relentless activity that from Jesus' human perspective must have been wearisome and draining at times.

(As a mother, I especially could relate to his being pursued despite his attempt to find some quiet!)

St. Paul grasped this aspect of ministry as well, calling his preaching the Gospel an "obligation," embracing a voluntary slavery that required him to be "all things to all people."

However demanding busy their day-to-day work must have been, Paul diligently and unquestionably labored "for the sake of the Gospel," while Jesus clearly viewed his own work as comprising "the purpose for which I came." What makes the difference between "drudgery" done for its own sake and meaningful work done for a higher purpose?

The Gospel passage gives us a clue when it places Jesus' time of prayer between of Jesus' ministerial activities. A life without prayer and reflection can degenerate into a succession of meaningless tasks, restless nights and hopeless days, as Job describes it.

But as Jesus' own example reveals, prayer can transform even drudgery into purpose and fulfillment.

Questions:

What sorts of "drudgery" are you facing right now? In what way can you follow Jesus' example of prayer so that your work becomes more purposeful?

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF JAN. 29-FEB. 4

Sunday (Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Deuteronomy 18:15-20, 1 Corinthians 7:32-35, Mark 1:21-28; **Monday**, 2 Samuel 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13, Mark 5:1-20; **Tuesday (St. John Bosco)**, 2 Samuel 18:9-10, 14, 24-25, 30-19:3, Mark 5:21-43; **Wednesday**, 2 Samuel 24:2, 9-17, Mark 6:1-6; **Thursday (Presentation of the Lord)**, Malachi 3:1-4, Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40; **Friday (St. Blaise, St. Ansgar)**, Sirach 47:2-11, Mark 6:14-29; **Saturday**, 1 Kings 3:4-13, Mark 6:30-34.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF FEB. 5-11

Sunday (Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Job 7:1-4, 6-7, 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23, Mark 1:29-39; **Monday (St. Paul Miki and Companions)**, 1 Kings 8:1-7, 9-13, Mark 6:53-56; **Tuesday**, 1 Kings 8:22-23, 27-30, Mark 7:1-13; **Wednesday (St. Jerome Emiliani, St. Josephine Bakhita)**, 1 Kings 10:1-10, Mark 7:14-23; **Thursday**, 1 Kings 11:4-13, Mark 7:24-30; **Friday (St. Scholastica)**, 1 Kings 11:29-32; 12:19, Mark 7:31-37; **Saturday (Our Lady of Lourdes)**, 1 Kings 12:26-32, Mark 8:1-10.

We Love Blessed Sacrament Academy !!



Call now to guarantee your child's enrollment.
Space is LIMITED! 704-841-2292

Visit us on the web: www.blessedsacramentacademy.org

Located behind Windsor Square in Matthews, NC. Independent of Charlotte diocesan schools. Member of NARCIS.

- ♦ A classical curriculum in the Catholic tradition
- ♦ Latin, French, Music & Art
- ♦ Grades K-8
- ♦ Excellent scores on standardized tests



30 YEARS EXPERIENCE



ALICE & THE PYANO MAN

Henry C. Rozell III

2nd Generation

Piano Tuner/Technician

Piano Tuning, Repairs, Refinishing

Pianos Bought and Sold

FREE ESTIMATES

704-321-5843

Cell: 704-562-5394



AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles

Licensed & Insured

FREE ESTIMATES

www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185



Construction has begun and we're on our way!

It's a new year, full of resolution and hope for the future. It's also a new beginning at Pennybyrn at Maryfield, for you and your retirement future. Construction has started on what will be the area's most sought-after retirement address. Don't hesitate to inquire about this enriching lifestyle offering unparalleled services and amenities as well as the security of on-site health care. Soon, Pennybyrn will be a reality—a new beginning for you and your retirement future—act now!

Call (336) 886-4103 or toll-free (866) 627-9343 to learn more about the exciting developments at Pennybyrn at Maryfield.

PENNYBYRN
at MARYFIELD
A Continuing Care Retirement Community

Sponsored by the Sisters of The Poor Servants of The Mother of God

1315 Greensboro Road, High Point, NC 27260
www.maryfieldliving.org



NPCNH-Groundbreaking

Back in the 'Morning Light'

St. Louis Jesuits liturgical music group back together after 21 years

BY LISA SCHULTE
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

OMAHA, Neb. — The St. Louis Jesuits, liturgical music icons from the 1970s, are back together and have released their first album in more than 20 years.

"Morning Light" is the seventh recording for the St. Louis Jesuits — Dan Schutte and Jesuit Fathers Bob Dufford, John Foley and Roc O'Connor — who were known for such songs as "Blest Be the Lord," "Lift Up Your Hearts" and "Sing a New Song."

In the mid 1980s, various assignments moved the men to different parts of the country, and Schutte left the Society of Jesus. These changes made it difficult to record music together, said Father O'Connor, a theology professor at Creighton University in Omaha.

"It just seemed like it was a time for each of us to try something on our own," he said.

Since that time, all four have released successful solo CDs.

"It was a wonderful experience and very nostalgic and heartwarming to record together again," Schutte said. "Beyond the recording, it was just a wonderful experience of spending companionship time together."

The four met up in 2001 at the 25th anniversary celebration of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians in Washington, where they sang Schutte's "City of God." It was the first time in 17 years that they had performed together live.

"For me, it was this experience of consolation, of here we are doing something together again," Father O'Connor said. "There was a feeling of being at home in that experience of singing together."

A year later they met in San Francisco to discuss the possibility of making a new CD together, which was something they had avoided in the past.

"We had been asked by the publishers before to put some music out together and we said no, there's no rea-

son to do it other than someone would make money on it," Father O'Connor said. "Our sense was that we're fine going on the way we are."

The men talked and prayed about it for three days and decided the time was right.

"The thing that came to us most often is that this is an act of hope, and it's not hope that the good old days will return, but it's hope that the continued reform of the liturgy can allow us a deeper integration of transcendent and imminent and a deepening of our experience of God and community in liturgical prayer," Father O'Connor said.

When the men gathered again, this time in Portland, Ore., each brought songs he had written himself and they recorded 20 pieces. Only 12 were chosen for this CD.

Tim Manion, one of the original St. Louis Jesuits, joined with the four to sing for some of the recordings.

Fans of the St. Louis Jesuits' music will find comfort in the songs on "Morning Light" as its sound is much the same as their earlier sound. But there are some challenging and surprising pieces included as well, arising "from life experience and the ups and downs that we've all faced," Father O'Connor said.

Although pleased with the CD, Schutte, composer in residence at the University of San Francisco, said it was "a little bit scary" to release an album together after 20 years.

"You put a lot of love and labor into the songs and you may like them, but who knows if anyone else is going to," he said. "I hope people find them useful in worship and prayer."

In the spring, Fathers O'Connor, Foley and Dufford and Schutte will do four live performances in Washington, St. Louis, Chicago and Anaheim, Calif. The group hasn't done any public performances together in nearly 20 years.

"It's our little reunion tour," Schutte said. "It's going to be a wonderful shot in the arm for many people."

HAPPY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK!

PC. **GODFREY** INC.

A Complete Service in
PLUMBING — HEATING — AIR CONDITIONING — BOILERS
REPAIRS & REPLACEMENTS

Serving Charlotte Since 1929
Commercial, Industrial, Residential

SERVICE DEPARTMENT
704-334-9715

GENERAL OFFICE
704-334-8604

Buzzing the competition



COURTESY PHOTO

Students at St. Michael School in Gastonia participated in the 2006 National Geographic Bee with a school-wide competition in the gym Jan. 13. Pictured are: (back row, from left) third-grader Miguel Pichardo, eighth-grader Angela Longo, fifth-grader Maria Manjarrez; (front row, from left) fourth-grader Michael Purello, seventh-grader Zachy Girmay and sixth-grader Samantha Longo.

Winners were Samantha Longo for third place and Michael Purello for second place. First-place winner Zachy Girmay advanced to the next level of competition, a written examination to determine state competitors.

One hundred school winners from each state then proceed to the state finals in April.

The winner in each state and territory proceeds to the National Geographic Bee in Washington, D.C. for a two-day competition in May. On the first day, winners are narrowed to a field of 10 finalists, who compete on day two. The winner is awarded a college scholarship.

OFFICE PRODUCTS
& FURNITURE
Huge Discounts
Negotiable Pricing
On-Line Ordering
FREE Delivery
FREE "RUSH" Delivery

**Star
Stationers**

349-E West Tremont Ave.
Charlotte, NC 28203
Mobile: (980) 721-8112
Fax: (704) 342-1904

Lynn Murphy (704) 375-3206 ext. 20, or (800) 832-6218
lynnmurphy@starstationers.com

KEEP YOUR \$ IN LOCAL BUSINESSES!

COME JOIN US FOR



Saturday, Feb. 11 6:30 - 11 pm

**BLACK JACK • POKER
ROULETTE • FOOD
MUSIC • DJ**

**St. Ann's Catholic Church
3635 Park Road, Charlotte
(corner of Hillside Avenue)**

TICKETS: \$30

(704) 523-4641

**Available by phone through
St. Ann's Parish Office
or at the door

GRAND PRIZE SPONSOR

**Pair-A-Dice
TRAVEL, INC.**

A tasty lesson



COURTESY PHOTO

Joey Lorenz, a sixth-grader at Immaculate Heart of Mary School in High Point, serves up English butter tarts as part of a class project Jan. 19. The sixth-grade class focused on ethnic diversity and tolerance, and for homework they had to prepare and bring in a food dish from their family's ethnic background. They then presented their dishes and discussed their significance in their families' history. The food ranged from English fare — such as Joey's butter tarts — to Ethiopian pastry to Korean dumplings.



Diocesan Tribunal Office*

**Full-Time Position as Paralegal,
Tribunal Notary, Administrative Assistant**

**Reports to the Director of the Tribunal
at Charlotte Pastoral Center**

Job requirements: Paralegal certificate. Self-directed; proficient communication skills. Detail-oriented position, involving record creation/record keeping, and computer literacy. Unimpaired reputation. A practicing Catholic.

Inquiries are confidential. Please send resume to Sister Sheila Richardson, Director, at Tribunal@charlottediocese.org.

*The Diocesan Tribunal processes and decides marriage nullity cases.

Classifieds

FOR RENT

NEW LAKE LURE CABIN: Stay while touring the HGTV Dream Home! 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished. Off-season rates. 828-299-3714

Classified ads bring results! Over 125,000 readers! Over 49,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

From the archives

To-do lists, pay stubs: Archive details St. Peter's construction

BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — For every sack of cement that was purchased, for every block of stone quarried and hauled to Rome, architects in charge of building St. Peter's Basilica filled out and filed away receipts and penned detailed notations in thick, bound ledgers.

Even every artisan and worker hired, every on-the-job accident, lawsuit and progress report on the construction of the world's largest church were recorded and stored away in a little-known — but priceless — Vatican archive.

The archives of the Fabbrica di San Pietro, the Vatican office responsible for the basilica's construction matters, certainly do not carry the same recognition as the Vatican Secret Archives, perhaps because their contents may seem more mundane.

Instead of 20th-century Vatican intrigue, one is more likely to find a Renaissance master's to-do list, crinkled pay stubs and requests addressed to patrons holding the purse strings.

More than 10,000 pieces of parchment, documents and scraps of paper are catalogued and tucked away in

fat, hardcover volumes. Each volume, bursting with notes and folios, stands in unlocked glass cabinets that line the archive's octagon-shaped rooms.

The rooms are located on an upper floor near the back of the basilica, overlooking the organ pipes.

From inside St. Peter's Basilica, authorized guests can access the climate-controlled collection by going through a door underneath the massive monument to Pope Alexander VII.

"The archives preserve the entire history of the basilica," said Simona Turriziani, one of the four people who work cataloging and caring for the Fabbrica's archives.

"It's not a huge archive, but it's incredibly rich because all the important architects of the 1500s to the 1600s came through (the basilica), because it was the most important construction site at the time," she said.

Donato Bramante, Raphael, Michelangelo Buonarroti, Carlo Maderno, Giovanni Bernini and Francesco Borromini's handwritten notes, instructions, reports and requests are all housed there.

These Renaissance and Baroque artists each had a hand in the design or building of St. Peter's Basilica, whose construction began 500 years ago on April 18, 1506.

That day Pope Julius II set the first cornerstone of the new basilica. He mobilized the resources and the artists to finally do what popes before him had been concerned about — saving from collapse the ancient basilica built at the time of Constantine.

But Pope Julius wanted a large, grandiose basilica to replace the smaller, deteriorating original that sat atop the



CNS PHOTO COURTESY OF FABBRICA DI SAN PIETRO

The archives of the Fabbrica di San Pietro, the Vatican office responsible for construction matters in St. Peter's Basilica, house volumes of material. Among other documents, the archives contain handwritten notes and requests from Renaissance and Baroque artists.

underground tomb of St. Peter.

Construction on the new church lasted more than 100 years. The project was not only enormous, but sometimes work was stalled as earlier plans and designs were scrapped or revised by successive architects.

Antonio da San Gallo the Younger, for example, wrote a letter to the pope criticizing what Raphael, San Gallo's predecessor, had done.

Michelangelo later tossed out San Gallo's own blueprint for the basilica, saying the design was too elaborate and created too many dark, winding corridors.

Michelangelo told his papal patron that he could create a more luminous and far simpler basilica in less time, and his design was accepted.

Michelangelo, like many people involved in the project, never lived to see the church completed in 1620. But he dedicated almost 20 years of his life,

1546-1564, to being head architect.

Perhaps the meticulous notes were considered to be humdrum information by bookkeepers at the time, but today scholars find the details fascinating.

Turriziani said the Vatican was preparing to mark the basilica's 500th anniversary this year with a number of unconfirmed events and celebrations.

She emphasized the basilica's collection was still "a living archive" and that everything sent to the Fabbrica was still recorded and preserved.

Even the letter the Vatican press office sent requesting permission for Vatican journalists to visit the archives in late December "has been catalogued and filed away," she said.

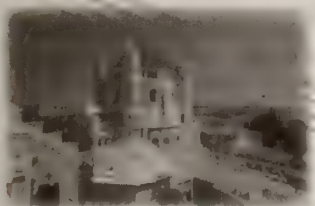
Thus the paper trail continues as seemingly more mundane materials of today are safely tucked away with ancient parchments to stand the test of time.

ANNOUNCING....

A Diocesan-sponsored
Pilgrimage to

THE HOLY LAND

September 5-14, 2006



Domitius Ildeph

Join Father James Hawker
Diocesan Vicar of Education
and Pastor of St. Luke Church

Visit the sites where Jesus walked as you deepen your understanding of Holy Scriptures and your Catholic faith. The pages of the Bible will come alive as you walk in His footsteps and celebrate Mass daily in many of the historical sites of our faith.

ALL are welcome — friends, neighbors, non-Catholics, too.

For a detailed brochure or information, call Cindi at 704-370-3332.

Cost: \$2,499 (before 6/22/06) includes airfare from Charlotte, hotels, all tours and meals. Taxes, airport fees, tips and insurance are extra.



CSS

Catholic Social Services
Diocese of Charlotte

Fostering Justice Worldwide

Sponsored by the Office of Justice and Peace, Catholic Social Services, Diocese of Charlotte

Fostering Justice Worldwide will provide five opportunities to share Catholic Relief Services (CRS) stories and work in the Diocese of Charlotte. The five events, open to all and offered free of charge, will provide:

- an overview of Catholic Social Teaching and its relevance to the mission and work of CRS;
- an overview of CRS-related work in the Diocese of Charlotte and diocesan support for CRS;
- specific reference to the work of CRS programs in Africa;
- how-to guides on participating in activities that can benefit the work of CRS;
- presentations on effective advocacy, fair trade practices, disaster relief, world poverty, etc.

The schedule of Fostering Justice Worldwide events is listed below. For specific details about the Saturday afternoon events please call the Office of Justice and Peace at 704-370-3234/3225 or e-mail justicepeace@charlottediocese.org.

February 25

April 8

June 24

September 9

November 4

The Church of Mary, Queen of the Apostles, Belmont

St. Eugene Church, Asheville

St. Matthew Church, Charlotte

St. Joseph Church, Newton

St. Francis Springs Prayer Center, Stoneville

1:00 to 4:30 PM

1:15 to 4:45 PM

1:30 to 5:00 PM

1:30 to 5:00 PM

1:00 to 4:30 PM



Catholic Relief Services (CRS) was founded in 1943 by the Catholic Bishops of the United States. Its mission is to assist the poor and disadvantaged, leveraging the teachings of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to alleviate human suffering, promote development of all people and to foster charity and justice throughout the world. CRS works in 99 countries.

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Facing evil

Horrid crimes can test, affirm our faith

A bottle of evil was opened in a well-to-do suburban neighborhood in Charlotte recently.

Five-year-old identical twins Samantha and Tessara Crespi were stabbed to death. David Crespi, the girls' father, who called police to report the crime, was charged with their first-degree murder the same day.

Crespi is a senior vice-president of Wachovia, a position that indicates success in life. Neighbors describe the family as average and happy with no hint that anything so horrific was on its horizon.

Crespi is also an active member of St. Matthew Church and so, within minutes of the news media learning of the story, I started to receive telephone calls. Reporters wanted to know how they might be able to contact the pastor? Would TV crews be allowed into the church for the funeral? Could I provide a photograph of the family from a church directory?

The questions may seem intrusive, even vulture-like, but that is what reporters do and most weren't offended or surprised when I answered their questions: no, no and no.

Reporters and the rest of us deal with horrific events like this on two levels. First we want to know what happened and then we want to understand why.

In the case of Crespi, subsequent news reports quoted family members as saying he had been treated for depression and had recently changed his medication so he could cope with insomnia. The inference is obvious — a pharmaceutical cocktail somehow caused an unstable adult to commit a nearly unspeakable crime against a pair of innocent pre-schoolers.

Other details may change completely the context of that initial report, but all of the particulars serve the same purpose. They help us comprehend the horrid potentials of the human mind.

But the facts will only take us so far in coming to grips with the idea of a parent killing his children. We long for a more complete understanding. As people of faith, it can be very difficult to understand God's plan when this kind of suffering is in our midst.

Judy Williams of Charlotte knows first hand of the nightmare that family members go through when a child is murdered. Her goddaughter, Shawna Hawk, was strangled and drowned by a serial killer in 1993. For her, the only explanation for the murder of a child is the presence of evil in the world.

"The devil is very busy," she said. "The demons aren't gone."

Williams said she was lost in grief and anger when Shawna died. Part of her

Catholics & the Media

DAVID HAINS
GUEST COLUMNIST



response to the tragedy was the founding of MOMO, Mothers of Murdered Offspring, a support and education group for the families of murdered children.

She offers two candles for those who are stumbling through the darkness in trying to understand something as brutal as the murder of a child:

"You have to realize that the devil is the real enemy. If you lose sight of that you could become his victim. Whenever you entertain thoughts of evil, you have to rebuke them quickly."

That's fine for avoiding evil, but what about those times when evil pushes its way onto the center stage of a family's life? The Crespi twins' mother and their siblings are victims of this crime also.

Williams' advice is to turn to the Lord in what she calls "trusting time."

"We don't understand what God's purpose is, but we have to believe that he does have one," she said. "We serve a loving God who does not get pleasure out of our pain. We must stay close to him."

In the face of such evil, what else can we do?

David Hains is director of communication for the Diocese of Charlotte. Contact him at dwhains@charlottediocese.org.

How does a person become cheerful?

Although I tried to avoid it, I couldn't stop staring at the man across from me on the Metro.

What first caught my eye was the way he wore his fedora. The man's olive skin, white hair and demeanor fit the image of a mafioso boss par excellence.

I looked into his eyes and was amazed how they danced with enthusiasm. He delighted in everything he looked at. He may have been in his early 70s, but you wouldn't know it because he was like a child experiencing life around him for the first time.

I always have wondered what the biblical concept "cheerfulness of heart" might look like in a person. As I observed

Humanity can end hatred by following God's law with love, pope says

BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — By following God's law with sincerity and love, humanity can end the hatred, conflicts and warfare plaguing the world and usher in a new era of justice and peace, Pope Benedict XVI said in his weekly general audience.

"Only the people who know God and defend spiritual and moral values" can reach real peace, "bring in the strength of peace for the world and to other peoples," he said in remarks apart from the text.

Speaking to nearly 8,000 pilgrims gathered in the Vatican's Paul VI hall, the pope dedicated his Jan. 25 catechesis to the last half of Psalm 144.

The psalmist paints a picture of the coming of a "new, joyous world," marked by peace, prosperity and families blessed with children, fertile flocks and fields.

These same images of abundance and serenity "can also become a sign for us of the birth of a more just society," the pope said.

But this new world of harmony and peace can only come if people work together with God, "under the guidance of the Messiah, Christ," he said.

Only when people follow the plan and laws of "the God of love and justice" can they "implement this project of harmony and peace, ending the destructive action of hatred, violence, war," the pope said.

He said St. Augustine interpreted the 10-stringed harp represented in the psalm as standing for the Ten Commandments. The psalmist sought to sing "a new song" to God with his harp, the pope said, but only when the faithful sing "from the heart" and with love will

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



their song to God be "sung well."

In other words, being in harmony with God comes about when the person lives out the commandments with a heart full of love.

"The love that unites us with Christ's feelings is the real 'new song' of the new man who is fit to also create a new world," the pope said.

The Jan. 25 general audience fell on the feast of the Conversion of St. Paul and at the end of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

Pope Benedict said the week highlighted the need to "constantly pray to the Lord for the great gift of full unity among all Christ's disciples."

Prayer, he said, was a concrete way to make sure the fruits coming out of the common task of ecumenism were "more sincere and abundant."

In his greetings in various languages to groups of pilgrims in the audience hall, the pope greeted Italian soccer referees. He asked that they help foster "proper human and spiritual education," which creates "more mature and responsible people."

The Italian referees later presented the pope with a navy blue warm-up jacket with the name Ratzinger printed on the back collar. Pope Benedict, whose family name is Ratzinger, held the jacket against his chest, checking its measurements.

The Human Side

FATHER EUGENE
HEMRICK
CNS COLUMNIST



this man's joyfulness, I thought, "This is what you are looking for: a person at peace with himself and the world, and who hasn't lost enthusiasm about life. His cheerful enthusiasm is so natural!"

How, I wondered, does one cultivate a penchant for joy?

If we delved into this man's life, no doubt we would find that his heart was broken often. Perhaps his wife died or his children met with trouble. It could be that he suffers from an illness. Yet his face and eyes weren't dimmed.

In the midst of crises, had he, like so many wise elders, come to accept life as it is rather than fighting it and crying "poor me" every time it wasn't to his liking?

Accepting life's realities makes it much easier to endure the hardships. Instead of running from deep-seated anxieties, we face them squarely and in doing so are in possession of ourselves.

I also wonder if cheerfulness of heart is the result of cultivating the "sacrament of the moment," which we fully enter into by God's grace. Once so focused, distractions are minimized, leaving room for the peace that seems so basic to a cheerful heart.

"Cheerfulness," in Greek, means God's spirit coursing through a person. When we become one with God, we cannot but be filled with God's joy.

The next time you need cheering up, look around you for people who exude cheerfulness of heart. You may just find their secret and join them.

Talking about integrity at work

Business execs share words of wisdom

It just happened to be a day when the Jack Abramoff scandal dominated the headlines and the fraud trial of Ken Lay and his Enron associates was about to begin.

I found myself in a conversation about integrity with a group of veteran business executives. These men and women had gathered, as they do once every month, to discuss the relevance of their faith to their business and professional responsibilities.

Integrity is a big item with them.

I found myself jotting down some of their remarks and want to post them here. They are applicable to adult believers in all walks of life.

They are particularly applicable to those who have to negotiate their way through what is now commonly called a "culture of corruption" in the world of work.

"A person of integrity is a person who displays wisdom qualities," said one of the participants, "and we would be wise to spend more time these days talking about ethics." And so we did.

The conversation ranged from expense accounts and mileage allowances ("If you can't make your quota, drive your car," was advice one salesman recalled receiving as a young trainee) to the folly of establishing a department of ethics in a big corporation if there is no

Looking Around

JESUIT FATHER
WILLIAM BYRON
CNS COLUMNIST



ethical "tone at the top."

The ethics conversation has to begin at the dinner table long before you get your first job, one CEO asserted.

"I can still hear my father saying at the table, 'You've got to do the harder right rather than the easier wrong.' Nothing I ever learned in the classroom has stuck with me the way those dinner table discussions have," he said.

Integrity requires openness, all agreed, but presence too.

Being "present to the moment" is important, and even more important is having the courage and wisdom to speak up.

"How many times do you close the door, sit down and talk with your peers in the executive suite about whether you are crossing the line?" asked another CEO.

"The corporation that has integrity will have managers talking to one another

about ethical issues. There has to be a trust among them and a willingness to say 'I don't know' without any fear of that being mistaken for a sign of weakness, not wisdom," he said.

Picking up on that, another remarked, "You want to be in an environment where, if you're confused, you feel free to disclose your confusion to colleagues you trust."

With reference to the "culture of corruption," another said: "Our culture is dominated by profit. It also has a focus on youth, not on wisdom. The culture is the water we swim in."

"Money is the complicating factor in all of this," said another, "and it has not taken me long to notice that there is not a huge correlation between money and happiness."

One of the older participants said: "A wisdom ingredient is the ability to change one's mind. It can only exist in an environment where you can talk things over with others. Wisdom is when you realize you don't know it all."

"It's astonishing how often you hear someone say, 'Can I be honest with you?' and I say to myself, 'I had been assuming all along that you were being honest with me.'"

"If you can't legislate morality," and I don't think you can, said a young accountant, "then we simply have to have a principle-based integrity culture, a culture where all the 'swimmers' have first internalized principles that point them in the right direction."

E-mail Father Byron at wbyron@loyola.edu.

State of the world's poor

Making a Difference

TONY MAGLIANO
CNS COLUMNIST



SMALL EFFORT CAN MAKE BIG DIFFERENCE

The new year is not shaping up to be a happy one for hundreds of millions of the world's poorest children. In fact, the U.N. Children's Fund (www.unicef.org) reports that the situation is truly desperate.

According to their highly respected annual report titled "The State of the World's Children 2006," millions of excluded and invisible children make their way through life impoverished, abandoned, uneducated, malnourished, discriminated against, neglected and vulnerable.

In the world's poorest countries:

—One in every six children dies before age 5.

—One in every three children under 5 is moderately or severely underweight.

—One in every two girls is not in primary school.

—One in every four children is not immunized against measles, which kills more than 500,000 children every year.

Why do we allow so many of the world's children to suffer and die?

The United States has the resources to end domestic and global childhood poverty and hunger. However, as individuals and as a government, we often throw crumbs to the poor.

Speaking from New York in 1979, Pope John Paul II said: "The poor of the United States and of the world are your brothers and sisters in Christ. Never be content to leave them just the crumbs of the feast."

"Take of your substance, and not just of your abundance, in order to help them. Treat them like guests at your family table."

You can invite the poor — especially poor children — to your family table by e-mailing or calling your congressman and two U.S. senators (Capitol switchboard: 202-224-3121), urging them to double the funding in fiscal year 2007 for the McGovern-Dole School Feeding Program.

This wonderful project enables very poor schools in the developing world to provide a nutritious meal for each student. Doubling the funding would provide food and education for an additional 2 million children.

Also, urge your congressional delegation to increase the Title II Food for Peace program to \$2 billion for 2007.

With just a little effort and pennies a day, we can help some of the world's poorest children enjoy a good meal, receive an education and experience what it means to be a child!

The permanence of holy orders

Q. I was taught during my Catholic education that the sacrament of holy orders was a lifetime commitment — marriage to God or to the church.

Why then are Catholics excommunicated and forbidden to receive the Eucharist if they were legally married in the church, then divorce and remarry, when an ordained priest may leave the priesthood, receive the sacrament of marriage, is not excommunicated and is permitted to receive the sacraments?

I believe the church had no objection to divorce and remarriage prior to the 13th and 14th centuries. (New York)

A. First, married Catholics who divorce and remarry another person outside the church should not receive the sacraments until their new marriage is validated in the church.

Contrary to what many still believe, however, they are not formally excommunicated, are still part of the church and are encouraged to participate in its life in all other ways.

The sacramental theology of marriage differs from that of holy orders. We believe that marriage is in itself a commitment for life between the two spouses, that this is an ordinance of God, what he intended the marriage covenant to be. There's plenty of biblical witness to that truth.

It's true that, according to Catholic theology and doctrine, an ordained priest

remains an ordained priest for life. In a metaphor that attempts to articulate that truth, it often is said that ordination creates an "indelible mark" on the individual, just as baptism creates an indelible character on those who receive that sacrament.

The discipline with which the church determines how and when and where the priest will publicly exercise that sacrament, however, was not established by Christ. The church has varied its regulations and policies on this subject often through the centuries.

Among those policies today, determined generally by canon law, is that a priest may be removed from active ministry, meaning that he cannot exercise his pastoral responsibilities.

This removal may be on his own initiative, which may sooner or later be accepted by the church (for example, by laicization), or it may be on the initiative of the bishop or other responsible authority.

In that sense, once a priest always a priest. Even one who has left the priesthood and perhaps entered a marriage retains until death the ability in the church to minister the sacraments, though he may not lawfully exercise that responsibility except for people in critical emergencies or danger of death.

These exceptions are provided since the church in such matters has always held to the principle that the good of souls, the spiritual needs of people, come first.

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN
DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



The metaphor that a priest, particularly a bishop, is "married" to the church, or to his diocese, is an ancient one in Christianity. But like all metaphors, it cannot be stretched beyond its intended meaning.

It helps to convey the idea that a commitment somewhat like marriage binds a priest to the church and to the people he serves. The similarity does not, however, define the nature and meaning of that priestly commitment.

It is not correct that the church once had no objection to divorce. Its laws and practices concerning when and how marriages take place, and its theology of the sacrament developed often through the centuries.

For instance, it approved in particular cases the dissolution of a marriage between a Christian and a non-Christian (the Pauline Privilege). At no time, however, did it not teach the lifetime character of the marriage covenant.

Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at Box 5515, Peoria, IL, 61612, or e-mail: jjdietzen@aol.com.

Shooting for sainthood

Founder of Indiana Catholic home one step closer to sainthood

BY STEVE EUVINO
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

EAST CHICAGO, Ind. — The staff at St. Joseph's Carmelite Home for Girls has certainly witnessed growth in recent years, adding facilities for emergency care and a center for infants and toddlers. The staff is now awaiting news of a possible church honor for the home's founder.

Pope Benedict XVI signed decrees Dec. 19 recognizing miracles attributed to the intercession of nine individuals. Among those now ready for beatification is Mother Anna Maria Tauscher, also known as Mother Maria Teresa of St. Joseph.

The German-born founder of the Carmelite Sisters of the Divine Heart of Jesus also founded St. Joseph's Carmelite Home for Girls in East Chicago — one of a number of facilities still in operation that she founded on a trip to America.

"We're very, very happy. We've been waiting, we planned, and we were hoping for it," said Carmelite Sister Maria Giuseppe Moxley, administrator at the home and provincial superior for her order.

"Some of our older sisters knew her, and a couple still remember her," said Sister Moxley.

Born in 1855 in a part of Germany that is now Poland, Mother Anna Maria went on to establish homes throughout Europe. The Carmelite Sisters have since opened children's homes in Canada, Nicaragua, Venezuela, Mexico, Brazil, Africa, Iceland and Russia.

"Mother loved children, and she worked to found homes for the homeless," Sister Maria Giuseppe said.

Beatification is the next-to-last step



CNS BY KAREN CALLAWAY, NORTHWEST INDIANA CATHOLIC

Carmelite Sister Maria Dell Perez plays basketball with children at the Holy Innocents Center in East Chicago, Ind., Jan. 16. This center for children is one of three facilities that the Carmelite Sisters of the Divine Heart of Jesus operate in the Diocese of Gary, Ind. Mother Anna Maria Tauscher, their founder, is expected to be beatified in May.

in the canonization process. It takes place after a person's life, writings and teachings have been examined and found to contain nothing contrary to church teachings or to the demands of Christian perfection, and also after a miracle attributed to the intercession of the sainthood candidate has been recognized.

Sister Moxley said the beatification will be May 13 in the Netherlands. The local bishop will beatify Mother Anna Maria Tauscher at that time, and Sister Maria Giuseppe said she'll be there.

"She was a great, great woman," Sister Maria Giuseppe said. "She had a deep, deep holiness, and she had

complete and total trust in God."

Recalling that Mother Anna Maria faced plenty of opposition, Sister Moxley said her order's founder displayed "tenacity and the stamina to persevere. She got (opposition) from all sides. But she was faithful and persevering and had so much strength of character and determination."

After joining the Catholic Church at age 30, Anna Maria Tauscher van Bosch wanted to give herself totally to God as a religious and began visiting convents, with particular interest in the Carmelites.

However, she wanted to establish her own order of Carmelites, and she faced opposition from clergy who could not understand her need for a new order.

The Vatican in 1898 did approve the Carmelite Sisters of the Divine Heart of Jesus. Though based on the cloistered rule of St. Teresa of Avila, these sisters combined that rule with action.

"That was Mother's big thing — she wanted to be active, not cloistered," Sister Maria Giuseppe said.

After opening her first novitiate in Sittard, Netherlands, Mother Anna Maria began opening homes in Europe, beginning with St. Joseph's Home in Berlin in 1896. She worked in Europe until 1912, when she came to East Chicago and purchased two small frame houses that became the nucleus for the current blocklong facility.

The home, officially founded in 1913, now ranks as the oldest home she started that is still in operation in this country. The Carmelite Home originally accepted both male and female orphans.

Mother Anna Maria, who stayed in the U.S. about eight years, left East Chicago for San Antonio and other parts of this country. Her Carmelite congregation today has three provinces in America.

After returning to Europe, Mother Anna Maria continued opening children's homes — 58 during her lifetime. She died in Sittard Sept. 20, 1938.

get ignited!

Come hear these great
Catholic speakers

Dr Alice Von Hildebrand

George Weigel

Stephen Ray

Dr Jacques Mistrot

Ignited By Truth
Catholic Conference
February 17-18, 2006
Raleigh, North Carolina

Bringing to light the truth of the teachings of the Catholic Church and igniting in our hearts a love for our Faith

For complete details and online registration, visit:
www.IgnitedByTruth.com

Enrich your spiritual life!

Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise —

"The Footsteps of Paul"

Greece and Turkey — May 11-21, 2006

Space is limited—register now!



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,949 for inside cabin — includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

Istanbul — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace

Mykonos — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels

Patmos — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation

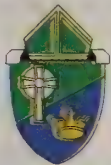
Kusadasi & Ephesus — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites

Rhodes — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith

Crete — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion

Santorini — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.



Established Jan. 12, 1972
by Pope Paul VI

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

Eucharistic Congress

Bishop Peter J. Jugis' column
on the Eucharist, upcoming
Eucharistic Congress

| PAGE 15

FEBRUARY 3, 2006

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 15 No 17

'Touched by Christ, We Respond with Gratitude'

SUPPORTING APPEAL IS WAY
TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — In "Deus Caritas Est" ("God is Love"), Pope Benedict XVI said the church is obligated to help those in need.

As Catholics, we have been touched by the love of Christ. It is our obligation to respond with gratitude.

And every day across the Diocese of Charlotte, people and ministries share that gift of love with others — by protecting the unborn, welcoming the stranger, answering a vocational call.

"Our response to Jesus' presence in our lives is shown in how we reach out to others, especially those in need of our help," said Bishop Peter J. Jugis in a January letter announcing the 2006 Diocesan Support

See DSA, page 9

ROAD TO SAINTHOOD

Postulator says French nun's cure could be miracle for Pope John Paul II

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ROME — The Polish priest charged with shepherding Pope John Paul II's sainthood cause said he believes the healing of a French nun suffering from Parkinson's disease could be the miracle needed for the pope's beatification.

Msgr. Slawomir Oder, postulator of the cause, announced on Italian radio in late January that he had chosen the

See SAINT, page 13



ILLUSTRATION COURTESY OF THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

Above is the poster for the 2006 Diocesan Support Appeal, themed "Touched by Christ, We Respond with Gratitude." The appeal runs Feb. 4-March 12.

Marching for life

Students, adults from diocese participate in
annual pro-life event

BY COLLEEN FORCINA
SPECIAL TO
THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

WASHINGTON, D.C. — For 33 years, since the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion in 1973, thousands of people from around the country have rallied at the nation's capital to protest abortion.

An estimated 100,000 people, including several groups from the Diocese of Charlotte, attended the 33rd annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. Jan. 23.

Among them were more than 160 students, teachers and parents from Charlotte Catholic High School, led by

See MARCH, page 6



COURTESY PHOTO BY DEBRA LEMMON

Teenagers from St. Mark Church in Huntersville and Sacred Heart Church in Salisbury carry a statue of Our Lady of Fatima during the March for Life in Washington, D.C., Jan. 23.

CHapel Hill NC 27599-0001
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
UNC
NC COLLECTION
#420836#
#BXNPDVQ.....3-DIGIT 275
S37 P1

Around the Diocese

Knights donate to agencies;
service weekend for college
students

| PAGE 4

Keeping alive the dream

Event celebrates life,
legacy of Rev. King

| PAGE 12

Parish Profile

St. Frances of Rome Church
serves dedicated Catholics in
Sparta

| PAGE 16

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

INSPIRED BY ILLNESS



CNS PHOTO BY DON BLAKE, THE DIALOG

Mercy Sister Peggy Mahoney, director of planned giving for the Diocese of Wilmington, Del., walks in Rockford Park in October 2005. Sister Mahoney was diagnosed in 2003 with polymyositis, a disease marked by weakness and inflammation of the muscles. She said the illness has given her a new outlook on her life and faith.

Nun's rare illness spurs new approach to life

WILMINGTON, Del. (CNS) — Most people would not see a chronic, progressive, debilitating disease as a blessing, or call themselves "one of the lucky ones."

Mercy Sister Peggy Mahoney must not be most people.

Sister Mahoney, director of planned giving for the Wilmington Diocese, was diagnosed in 2003 with polymyositis, an autoimmune disease marked by weakness and inflammation of the muscles.

"I have aches, discomfort, periods of weakness," she said.

Sister Mahoney feels she is lucky because she has been "forced to find that balance" in life that so many people talk about but rarely achieve.

"I've had to draw back a little bit. I've learned to say no sometimes," she said. "You have to re-evaluate everything. And that's hard."

That doesn't mean she isn't busy. In her job, Sister Mahoney, 59, talks to people about providing for the church in their wills or through donations.

Polymyositis is rarely fatal but it can be debilitating and even temporary remission is rare. Only 30,000-50,000 people in the United States have it, which

makes it hard to get funding for research and drugs that might combat its effects. There is no definitive cause for the illness.

"I thought, 'Oh my God, my life is going to change.' And it did change," she said — in some ways for the better. She started eating better and exercising more to deter the atrophy of her muscles, but she may have to start using a cane or a wheelchair at some point.

"With a chronic illness, it never gets better, it never goes away," she said.

Sister Mahoney views her illness through the lens of faith.

"I was mad at God for a little while," she said, but she realized God did not cause her to develop the illness and doesn't "sit up there" wondering how he can make someone's life miserable.

Now she wonders what God wants her to learn from her illness.

"This for me is an opportunity to become more aware of life around me. What is it that I'm supposed to be learning? There's something here to learn about life, about people, about God," she said.

She is determined not to let the disease take over her life or define who she is. Though the illness "shapes" her, she said, "I am not my disease."

Alito confirmed as court's fifth Catholic justice

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Samuel Alito Jr. was confirmed to the Supreme Court Jan. 31, becoming the fifth Catholic on the nine-member court.

Alito watched the 58-42 Senate vote from the White House, where he was to be sworn in at a private ceremony in time to appear at the Capitol for the State of the Union address by President George W. Bush that evening.

A second, ceremonial swearing-in was scheduled for Feb. 1 at the White House.

Alito, 55, was nominated in October to replace retiring Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

He had been a judge on the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia since 1990. Earlier, he was U.S. attorney for New Jersey and served on the staff at the Justice Department during the Reagan administration.

A native of Trenton, N.J., Alito attended Princeton University as an

undergraduate and received his law degree from Yale University in 1975.

Alito was actually the third nominee to replace O'Connor. After she announced her retirement last summer, Bush nominated Judge John Roberts for the seat. When Chief Justice William Rehnquist died in September, Roberts was renominated to the chief's position.

Roberts was confirmed and took his seat as chief justice in time for the court's opening session in October.

Bush's next nominee, White House counsel Harriet Miers, withdrew her nomination after a few weeks amid criticism from Bush's political supporters.

Alito joins four other Catholics on the bench, making it the first time Catholics have held a majority on the Court. Besides Roberts, the other Catholics are Justices Antonin Scalia, Anthony Kennedy and Clarence Thomas.

Diocesan planner

BOONE VICARIATE

NORTH WILKESBORO — A *Catholic Scripture Study* group meets at St. John Baptiste de La Salle Church, 275 CC Wright School Rd. Visit www.catholicscripturestudy.com for more information. Classes meet Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m. Please call Rob Hicks at (336) 957-7193 for more information or if you plan to attend.

SPARTA — St. Frances of Rome Church, Hendrix and Highlands Rds., sponsors the *Oratory of Divine Love Prayer Group* in the parish house the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 1 p.m. Call (336) 372-8846 for more information.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — The second annual *Eucharistic Congress* will be held Oct. 6-7 at the Charlotte Convention Center, 501 S. College St. The Eucharistic Congress brings together laity, clergy, religious men and women, and well-known speakers for a day and a half of worship and lectures related to the Eucharist. For more information, visit www.GoEucharist.com.

CHARLOTTE — A *Polka Mass* will be celebrated at St. Ann Church, 3635 Park Rd., Feb. 4 at 4:30 p.m. For details, call Jim Rebold at (704) 525-1832.

CHARLOTTE — The *50+ Club* of St. John Neumann Church, 8451 Idlewild Rd., meets the second Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. with a program and lunch in the parish hall. For reservations and more information, call Elaine at (704) 847-2835.

CHARLOTTE — *Christians in Career Transition*, a support group for those whose job status is causing them to seek employment. Sessions in-

clude interactive discussions on networking, resumes and interview skills. The group meets the first and third Monday of each month, 7-9 p.m., in room 132 of the New Life Center at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy. Please call Jack Rueckel at (704) 341-8449 for more information.

CHARLOTTE — *St. Matthew Cancer Support Ministry* is open to cancer patients, their caregivers and cancer survivors. If you would like to share your experience in a faith-based setting and receive group support and encouragement, join us on the first Tuesday of each month through June, at 7 p.m. in the St. Matthew Church Office lounge, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy. Call Marilyn Borrelli at (704) 542-2283 or Bob Wilcocks at (704) 542-1541 for more information.

CHARLOTTE — *Healing Hearts*, a support group for people coping with the death of a spouse, meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall of St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Rd. For more information, contact facilitator Sister Therese Galligan at (704) 362-5047, ext. 216.

CHARLOTTE — The *Vietnamese Cursillo* of Charlotte School of Leaders meets the second Sunday of each month at 2:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1400 Suther Rd. For more information, contact Nam Le at (704) 549-1525.

MINT HILL — *G.E.M.S. Daily* is a prayer/support group for mothers of children with disabilities. The group meets the second Wednesday of each month, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., at St. Luke Church, 13700 Lawyers Rd., to share concerns, praise and prayers. For details, call Michelle Roth at (704) 321-1717.

CHARLOTTE — The *Young Widowed Group* meets at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month in the Fellowship Hall of St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, contact facilitator Sister Therese Galligan at (704) 362-5047, ext. 216.

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-mail: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

FEBRUARY 3, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 17

The *Catholic News & Herald*, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The *Catholic News & Herald* reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Pope prays that Olympics show friendship amid world's conflicts, tensions

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI prayed that the upcoming Winter Olympics would show that friendship and mutual understanding were possible even at a time when humanity is experiencing so much conflict and tension.

He also asked that the games, which will be held in Turin, Italy, Feb. 10-26, be a spiritual catalyst for people of faith and give them "an opportune occasion to reflect" on how the lessons derived from sport can carry over to "spiritual exercise."

The pope's written message was addressed to Cardinal Severino Poletto of Turin to mark the upcoming opening of the XX Olympic Winter Games. Though the message was dated Nov. 29, 2005, the Vatican released the text Jan. 21.

The pope told the cardinal he was praying that the Olympic events "would be for all an eloquent sign of friendship and contribute to strengthening mutual understanding between people."

The pope asked how it was possible "to not recognize how much this is needed in our age that witnesses humanity marked by not a little tension and yearning to build a future of authentic peace."

Christ is "the light of the world that illuminates humanity in all of its dimensions, including sport," he said.

Even sport needs "to be illuminated by God through Christ so that the values it expresses may be purified and elevated both on a personal and collective level," the pope said.

GASTONIA VICARIATE

BELMONT — *Fostering Justice Worldwide*, sponsored by the diocesan Office of Justice and Peace, will share Catholic Relief Services (CRS) stories. This free event will take place at Queen of the Apostles Church, 503 N. Main St., Feb. 25, 1-4:30 p.m. The program will provide an overview of Catholic social teaching, CRS-related work in the Diocese of Charlotte, CRS work in Africa, presentations on effective advocacy and more. This event will be repeated in Asheville April 9, in Charlotte June 24, in Newton Sept. 9 and in Stoneville Nov. 4. For specific details about the Saturday afternoon events please call the Office of Justice and Peace at (704) 370-3234 or (704) 370-3225, or e-mail justicepeace@charlottediocese.org.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

HIGH POINT — In February, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 4145 Johnson St., will launch the *Hope of Seeing Everyone Again* program (HOSEA) to invite Catholics who have distanced themselves from the Catholic Church, for whatever reason, to return. Small Christian communities will meet weekly for six to eight weeks to discuss various issues and concerns and to receive pastoral referrals and guidance. An open house will be held Feb. 21, 7-8 p.m., and will include a brief presentation on Catholic inquiry classes, the inactive Catholics program and continuing faith formation program. A tour of the church and refreshments will follow. To learn more, e-mail Rich Pohlman at tosfranciscan-letters@yahoo.com.

HICKORY VICARIATE

HICKORY — Father Robert Ferris leads a *Lectionary Bible Study* at St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St., Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. This study prepares participants for the following Sunday's Mass by reading and studying the liturgical readings for the next week. For more information on this study, contact Kathy Succop at (828) 327-2341 or stalscoordinator@charter.net.

HICKORY — St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St. NE, is offering a weekly *Catholic Scripture Study*. Catholic Scripture Study is a program whose members not only learn the Scriptures, but come to a deeper understanding of their faith in a setting that builds Christian fellowship. Evening and daytime classes meet at the church, Wednesdays, 6:45-8:30 p.m., and Thursdays 9:30-11:15 a.m. For more information, call Ann Miller at (828) 441-2205, or e-mail stalscss@charter.net.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

MOORESVILLE — Seniors ages 55 and up are invited to St. Therese Church, 217 Brawley School Rd., the second Saturday of each month following the 5:30 p.m. Mass for *Senior Games Night*, featuring games and a potluck dinner. Call Barbara Daigler at (704) 662-9752 for details.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

WAYNESVILLE — The *Catholic Women's Circle* of St. John the Evangelist Church, 234 Church St., meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the church hall. For more information, call the church office at (828) 456-6707.

FRANKLIN — The *Women's Guild* of St. Francis of Assisi Church, 299 Maple St., meets the second Monday of each month at 1 p.m. in the Family Life Center. The meetings feature guest speakers and special events periodically. For more information, call Claire Barnable at (828) 369-1565.

Is your parish or Catholic school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Religious orders give church, world models of charity, says pope

VATICAN CITY — Citing his recent encyclical, Pope Benedict XVI said religious orders through the centuries have given the church and the world models of Christian charity.

The pope made the remarks at his Sunday blessing Jan. 29, as he looked forward to the celebration of the World Day for Consecrated Life, which is observed in Rome on the feast of the Presentation of the Lord Feb. 2.

The pope noted that in his first encyclical, titled "Deus Caritas Est" ("God Is Love"), he had written about the important witness of charity given by the saints, from the earliest days of the church to modern times.

Many of the saints, he said, were members of religious orders, including figures like St. Thomas Aquinas, the Dominican theologian; St. John Bosco, the Salesian who worked with young people; and St. Angela Merici, who founded the Ursulines and launched its teaching mission.

Among the saints devoted to charity,

the pope named Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta, whose Missionaries of Charity work with the poor around the world.

"In truth, the entire history of the church is a history of holiness, animated by the unique love that has its source in God," he said.

"In fact, only supernatural charity, like that which flows continually from the heart of Christ, can explain the exceptional flowering down through the centuries of male and female religious orders and institutes, and other forms of consecrated life," the pope said.

He said it was important for the modern church to remember the importance of consecrated life as "the expression and the school of charity."

Continuing a tradition of Pope John Paul II, Pope Benedict was to say Mass Feb. 2 in St. Peter's Basilica to mark the World Day for Consecrated Life. Thousands of religious living in Rome were expected to attend the liturgy.

Supporting the strangers among us



PHOTO BY DAVID HAINS

Franciscan Sister Andrea Inkrott (second from right), director of diocesan Hispanic ministry, and staff members from Catholic Social Services take part in a press conference by the Hispanic community in the Government Center in Charlotte Jan. 30. The conference announced a candle-light vigil that night outside a building where an anti-immigration meeting was to take place.

Last May, the U.S. bishops and other Catholic organizations launched the national Justice for Immigrants Campaign of the Catholic Campaign for Immigration Reform. Its goals are: educating Catholics and others about the benefits of immigration to both the immigrants themselves and to the United States; strengthening public opinion about immigration's positive contributions; advocating just immigration laws that promote legal status and legal pathways for migrant worker and their families; and organizing Catholic legal service networks to help immigrants gain access to the benefits of reforms.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Feb. 8 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Charlotte

Feb. 10 — 7:30 p.m.
Give Your Heart Away Weekend
Catholic College Students' Retreat, Belmont

Feb. 15 — 6:30 p.m.
RCIA class
St. Gabriel Church, Charlotte

Feb. 17 — 10 a.m.
Diocesan Finance Council Meeting
Pastoral Center, Charlotte

AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles
Licensed & Insured
FREE ESTIMATES
www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185

Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Charlotte 704-334-6421

Pineville 704-544-1412

Mint Hill 704-545-4864

Derita 704-596-3291



COURTESY PHOTO

On behalf of LifeSpan, Keri Kontos accepts a donation in January from Mark Daly, Operation LAMB director with Knights of Columbus Council 7406 in Mooresville.

Helping the least among us

Knights donations help mentally challenged

MOORESVILLE — Knights of Columbus Council 7406 at St. Therese Church in Mooresville recently donated \$6,975 to local schools and agencies working with the mentally challenged of Mooresville and Iredell County.

The funds were donated to Mooresville High School, Park View Elementary School and LifeSpan Jan. 24. All of the money was earmarked for projects to help in the classrooms or enrichment programs of those who are educationally challenged.

According to Ken Fusaro, the council's grand knight, the funds were raised through the Knights' Operation LAMB collections.

The word "LAMB" (Least Among My Brethren) is taken from St. Matthew's Gospel, in which Jesus said, "Whatsoever you do to the least among

my brethren, you do unto me." The program is conducted by councils throughout the United States to help the mentally challenged.

Contributions to Council 7406's campaign were collected during its annual "Tootsie Roll Campaign" held on two weekends outside various stores in Mooresville in September and October 2005. More than 9,000 Tootsie Rolls were given away as "thank yous" to contributors.

"We couldn't even begin something of this nature without the citizens' support," said Mark Daly, director of this year's Operation LAMB.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on Knights of Columbus Council 7406, visit <http://knights.sainttherese.net>.

Service weekend open to Catholic college students

BELMONT — Is it possible to fall in love in a day? Some college students think so.

Through the Give Your Heart Away community service weekend, the students have learned the deeper meaning of love by helping the less fortunate.

The annual event, this year taking place in Belmont Feb. 10-12, is sponsored by diocesan Catholic campus ministry.

For the past two years, more than 100 college students in the Diocese of Charlotte have volunteered at various ministries in Charlotte and Belmont, answering the call from U.S. bishops to put Catholic social teaching into action.

At previous events, students painted houses for Habitat for Humanity and rooms at Catherine's House for homeless women and children; visited homeless at Urban Ministry Center and AIDS victims at House of Mercy; and planned a Valentine's Day party at Holy Angels for children and adults with mental retardation.

Initiated by Catholic campus ministers in the diocese, Give Your Heart Away

provides an opportunity for Catholic college students to join together in service, study, prayer reflection and fun.

This year's service weekend will offer even more opportunities, including landscaping a Habitat for Humanity house, sorting donations for Room at the Inn and visiting with retired nuns at the Sisters of Mercy motherhouse.

Afterward, students will engage in small group reflection to consider service and justice in the context of Scripture and Catholic social teachings.

The weekend concludes with a panel of previous volunteers and religious who will address ways in which the students can continue service and justice work beyond their college experiences.

Catholic Campus Ministry is one of the ministries supported by contributions to the Diocesan Support Appeal.

WANT TO GO?

Contact Mary Wright, diocesan Catholic campus ministry director, at (704) 370-3212.

Earthbound ANGELS...

POSITIONS AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY
HOME HELPERS, COMPANIONS & CNA'S



Join our team of people who make a real difference in the lives of seniors —

Home Instead Senior Care is seeking friendly and dependable people in the Mecklenburg County area to provide home care assistance and companionship to seniors.

Call 704-344-9739

8 AND 12 HOUR SHIFTS AVAILABLE
Part Time, Full Time, AM/PM and Weekend Hours
Position requires a vehicle.

Home Instead
SENIOR CARE

COME JOIN US FOR



Saturday, Feb. 11 6:30 - 11 pm

**BLACK JACK • POKER
ROULETTE • FOOD
MUSIC • DJ**

**St. Ann's Catholic Church
3635 Park Road, Charlotte
(corner of Hillside Avenue)**

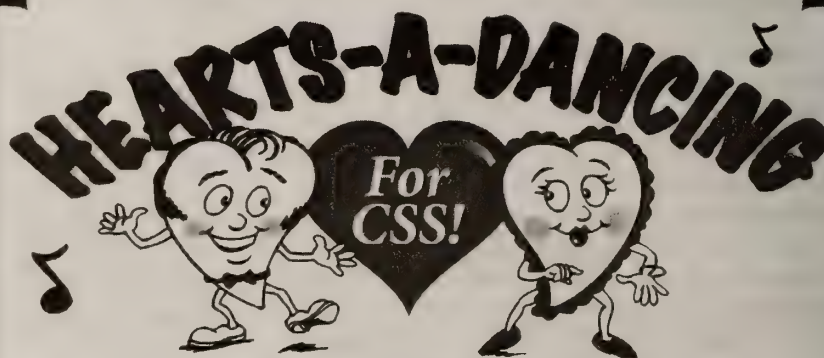
TICKETS: \$30

(704) 523-4641

****Available by phone through
St. Ann's Parish Office
or at the door**

GRAND PRIZE SPONSOR

Pair-A-Dice
TRAVEL, INC.



February 11, 6:30-10:30 pm

**Catholic Social Services presents Sweetheart Dinner/Dance
to benefit CSS in the Western Region**

**Featuring Sid the Surf
Silent Auction and Door Prizes**

**THE HELLENIC CENTER
227 Cumberland Avenue, Asheville**

**\$25 (Cash Bar/Casual Attire)
Tickets and Information: 828-255-0146**

Major Sponsors: Wachovia
Preferred Properties of Asheville, Inc.
Preferred Storage - Climate Control

CSS
Catholic Social Services
Diocese of Charlotte
Providing Help. Creating Hope. Changing Lives.

FROM THE COVER

Pope calls for deeper understanding of love

LOVE, from page 1

issued Jan. 25 in seven languages. Addressed to all Catholics, it was divided into two sections, one on the meaning of love in salvation history, the other on the practice of love by the church.

The pope said his aim was to "speak of the love which God lavishes upon us and which we in return must share with others." The two aspects, personal love and the practice of charity, are profoundly interconnected, he said.

The encyclical begins with a phrase from the First Letter of John: "God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him."

The pope said the line expresses the heart of the Christian faith, which understands the creator as a loving God and which sees Christ's death as the ultimate sign of God's love for man.

In today's world, however, the term "love" is frequently used and misused, he said. Most commonly, it is understood as representing "eros," the erotic love between a man and a woman.

The church, from its earliest days, proposed a new vision of self-sacrificial love expressed in the word "agape," he said.

In modern society, he said, it has become clear that eros itself has been exalted and the human body debased.

"Eros, reduced to pure 'sex,' has become a commodity, a mere 'thing' to be bought and sold, or rather, man himself becomes a commodity. This is hardly man's great 'yes' to the body," said the pope.

"On the contrary, he now considers his body and his sexuality as the purely material part of himself, to be used and exploited at will," he said.

Properly understood, he said, eros leads a man and woman to marriage, a bond that is exclusive, and therefore monogamous, as well as permanent.

While it is true that the happiness of eros can give people a "foretaste of the divine," eros needs to be disciplined and purified if it is to provide more than fleeting pleasure, the pope said.

The solution is to rediscover a balance between the ecstasy of eros and the unselfish love of agape, he said.

The key to regaining this balance, he said, lies in a personal relationship with God and an understanding of the sacrificial love of Jesus Christ. He said Christ gives the ultimate lesson in "love of neighbor," which means: "I love even the person whom I do not like or even know."

"If I have no contact whatsoever with God in my life, then I cannot see in the other anything more than the other, and I am incapable of seeing in him the image of God," the pope said. "But if in my life I fail completely to heed others, solely out of a desire to be 'devout' and to perform my 'religious duties,' then my relationship with God will also grow arid."

The second half of the encyclical



CNS PHOTO FROM L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO

Pope Benedict XVI signs his first encyclical, "Deus Caritas Est" ("God Is Love"), in his private library at the Vatican Jan. 23. Archbishop Leonardo Sandri, assistant papal secretary of state, is at his left.

makes two main points:

— As a community, the church must practice love through works of charity and attend to people's sufferings and needs, including material needs.

— The church's action stems from its spiritual mission and must never be undertaken as part of a political or ideological agenda.

The pope said there was a connection between the commitment to justice and the ministry of charity, but also important distinctions. Building a just social and civil order is an essential political task to which the church contributes through its social doctrine, but it "cannot

be the church's immediate responsibility," he said.

"A just society must be the achievement of politics, not of the church," he added. "The church cannot and must not take upon herself the political battle to bring about the most just society possible. She cannot and must not replace the state."

"Yet at the same time she cannot and must not remain on the sidelines in the fight for justice," he said.

The church's role is to make the rational arguments for justice and awaken the spiritual energy needed for the sacrifices that justice requires, he said.

"Christian charitable activity ... is not a means of changing the world ideologically, and it is not at the service of worldly stratagems, but it is a way of making present here and now the love which man always needs," he said.

The pope examined and rejected the Marxist arguments that the poor "do not need charity but justice," and that charity is merely a means of preserving a status quo of economic injustice.

He said the church must help the needy wherever they are found, and charity will always be necessary, even in the most just society.

In any case, he said, it is an illusion to think that the state can provide for all needs and fully resolve every problem.

"We do not need a state which regulates and controls everything," but a state that supports initiatives arising from different social forces, he said. The church is one of those forces, he said.

The pope said that those working for Catholic charitable organizations need to be witnesses of the faith as well as professionally competent in humanitarian affairs.

The pope said that prayer should not be forgotten as the church tries to alleviate the immense needs around the world.

"People who pray are not wasting their time, even though the situation appears desperate and seems to call for action alone. Piety does not undermine the struggle against the poverty of our neighbors, however extreme," he said.



THE ORATORY

434 Charlotte Avenue, P.O. Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586
(803) 327-2097

26th CARDINAL NEWMAN LECTURE

Saturday, February 25
9:30 am to 4 pm

Fr. Donald Cozzens

Fr. Donald Cozzens is a priest and faculty member at John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio. Besides teaching theology, Fr. Cozzens is highly respected among laity and leaders in the American Catholic Church and in the ecumenical community through his writing and speaking. His scholarly and pastoral work is available in articles and notably "The Changing Face of the Priesthood" from Liturgical Press.

The Newman Lecture is an annual gift from the Rock Hill Oratory to the regional Church to celebrate the life and ministry of Cardinal John Henry Newman of the Oratory.

The Newman Lecture is open to all without charge or pre-registration. The schedule includes noontime Eucharist and an early afternoon chamber music concert.

**Join Monsignor Renken and other Roman Catholics
on this Holland America Line Special!**

Mexican Riviera Cruise

12 Days starting at **\$899***

*This will be Monsignor Renken's third cruise as YMT's Catholic Chaplain.
He is co-pastor for six parishes in the Diocese of Springfield, Illinois.*

DAILY MASS ABOARD SHIP!

On October 12, 2006, board your 5-STAR deluxe cruise ship the *ms Ryndam*. There are fewer guests aboard, dazzling shows, daily tea at "tea time," spa with heavenly massages, facials or pedicures, and wine tasting. Fresh flowers, over a million dollars worth of art and classy décor create an elegant ambiance throughout the *Ryndam*. HAL's *Signature of Excellence* focuses on spacious, elegant ships and accommodations; sophisticated five-star dining; gracious, unobtrusive service; and extensive enrichment programs and activities aboard ship. Sail for three days along the Mexican Riviera to **Acapulco** (famous for the 'high-divers'); **Zihuatanejo** (a tranquil fishing village); **Puerto Vallarta** (the quintessential resort overflowing with the charm of Old Mexico); **Mazatlan** (with a massive city market and the historic colonial villages of Sierra Madres); and **Cabo San Lucas** (one of the most popular sun-drenched vacation spots in Mexico). Fly home October 23. *Prices (per person, double occupancy) start at only \$899 for inside staterooms, \$1199 for outside ocean view staterooms, and \$1899 for larger outside staterooms with private balcony. Add \$299 port/taxes/gov't. fees/service charges. Add \$500 round trip airfare from Charlotte.

\$100 deposits are now due. Family and friends are welcome.

**For information, reservations, letter from Monsignor Renken
with his phone number, and brochure call 7 days a week:**

'YOUR MAN' TOURS 1-800-968-7626

MARCH FOR LIFE

Many from diocese march for life

MARCH, from page 1

religion teacher Frank Delamere, who has organized the school's participation for the last 10 years.

"I believe it to be one of the most educational trips we offer at Charlotte Catholic," said teacher Suzanne Albertson, who has attended the march four times.

"The students get ... a glimpse of the universal nature of the Catholic Church," she said. "They walk, not only among teens from other states, but also with clergy and religious orders they have heard of yet seldom congregate and pray with for a common cause."

Before the march, students and others from North Carolina attended a Mass celebrated by Bishop Peter J. Jugis at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception Jan. 23. The massive basilica was so crowded that many participants had to sit in the aisles and doorways.

During his homily, Bishop Jugis asked, "Why does our society fail to welcome the little child?"

His answer — our society is lacking in love. Only when we as a nation begin to live and really believe in the primacy of love, he said, would a culture of love be established.

Bishop Jugis encouraged the congregation to see the Eucharist as divine assistance enabling Catholics to bear witness to the primacy of love, which by necessity upholds humanity's right to life.

The march began at the National Mall, where Nellie Gray, March for Life organizer, selected a group from Iowa to carry the huge banner at the front of the marchers because of their strong support over the years.

"One of the impressions the march makes on me every time I attend is just how diverse this powerful movement to promote human life is," said Joe Purello, director of the Office of Justice and Peace for the Diocese of Charlotte.

"There are many young people, elderly people, people in wheelchairs and people of all ethnic backgrounds — all walking and praying for the protection of human life," he said.

Purello said that far too many citizens go about their daily lives "numb" to the staggering number of unborn human beings that "have been lost to abortion since 1973 — at least 45 million by most estimates."

"Certainly the pain of that terrible statistic cannot be forgotten, and that pain was on the faces of many in Washington," he said. "Yet I could also sense a mood of hope on the faces of those who came to pray together and to rally to support human life."

"It is a hope born in the realization that truth wins out in the end and that, eventually, our nation will see abortion for what it truly is — a terrible choice that ends a human life," said Purello.

The march ended at the Supreme Court building, where nearly two-dozen young people stood with red tape that read "Life" over their mouths. A few angry opponents chanted "Roe v. Wade is here to stay."

Franciscan Sister Clare Matthiass from New York has attended the march for 15 years and has watched the increase in the number of young participants.

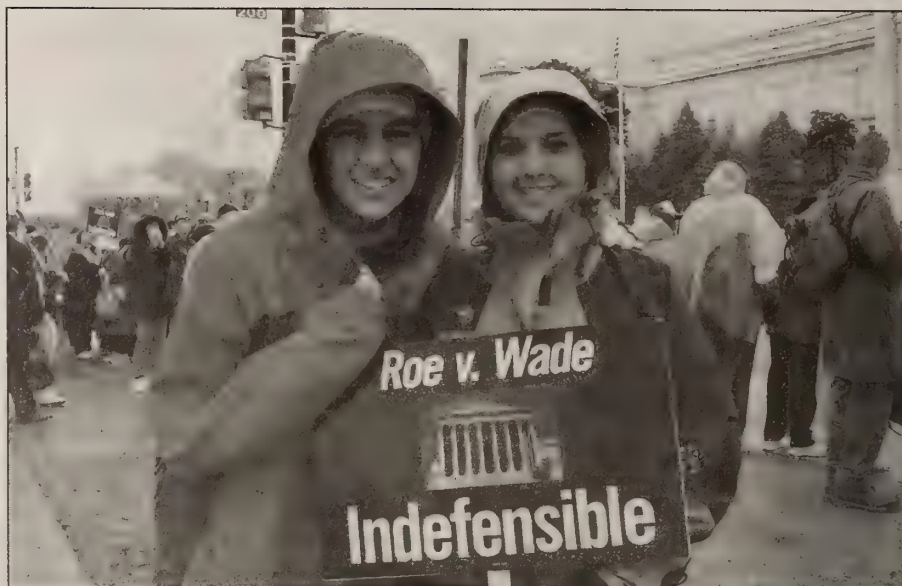
"The youth recognize that life is worth living," she said.

Sister Matthiass believes many youths realize they would not exist if their parents had chosen to have an abortion.

"They are expressing sadness at the loss of their own generation to abortion," she said.

"It's just such an amazing feeling to be surrounded by people who are as passionate on the pro-life issue as you are," said Shannon Minick, a Charlotte Catholic sophomore who participated in the march for her second year.

"I felt like I was a part of something special; like I was really making a difference and voicing my opinion on a serious matter," said senior Cameron Bevington, who participated for the first time.



COURTESY PHOTO BY COLLEEN FORCINA

Virginia Coyle and Jenny LaBrosse, seniors at Charlotte Catholic High School, stand with other pro-life activists outside the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington, D.C., during the annual March for Life Jan. 23.

Junior Erin Galis, president of Charlotte Catholic's Voice for Life group, participated in the march for the third time.

"It is nice to know when you are marching that everyone around you supports your cause of protecting the dignity of life," she said.

Though media coverage of the march was slim, many marchers believe they were making a difference for their society.

"I am determined, like the rest of those who participated in the march, to end the disrespect for life that is occurring all around us," said Galis.

Colleen Forcina is a senior at Charlotte Catholic High School. Editor Kevin E. Murray and Catholic News Service contributed to this story.



Respect Life is one of the ministries supported by contributions to the Diocesan Support Appeal.




**Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center**

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

**Start the New
Semester at the
Top of the Class**



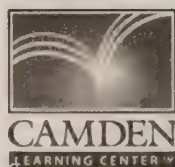
Felicia Susi, Owner/Director
Parishioner, St. Matthew Catholic Church
& Parent, St. Matthew Catholic School student

South Charlotte
(704) 752-4234
www.camdenlearningcenter.com

**CAMDEN
LEARNING CENTER™**
is a personalized
educational center offering
specialized tutoring
for all ages in:

Reading • Phonics
Written Language • Math
Study Skills
SAT/ACT Preparation

Let Camden help.



Many Annuity Owners Lose Money. Will YOU?

Some annuity owners lose money because they didn't know what questions to ask when they bought, and their salesperson did not volunteer any information.

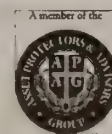
If you own an annuity or are considering taking advantage of their many benefits, my **FREE** report, "Using Guaranteed Annuities to Help You Survive Your Retirement," will tell you what questions to ask.

The report is **FREE** and shows you how to get more benefits from your existing assets and help preserve your annuity value.

Call 800-800-4960, ext. 7405 (24 hours)
for your **FREE** report!

Dr. Richard Pucciarelli

Certified Senior Advisor
Member of Asset Protectors and Advisors Group



DIOCESAN SUPPORT APPEAL

Catechist looks forward to permanent diaconate

Hmong ministry expands through Diocesan Support Appeal

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Historically, when a great many Catholics emigrated from abroad, priests from those countries also immigrated to the United States to serve the Catholics of those nations.

Italian immigrants could give their confessions in their native language. German Catholics could recite their wedding vows before a German-speaking priest.

The Hmong haven't been as fortunate. According to the U.S. bishops' Web site, one Hmong priest and eight Hmong permanent deacons serve in the entire United States.

During the Vietnam War, tens of thousands of Hmong provided ground support for U.S. troops in the then-secret wars in Laos. In the mid-1970s, the Hmong began to immigrate to the United States as refugees.

The 2000 U.S. Census lists the Hmong population at 169,428, but figures given to Hmong National Development, Inc. by local Hmong leaders lists

the population as high as 283,239.

This spring, Hmong Catholics in the Diocese of Charlotte will have an ordained Hmong permanent deacon, Pe Lee, to minister to their unique needs.

Lee and his family — his wife, Shoua Chang, and their five children — have lived in the United States since 1991. The Lee family moved from California to North Carolina in July 1999

when Lee accepted a position as Hmong catechist for the Diocese of Charlotte.

As a catechist, Lee's duties have included conducting Communion services for the Hmong communities at the Catholic churches in Hickory, Morganton and Albemarle. He also has taught classes to people of all ages, prayed with and visited the sick, and assisted with birth, burial and marriage rituals.

As Hmong children have become more integrated into American society, some of the Hmong traditions and language have been lost. A large part of Lee's job has been to integrate these traditions into the traditions of the Catholic Church.

"I look forward to visiting the Hmong, teaching them about the Hmong culture and Catholicism," said Lee.

"Pe Lee has functioned in the Hmong Ministry in a variety of ways,

except sacramentally," said Deacon Louis Pais, co-director of diaconate formation and permanent deacon at St. Mark Church in Huntersville.

Lee is the coordinator of the diocesan Hmong ministry for five counties, assisting at Hmong-language Masses, RCIA and sacramental preparation and youth ministries.

After he is ordained as a permanent deacon, Lee will be able to preside at weddings, baptisms, funerals and Communion services, Deacon Pais said.

"He will be seen by the diocese as being called to a very special ministry," Deacon Pais said.

Of the 20,000 Hmong living in western North Carolina, about 450 of them are Catholic.

"He's done marvelous work and been a wonderful asset to us," said Father Ken Whittington, pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Church in Morganton.

To serve the many Hmong in the Diocese of Charlotte living in the Hickory area, St. Charles Borromeo Church and St. Aloysius Church in Hickory have Hmong ministries in place and celebrate Hmong-language Masses.

Both Hmong ministry and the permanent diaconate receive funds from the Diocesan Support Appeal.

"The generosity to the DSA of Catholics in the Diocese of Charlotte will ensure these ministries continue to touch people's lives," said Barbara Gaddy, associate director of development for the Diocese of Charlotte.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Pe Lee, a candidate for the permanent diaconate, receives his paten from Bishop Peter J. Jugis during the Mass for Institution of Acolytes at St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte Nov. 12, 2005. This year, Lee will be the first member of the Hmong community to be ordained as a permanent deacon in the Diocese of Charlotte.

Hmong ministry and the permanent diaconate are two of the ministries supported by contributions to the Diocesan Support Appeal.

ANNOUNCING....

A Diocesan-sponsored
Pilgrimage to

THE HOLY LAND

September 5-14, 2006



Join Father James Hawker
Diocesan Vicar of Education
and Pastor of St. Luke Church

Visit the sites where Jesus walked as you deepen your understanding of Holy Scriptures and your Catholic faith. The pages of the Bible will come alive as you walk in His footsteps and celebrate Mass daily in many of the historical sites of our faith.

ALL are welcome -- friends, neighbors, non-Catholics, too.

For a detailed brochure or information, call Cindi at 704-370-3332.

Cost: \$2,499 (before 6/22/06) includes airfare from Charlotte, hotels, all tours and meals. Taxes, airport fees, tips and insurance are extra.



Fostering Justice Worldwide

Sponsored by the Office of Justice and Peace, Catholic Social Services, Diocese of Charlotte

Fostering Justice Worldwide will provide five opportunities to share Catholic Relief Services (CRS) stories and work in the Diocese of Charlotte. The five events, open to all and offered free of charge, will provide:

- an overview of Catholic Social Teaching and its relevance to the mission and work of CRS;
- an overview of CRS-related work in the Diocese of Charlotte and diocesan support for CRS;
- specific reference to the work of CRS programs in Africa;
- how-to guides on participating in activities that can benefit the work of CRS;
- presentations on effective advocacy, fair trade practices, disaster relief, world poverty, etc.

The schedule of Fostering Justice Worldwide events is listed below. For specific details about the Saturday afternoon events please call the Office of Justice and Peace at 704-370-3234/3225 or e-mail justicepeace@charlottediocese.org.

February 25	The Church of Mary, Queen of the Apostles, Belmont	1:00 to 4:30 PM
April 8	St. Eugene Church, Asheville	1:15 to 4:45 PM
June 24	St. Matthew Church, Charlotte	1:30 to 5:00 PM
September 9	St. Joseph Church, Newton	1:30 to 5:00 PM
November 4	St. Francis Springs Prayer Center, Stoneville	1:00 to 4:30 PM



Catholic Relief Services (CRS) was founded in 1943 by the Catholic Bishops of the United States. Its mission is to assist the poor and disadvantaged, leveraging the teachings of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to alleviate human suffering, promote development of all people and to foster charity and justice throughout the world. CRS works in 99 countries.

DIOCESAN SUPPORT APPEAL



2006 DSA MINISTRIES BUDGET

Catholic Social Services

Diocesan Ministries

Family Life Office	\$218,604
Office of Justice and Peace	\$170,239
Catholic Social Service Administration	\$215,589

Regional Services

Western Regional Office - Asheville	\$206,220
Charlotte Regional Office	\$303,389
Refugee Resettlement Office-Charlotte Region	\$47,065
Piedmont Triad Office - Winston-Salem	\$278,585

Housing Ministry

\$102,498

Multicultural Ministries

African American Affairs Ministry	\$39,553
Hispanic Ministry	\$615,276
Hmong Ministry	\$43,822

Educational Ministries

Campus Ministry	\$418,359
Catholic Schools Administration	\$182,651
Education Office	\$31,040
Evangelization & Ministry Formation	\$79,438
Faith Formation	\$343,135
Media Resources	\$94,956
Young Adult Ministry	\$54,051
Youth Ministry	\$163,716

Vocations

Permanent Diaconate (Includes Prison Ministry done by Deacons)	\$111,263
Seminarian Education	\$227,352

Campaign Expenses

\$153,199

Total

\$4,100,000

DSA-SUPPORTED AGENCIES AND MINISTRIES

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES DIOCESAN OFFICES

Family Life Office	704-370-3228
Elder Ministries	704-370-3220
Marriage Preparation	704-370-3237
Natural Family Planning	704-370-3228
Respect Life	704-370-3229

Office of Justice and Peace

704-370-3225

Office of Economic Opportunity

828-835-3535

Catholic Social Services Administration

704-370-3262

Catholic Social Services Regional Offices

Offering: Adoption, Hispanic Services,
Counseling, Pregnancy Support

CSS, Western Regional Office

828-255-0146

Refugee Resettlement Office, Western Region

828-255-0146

CSS, Charlotte Regional Office

704-370-6155

Refugee Resettlement Office, Charlotte Region

704-370-3277

CSS, Piedmont-Triad Regional Office

336-727-0705

Greensboro Satellite Office

336-274-5577

Hispanic Center, High Point

336-884-5858

Housing Ministry

704-370-3250

MULTICULTURAL MINISTRIES

African American Ministry

704-370-3267

Hispanic Ministry

704-370-3269

Hmong Ministry

704-327-2341

EDUCATIONAL MINISTRIES

Vicar for Education

704-370-3210

Campus Ministry

704-370-3212

Catholic Schools Administration

704-370-3270

Evangelization

704-370-3274

Faith Formation

704-370-3244

Lay Ministry Training

704-370-3274

Media Resources

704-370-3241

RCIA

704-370-3244

Young Adult Ministry

704-370-3243

Youth Ministry

704-370-3211

VOCATIONS

Permanent Diaconate

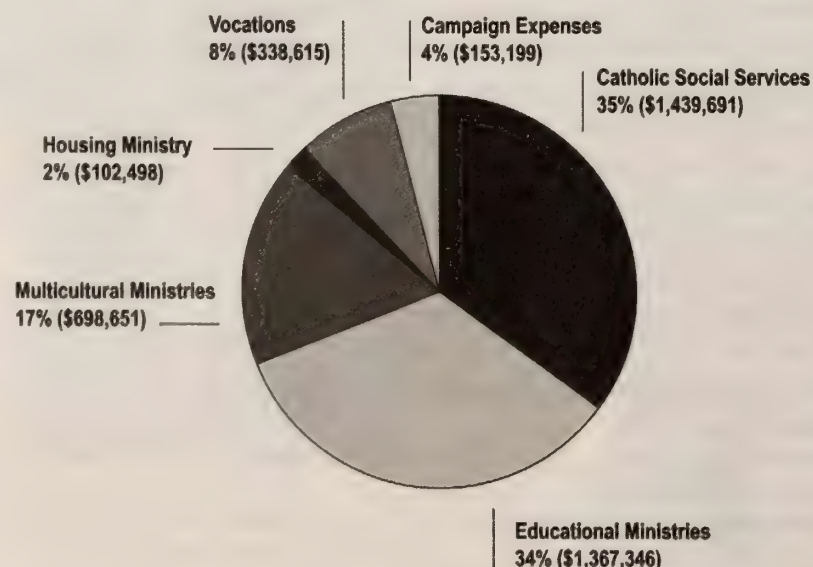
704-370-3344

Seminarian Education

704-370-3353

For more information on this year's Diocesan Support Appeal, visit www.charlottediocese.org/developmentoffice.html.

DSA GOAL FOR 2006 \$4,100,000



Ways to give to the Diocesan Support Appeal

Pledge: Make a pledge and pay it in equal payments over a six-month period. Monthly reminders will be sent beginning in May.

Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT): Monthly pledge payments are taken directly out of your checking or savings account. No hassle of writing and mailing a monthly check.

Fill out the withdrawal authorization on your pledge card and include a voided check. EFTs begin on the 15th of each month after your pledge card and authorization materials are received.

Credit Card Payments: Possibly the easiest method, and you may benefit from rewards on your card, such as airline miles or cash back; and you can enjoy the ease of

no paperwork.

Fill out the credit card authorization on your pledge card; include type of card and expiration date.

Credit card payments will be charged on the 15th of the month after your pledge card and authorization materials are received.

Online Giving: You can now give online using a major credit card at www.charlottediocese.org/giving.html. No hassle, no paperwork, no mailings involved.

Stock Donation: Make a donation of publicly traded securities and receive the tax benefits for giving appreciated stock.

A stock donation form and instructions can be downloaded from the diocesan Web site, www.charlottediocese.org/giving.html, or call Barbara Gaddy at (704) 370-3302.

Parish goals for DSA

PARISH/MISSION	CITY	GOAL
Our Lady of the Annunciation Church	Albemarle	\$19,248
Holy Redeemer Church	Andrews	\$5,135
St. Barnabas Church	Arden	\$71,874
St. Joseph Church	Asheboro	\$38,881
Basilica of St. Lawrence	Asheville	\$48,370
St. Eugene Church	Asheville	\$89,208
St. Joan of Arc Church	Asheville	\$20,254
Queen of the Apostles Church	Belmont	\$40,440
Our Lady of the Americas Church	Biscoe	\$11,488
St. Elizabeth Church	Boone	\$39,075
Divine Redeemer Church	Boonville	\$9,727
Sacred Heart Church	Brevard	\$47,380
St. Joseph Church	Bryson City	\$5,227
Sacred Heart Mission	Burnsville	\$4,932
Immaculate Conception Mission	Canton	\$3,818
Our Lady of Consolation Church	Charlotte	\$43,127
Our Lady of the Assumption Church	Charlotte	\$39,645
Our Lady of Guadalupe Church	Charlotte	\$42,074
St. Ann Church	Charlotte	\$56,813
St. Gabriel Church	Charlotte	\$279,267
St. John Korean Church	Charlotte	\$16,584
St. John Neumann Church	Charlotte	\$89,572
St. Joseph Vietnamese Church	Charlotte	\$17,805
St. Matthew Church	Charlotte	\$381,351
St. Patrick Cathedral	Charlotte	\$83,172
St. Peter Church	Charlotte	\$71,531
St. Thomas Aquinas Church	Charlotte	\$107,314
St. Vincent de Paul Church	Charlotte	\$110,722
Our Lady of Guadalupe Mission	Cherokee	\$3,488
Holy Family Church	Clemmons	\$96,014
St. James Church	Concord	\$69,437
Holy Spirit Mission	Denver	\$24,637
St. Joseph of the Hills Church	Eden	\$9,361
St. Stephen Mission	Elkin	\$6,484
Immaculate Conception Church	Forest City	\$23,884
St. Francis of Assisi Church	Franklin	\$25,511
St. Michael Church	Gastonia	\$59,250
Our Lady of Grace Church	Greensboro	\$111,805
St. Benedict Church	Greensboro	\$22,112
St. Mary Church	Greensboro	\$31,502
St. Paul the Apostle Church	Greensboro	\$140,371
St. Pius X Church	Greensboro	\$100,046
St. James Church	Hamlet	\$13,310
Immaculate Heart of Mary Mission	Hayesville	\$18,139
Immaculate Conception Church	Hendersonville	\$100,483
St. Aloysius Church	Hickory	\$92,122
Our Lady of the Mountains Mission	Highlands	\$14,948
Christ the King Church	High Point	\$16,474
Immaculate Heart of Mary Church	High Point	\$102,784
St. Mark Church	Huntersville	\$146,216
St. Francis of Assisi Church	Jefferson	\$11,064
St. Joseph Mission	Kannapolis	\$18,186
Holy Cross Church	Kernersville	\$54,337
Good Shepherd Mission	King	\$11,587
Christ the King Church	Kings Mountain	\$5,294
St. Francis of Assisi Church	Lenoir	\$22,257
Our Lady of the Rosary Church	Lexington	\$14,256
St. Dorothy Church	Lincolnton	\$19,922
St. Bernadette Mission	Linville	\$15,980
St. Margaret Church	Maggie Valley	\$18,114
Our Lady of the Angels Mission	Marion	\$7,487
St. Andrew the Apostle Church	Mars Hill	\$7,851
St. Luke Church	Mint Hill	\$65,422
St. Francis of Assisi Church	Mocksville	\$15,846
Our Lady of Lourdes Church	Monroe	\$33,970
St. Therese Church	Mooreville	\$116,554
St. Charles Borromeo Church	Morganton	\$35,530
Holy Angels Church	Mount Airy	\$18,621
St. William Church	Murphy	\$18,398
St. Joseph Church	Newton	\$19,142
St. John Baptist de La Salle Church	North Wilkesboro	\$12,802
Holy Infant Church	Reidsville	\$17,323
Prince of Peace Mission	Robbinsville	\$2,576
Sacred Heart Church	Salisbury	\$66,327
St. Jude Mission	Sapphire Valley	\$17,192
St. Mary Church	Shelby	\$27,661
St. Frances of Rome Church	Sparta	\$6,600
St. Helen Mission	Spencer Mountain	\$4,103
St. Lucien Church	Spruce Pine	\$7,127
St. Philip the Apostle Church	Statesville	\$40,865
St. Margaret Mary Church	Swannanoa	\$19,964
St. Mary Church	Sylva	\$14,483
Holy Trinity Church	Taylorsville	\$8,863
Our Lady of the Highways Church	Thomasville	\$14,825
St. John the Baptist Church	Tryon	\$29,947
Sacred Heart Mission	Wadesboro	\$3,526
St. John Church	Waynesville	\$17,253
Our Lady of Fatima Church	Winston-Salem	\$14,335
Our Lady of Mercy Church	Winston-Salem	\$65,080
St. Benedict the Moor Church	Winston-Salem	\$12,404
St. Leo the Great Church	Winston-Salem	\$144,517
TOTAL		\$4,100,000

DSA helps many in diocese

DSA, from page 1

Appeal, themed "Touched by Christ, We Respond with Gratitude."

The appeal runs Feb. 4 to March 12.

"The Diocesan Support Appeal is one way we can respond with gratitude to the many ways Jesus touches our lives," said Bishop Jugis.

This year, contributions to the DSA will help support 30 ministries that provide more than 50 programs, including Catholic Social Services; educational, housing and multicultural ministries; and vocations.

The goal of this year's DSA is \$4.1 million, and it can be achieved only with support from the Catholics in the Diocese of Charlotte.

"Contributing to the DSA gives each Catholic of western North Carolina an opportunity to be a part of something bigger, and to help the church in its ministry throughout the western half of the state," said Bill Weldon, chief financial officer of the Diocese of Charlotte.

"We are very conscious of the sacrifices people make; we have a strong sense of responsibility to use the funds as prudently as possible to achieve the goals of the various ministries and agencies," said Weldon.

People power

"There are thousands of children, youths, elderly, single people and families throughout the diocese who benefit from DSA-funded ministries," said Bishop Jugis.

Some of these ministries provide a direct impact on the life of each parish, he said.

"Catechists, youth ministers, RCIA team members and young adult coordinators all receive training or assistance from our diocesan offices," said Bishop Jugis.

Other ministries also depend on DSA funds to provide services that are beyond the scope and financial ability of any individual parish.

"Imagine the expense and difficulty if each parish had to provide professional services for adoption, counseling, pregnancy support and Hispanic social services," said Bishop Jugis. "Those services are provided at each of the regional Catholic Social Services offices."

The DSA helps support the diocesan Respect Life ministry, part of Catholic Social Service's Family Life Office.

"It allows us to be a voice proclaiming the sanctity of life, from conception until natural death," said Maggi Nadol, Respect Life director.

The DSA also helps fund diaconate formation and seminarian education. This year, 16 men will be ordained to the permanent diaconate, two men to the priesthood and five to the transitional diaconate.

"Funding from the DSA helps provide our seminarians with a quality education and the necessary spiritual formation they need as future priests for the Diocese of Charlotte," said Father Christopher Gober, director of vocations.

"Our seminarian program will eventually touch everyone in the diocese. At least one of our 16 seminarians may serve in your parish in the coming years," said Bishop Jugis. "Your gift to the DSA is a

way of personally responding to Jesus' presence in your parish and your life."

Dissecting the DSA

"Most of the ministries have some outside funding, but the DSA is their primary funding source," said Weldon.

"The exception is Catholic Social Services, which receives approximately 75 percent of its total funding from sources other than the DSA," he said.

Each of the parishes and missions within the Diocese of Charlotte is assigned a target — "their share of the overall goal of \$4.1 million" said Weldon. "This is accomplished by using a formula established by a task force of lay people, pastors and finance council representatives."

Parish offertory from the last fiscal year is the starting point, said Weldon. Then, 25 percent of parish subsidy to Catholic schools is subtracted from the parish offertory. The resulting number is the basis for a mathematical computation that determines each parish's pro-rata share of the DSA goal.

"If, through parishioner contributions, a particular parish goes over its target, the excess is rebated to the parish," said Weldon. "If a parish falls short of its target, the parish is expected to make up the difference from its own budget."

Planning for this year's DSA began last fall as budgeting for the 2006-2007 fiscal year began. Establishing the current goal of \$4.1 million involved account-by-account budgets for each program and ministry that receives DSA funding, said Weldon.

"Two components — program changes and cost increases — are examined when establishing the DSA budget," he said. "We have tried very hard to limit cost increases while expanding program services."

The \$4.1 million goal represents an increase of 3.8 percent over last year's goal. The amount budgeted for each ministry is published in this issue of The Catholic News & Herald on page 8.

"As the people of the diocese entrust us with their gifts, we are then accountable to them for the use of these resources," said Weldon.

"We are committed to the highest standards of fiscal integrity and accountability," he said. "The diocese has procedures in place to direct the disbursement of funds in accordance with donor intent and to ensure that all financial activity is accounted for properly."

"Financial oversight is provided by annual financial audits and the diocesan finance council," said Weldon.

A complete financial report of the previous year is published as a supplement to The Catholic News & Herald in the fall of each year. The report includes a breakdown of DSA funding by ministry.

Making the pledge

During the past week, registered parishioners should have received pledge cards and letters at their homes from Bishop Jugis, asking for their support of the DSA.

"I am constantly reminded that those who give always receive something in return," said Bishop Jugis. "I am confident that you will be blessed with abundant grace for your generosity to our diocesan ministries."

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Preventing piracy

Vatican says it will protect pope's writings, enforce copyright

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — The Vatican publishing house has made it clear it will protect the writings of Pope Benedict XVI and the copyright it owns over every speech, homily and document he writes.

A storm erupted in Italy in late January after the Libreria Editrice Vaticana, the Vatican Publishing House, sent a bill for more than \$18,000 seeking royalties and legal costs to a Milan-based publisher.

Italian authors and publishers began talking about new, secret rules that would make it difficult, if not impossible, to spread the pope's message.

The Vatican Publishing House said the rules are not new or secret, but they are necessary to prevent pirated copies of papal documents — texts sold under the pope's name but with no Vatican control over the content and no compensation to the Vatican.

An Italian newspaper said the Milan publisher billed by the Vatican had quoted "about 30 lines" from speeches Pope Benedict made immediately before and after his April 19 election.

But in a Jan. 23 statement the Vatican publisher said the introduction to the 124-page book explicitly told readers, "Everything you will find here, after the

introduction, comes from the pen or the voice of Joseph Ratzinger," now Pope Benedict.

The book was being sold for about \$12 a copy, and it was published without the knowledge or consent of the Vatican, the Vatican said.

Francesca Angeletti, who handles copyright permissions for the Vatican, said the Vatican wanted to ensure the integrity of texts attributed to the pope and to prevent publishers from making money off his works without the knowledge of the Vatican and without giving the Vatican appropriate compensation.

Newspapers, magazines and bishops' conferences, she said, still may publish papal texts without paying royalties as long as the texts are not changed and a line is included saying the text has been copyrighted by the Libreria Editrice Vaticana.

Publishers who produce books or tracts reprinting papal texts will be asked to pay between 3 percent and 5 percent of the cover price to the Vatican.

A memo written by Salesian Father Claudio Rossini, director of the Libreria Editrice Vaticana, outlining how the copyrights would be handled was distributed to publishers at the Frankfurt (Germany) Book Fair in October and sent to all Italian publishers, the Vatican said.

We Love Blessed Sacrament Academy !!



- ◆ A classical curriculum in the Catholic tradition
- ◆ Latin, French, Music & Art
- ◆ Grades K-8
- ◆ Excellent scores on standardized tests

Call now to guarantee your child's enrollment.
Space is LIMITED! 704-841-2292
Visit us on the web: www.blessedsacramentacademy.org

Located behind Windsor Square in Matthews, NC. Independent of Charlotte diocesan schools. Member of NAPCIS.

BINGO

it's here!!!

Doors open: 6 pm
BINGO starts: 7 pm sharp!

St. Matthew K of C
BINGO at the new
South Charlotte Banquet Center
every Monday evening

Food and refreshments available
NON-SMOKING FACILITY
CASH ONLY - ATM AVAILABLE

9009 Bryant Farms Rd.

Directions: from 485- exit Rea Road (south). Right on Ballantyne. Past St. Matthew, turn left on Elm Lane (which turns into Bryant Farms Road). K of C Banquet Center is approximately 2 miles on the left.



WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: FEB. 12, 2006

Feb. 12, Sixth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46
Psalm 32:1-2, 5-11
- 2) 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1
- 3) Gospel: Mark 1:40-45

Jesus' touch helps us
to shine

BY JEFF HENSLEY
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

When my wife and I were VISTA volunteers in the foothills of the Ozarks in Northwest Arkansas, we lived down the road from a man who had a problem with alcohol. Plus he didn't work regularly, though I'm not sure the two problems were directly linked in his case.

His wife was probably a saint.

She supplemented the shortfall in income from her husband's lack of industry by keeping a garden, picking whatever berries were in season and

through general economies as she cooked the family's meals on the wood-burning stove in their small frame house, wallpapered in newspapers.

But through all the deprivations of her life, she maintained a beatific presence that I've realized recently could only have come from one source.

She must have had a pretty direct link to our Lord, and the confidence that relationship gave her must have caused the glow that spread from her smiling face and into the maturing, responsible lives her children were able to build.

The laws of the state (and perhaps those of the church as well) might have released this woman from the bonds of her marriage, but the blessing of her love of God freed her to live as a child of the light, even in these trying circumstances.

The leper in this week's Gospel reading was freed by the direct exercise of God's power in Jesus, the power to heal. Had he continued in his life without that touch, the law would have held him bound to its restrictions.

But he had Jesus' touch instead.

How many among us, faithful in the midst of trying family situations, must give evidence of that touch today — whether we glow or not.

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF FEB. 5-11

Sunday (Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Job 7:1-4, 6-7, 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23, Mark 1:29-39; Monday (St. Paul Miki and Companions), 1 Kings 8:1-7, 9-13, Mark 6:53-56; Tuesday, 1 Kings 8:22-23, 27-30, Mark 7:1-13; Wednesday (St. Jerome Emiliani, St. Josephine Bakhita), 1 Kings 10:1-10, Mark 7:14-23; Thursday, 1 Kings 11:4-13, Mark 7:24-30; Friday (St. Scholastica), 1 Kings 11:29-32; 12:19, Mark 7:31-37; Saturday (Our Lady of Lourdes), 1 Kings 12:26-32, Mark 8:1-10.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF FEB. 12-18

Sunday (Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46, 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1, Mark 1:40-45; Monday, James 1:1-11, Mark 8:11-13; Tuesday (Sts. Cyril and Methodius), James 1:12-18, Mark 8:14-21; Wednesday, James 1:19-27, Mark 8:22-26; Thursday, James 2:1-9, Mark 8:27-33; Friday (Seven Servite Founders), James 2:14-24, 26, Mark 8:34-9:1; Saturday, James 3:1-10, Mark 9:2-13.

The Catholic Company

LOOK!

Catholic Gift Shop in South Charlotte!

Now open at St. Matthew Catholic Church • New Life Center – Rm. 104
Corner of Rea Rd. and Ballantyne Commons Parkway

Hours:
Monday-Friday 9-3
Sunday 10-2
704-927-4313
(Call for info or directions)

Bring in this ad for 15% off
your purchase.

(Not valid on "sale" items.)

Exp. 2/28/06



Join our Oratorian Congregation to
SERVE GOD AS PRIEST OR BROTHER

As priests and lay men, our community lives without
vows and serves God's people numerous ways, including:

Parishes Youth Camps Nursing
Retreats Campus Ministry Hospital Chaplains

Find out more about serving God with us:

Fr. Ed McDevitt, CO The Oratory
P O Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586

Selecting songs

'On Eagle's Wings' tops all songs in online liturgical music survey

BY MARK PATTISON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — "On Eagle's Wings," the musical reworking of the 91st Psalm by Father Michael Joncas, topped all other songs in an online poll asking which liturgical song most fostered and nourished the respondent's life.

Two songs made popular by the St. Louis Jesuits — "Here I Am, Lord" and "Be Not Afraid" — came in second and third, followed by "You Are Mine," by David Haas.

The online poll was sponsored by the National Association of Pastoral Musicians.

The poll was featured last year in an issue of its membership magazine, Pastoral Music, and announcements about the poll were distributed to diocesan newspapers in an effort to get the input of "rank-and-file Catholics," said J. Michael McMahon, the association's president.

In the poll, respondents could vote for only one song. No songs were listed on the Web site to give them suggestions. About 3,000 people took part in the poll.

Of the 25 liturgical music songs mentioned most, songs written after the Second Vatican Council took not only the top four positions, but six of the top nine, and 12 of the top 25. The fourth-

ranked song, "You Are Mine," received 138 votes, 81 percent more votes than the fifth-ranked song, "How Great Thou Art," which got 76.

McMahon cautioned against the notion that post-Vatican II music has dominance over all other liturgical music.

"We got 670 different songs mentioned," he said. "Even the top choice is only 8 percent of the total," or 242 votes.

The poll results didn't surprise him.

"It panned out pretty much like the way I expected," he said, adding that a British Catholic newspaper conducted a similar survey, which found "Here I Am, Lord" to be the top choice of its readers.

Rounding out the pastoral musicians association's top 10 was, in sixth place, the traditional Catholic hymn "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name," whose lyrics are ascribed to Ignaz Franz, followed by John Newton's "Amazing Grace," Marty Haugen's "All Are Welcome," Sebastian Temple's "Prayer of St. Francis," and "Ave Maria."

Those who voted for "Ave Maria" and "Panis Angelicus," which finished 15th, probably meant the versions by Franz Schubert and Cesar Franck, respectively, "but we don't know for sure," McMahon said.

One Spanish-language song, "Pescador de Hombres," made the list, finishing 17th. Many hymnals print English-language companion lyrics, calling the song "Lord, When You Came to the Seashore."

In his current interim job, McMahon said, he asked "who had heard this song,

'Annapolis' not worth attending



CNS PHOTO BY TOUCHSTONE

James Franco (left) and Tyrese Gibson star in "Annapolis," a diverting but derivative drama about a scrappy shipyard worker who, after being accepted to the U.S. Naval Academy, must prove his mettle while training for the school's boxing tournament against his no-nonsense drill instructor.

Though director Justin Lin's adrenalized climax achieves its desired rousing effect, this retread of "An Officer and a Gentleman" is hollow and formulaic.

Brutal boxing sequences, an attempted suicide, some sexually crude language and humor, as well as profanity. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

and only one did, and she came from Latin America."

McMahon said this points to "the divergence of American Catholic churches," including "the hymnals they use," since songs published by one copyright holder don't always find their way into the hymnals of their competitors.

Other contemporary Catholic songs in the top 25 were "We Are Called," 11th place; "I Am the Bread of Life," 13th; "The Summons," 14th; "Shepherd Me, O God," 19th; "One Bread, One Body," 22nd, and "Hosea," which tied for 24th place with the traditional Catholic hymn

"Pange Lingua."

Other traditional Catholic hymns on the list were "Ave Verum Corpus," 20th, and "Tantum Ergo," 23rd.

Songs on the list with roots in Protestant or evangelical hymnody included Richard Gillard's "The Servant Song," 16th place, and Donna Marie McCargill's "Servant Song," 18th.

Also making the list were "Let There Be Peace on Earth," in 12th place, and "Lord of the Dance," in 21st.

"Both found their way into liturgical use, but came from outside the (liturgical music) culture," McMahon said.

Everything For...
First Communion
FREE SHIPPING!
www.YourSpecialPlace.net

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels.

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065

Providing Help. Creating Hope. Changing Lives.

Catholic Social Services The Diocese of Charlotte

Executive Director: Elizabeth Thurbee (704) 370-3227

Refugee Office: Cira Ponce (704) 370-6930

Justice & Peace: Joe Purello (704) 370-3225

Family Life: Gerard Carter (704) 370-3228



Charlotte Region: 1123 South Church Street, Charlotte, NC 28203
Area Director: Geri King (704) 370-6155

Western Region: 50 Orange Street, Asheville, NC 28801
Area Director: Debra Braese (828) 255-0146

Piedmont-Triad: 621 W. Second Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27108
Area Director: David Harold (336) 727-0705
Greensboro Satellite Office (336) 274-5577
High Point Satellite Office (336) 884-5858

For information on specific programs,
please call your local office.

1123 South Church Street, Charlotte, NC 28203
www.cssnc.org

Keeping the dream alive

Annual event celebrates life, legacy of Rev. King

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — They came from North and South Carolina, from a variety of backgrounds and cultures to celebrate their uniqueness and their similarity.

It was the kind of unity envisioned by Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

Approximately 275 people gathered for the Martin Luther King Jr. celebration at the Hilton at University Place in Charlotte Jan. 21.

The diocesan African American Affairs Ministry sponsored the annual event, celebrated for the past 19 years. The ministry was established in 1985 to give visibility to the work of black Catholics in the diocese and to educate others to the needs and contributions of black Catholics in the church.

"The celebration is a vehicle to ensure that parishioners across the diocese are aware of the life and legacy of Dr. King" and the contributions of "African Americans to our society," said Sandy Murdock, African American Affairs Ministry director.

As with last year's celebration, the event was held the weekend following national Martin Luther King Jr. Day Jan. 16, to avoid conflicting with other commemorative and multicultural events taking place in the Charlotte area.

Event planners strove to present an ecumenical program, appealing to all races and religions.

"This was the largest attendance recorded in the history of this celebration," said Murdock. "It included people of West African, African American, Caucasian, Hispanic, Indian, Asian, Native American and Irish cultures."

The daylong event featured cultural presentations from the local Cherokee, Hmong, Laotian, Hispanic and Irish communities. Gospel music was provided by Perpetual Hope Choir from Our Lady of Consolation Church in Charlotte.

Rev. Dr. Shelton Shipman, pastor of Greenville African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church in Charlotte, facilitated an interactive workshop, while Deacon Henry Fulmer, a Franciscan friar at St. Martin de Porres Church in Columbia, S.C., was the keynote speaker. He called his audience to action.

"Brother Fulmer said Rev. King had a dream and he helped people to work toward that dream. Some of it has been reached, but we can lose sight of it," said Franciscan Sister Andrea Inkrott, director of diocesan Hispanic ministry.

"We have to continually ask ourselves, 'Where do we go from here?'"

said Sister Inkrott.

"Brother Fulmer touched on things we need to stay focused on — where we came from and what we need to do about the conditions of today," said Charlotte House, a parishioner at St. Martin de Porres Church.

"Do we be followers of Christ or be complacent? We need to stay focused on Christ's mission of love for everyone, but be proactive to get things done," she said.

Rev. King wanted people to communicate the Christ-like essence that's in each of us, said House, and "was about people coming together out of love to help one another."

"If Dr. King were alive today ... he would be fighting for equality in the United States in education, health care, social justice and elder care," said Murdock. "On a worldwide scope, he would be fighting for hunger, AIDS and HIV, economic improvement in various African countries and world peace."

"When you listened to him (Rev. King) speak, it was as if he was touched by God," said James "Bo" Taylor, an archivist at the Museum of the Cherokee Indian in Cherokee, who presented a session on Native American music and song. "He wasn't talking about one people, but all people," said Taylor, who said Rev. King did much for Native Americans.

"As native people, we have to respect what he did for us," said Taylor. "Equality means equal."

A preacher and civil rights leader, Rev. King sought to bring peaceful reconciliation among all Americans, urging racial justice and equal opportunity for all, regardless of race.

While in Memphis, Tenn., Rev. King was assassinated April 4, 1968 by an escaped white convict. After his death, Rev. King became a symbol of protest in the struggle for racial justice.

Many felt the diocesan celebration was a good way to foster understanding among ethnic groups.

"In order to understand a people, you have to know them," said Taylor.

Murdock called the celebration a "wonderful success."

"Dr. King loved all people, and he would have stood proud and boldly accepted our acknowledgement and our honor of him and his legacy," she said.



African American Affairs Ministry is supported by contributions to the Diocesan Support Appeal.



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

James "Bo" Taylor leads volunteers in a Native American dance during the diocesan Martin Luther King Jr. celebration at the Hilton at University Place in Charlotte Jan. 21.

Widow of civil rights pioneer dies at 78

ATLANTA (CNS) — Coretta Scott King, widow of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., died Jan. 30 at age 78 at a holistic health center in Baja California, Mexico.

"The entire nation stands in awe of the wondrous legacy of this great woman of faith," said Archbishop Wilton

D. Gregory of Atlanta Jan. 31.

King had received several honors and awards during her lifetime, including an award from the Appeal of Conscience Foundation and the Freedom Medal.

Born April 27, 1927, she and Rev. King were married June 18, 1953.

Groce
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

1401 Patton Ave. 72 Long Shoals Road
Asheville, NC Arden, NC
(828) 252-3535 (828) 687-3530

**Assuring
Absolute
Integrity**

Asheville's Catholic Funeral Directors
Dale Groce • John Prock

Toll-free (888) 874-3535

Pre-arrangements and obituaries on-line at www.grocefuneralhome.com

Principal for Cardinal Newman School COLUMBIA, SC

The ideal candidate will be a practicing Catholic with a master's degree and a minimum of 5 years of administrative experience in a Catholic secondary school. The principal is responsible for all day-to-day operations of the school and the implementation of the school's strategic plan. Reports to the Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Charleston and the Canonical Pastor. For consideration please send resume and cover letter with salary requirements to: Attn: Human Resources, 1662 Ingram Rd, Charleston, SC 29407 or fax 843-402-9071.



PART-TIME SECRETARY DIOCESAN PASTORAL CENTER

The Office of Development has an opening for a part-time secretary. The successful candidate must be a high school graduate who is computer literate with experience in Microsoft Office programs. Knowledge of Raiser's Edge by Blackbaud is helpful, but not required.

Responsibilities include standard office tasks such as data entry and database management, word processing, fielding phone calls, copying/collating, etc. This is a part-time position for 21 hours a week.

Please submit resume by March 1, 2006 to Barbara Gaddy, Office of Development, 1123 South Church Street, Charlotte, NC 28203 or bagaddy@charlottediocese.org.

Classifieds

Classified ads bring results! More than 135,000 readers! More than 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 p.m. Wednesday, nine days before publication

How to order: Ads may be e-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

French nun's cure could be miracle for Pope John Paul II

SAINT, from page 1

case of the French nun from among the many apparently miraculous healings people from around the world had reported to him.

He told Catholic News Service Jan. 31 that the case involved a French religious who had been diagnosed with Parkinson's when she was "very young; it was a precocious onset."

Pope John Paul had suffered from Parkinson's, a progressive disease that attacks the nervous system.

Msgr. Oder had refused to talk about the French nun's case in late November when Pope John Paul's former personal secretary, Archbishop Stanislaw Dziwisz of Krakow, Poland, told reporters her healing would be submitted to Vatican investigators.

Newspapers had reported at the time that the French nun was suffering from cancer, but Msgr. Oder said it was Parkinson's.

The postulator told CNS he had felt it was important not to talk about the case until several doctors had reviewed the nun's case history and confirmed that there likely was no natural or medical explanation for her healing.

While Pope Benedict XVI set aside the normal five-year waiting period before Pope John Paul's cause could be opened, Msgr. Oder said there is still much work to do. People who knew the pope are being interviewed, a thorough biography is being prepared and all his writings are being collected for study by a panel of theologians.

Before Pope Benedict can proclaim that Pope John Paul heroically lived a life of Christian virtue, Msgr. Oder must compile all the information collected in a "positio," a document of multiple volumes explaining who the candidate was and how he or she lived and acted.

A separate report is prepared on the miracle, Msgr. Oder said.

"The procedure for the verification of the miracle is a process that can parallel the verification of heroic virtues," he said, so the miracle can be submitted even before the "positio" is. Nevertheless, he said, he does not

expect the process to be completed soon.

While a Vatican panel of historians and theologians will review the "positio," another panel of Vatican theologians and a panel of Vatican-appointed physicians will review the nun's medical records.

In Poland, the head of a Polish tribunal gathering evidence for the cause criticized media speculation about witnesses after press reports that the country's former communist strongman, Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski, had been asked to give evidence.

"It's natural and right that people should be interested in our work," said Bishop Tadeusz Pieronek, head of the Krakow Theological Academy as well as the tribunal.

"But the witnesses are covered by secrecy rules — those called should be discreet about the questions they're asked and how they answered," he said.

The bishop said witnesses were summoned according to their knowledge of "important moments" in Pope John Paul's life.

"The tribunal can't be expected to consider how a particular summons will be publicly interpreted, nor does it see such invitations in terms of rewards and punishments," he said.

Jaruzelski, who was educated at a Marian order school and was raised a Catholic, became notorious for supervising the arrest and internment of around 10,000 opponents of communist rule after crushing the Solidarity labor movement with martial law in December 1981.

Jonathan Luxmoore in Warsaw, Poland contributed to this story.

WE'VE CHANGED OUR NAME!
We'll now both be known as
IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES

Mon. thru Sat.
10 am - 6 pm

The **Cath^olic** Company
Lake Norman Book Store

CAROLINA CATHOLIC
BOOKSHOPPE



BIG BOOK SALE NOW
at the Monroe Road location!



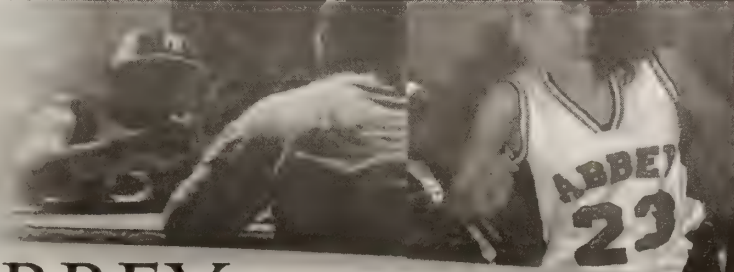
- Unique gifts & cards
- Books, rosaries, medals
- Previously read book section (at Lake Norman)
- Video rentals
- Artwork

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com



704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED

Make your first move to an excellent education
Apply online now!
www.BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

Ranked one of the best comprehensive colleges in the South by U.S. News and World Report, Belmont Abbey College celebrates excellence and virtue steeped in its 130 year Catholic Benedictine heritage.

Just minutes from Charlotte, we offer our students numerous internship opportunities and career placement.

Our 15:1 student-faculty ratio provides for smaller class sizes and personal one-on-one mentoring.

We believe in development of the whole person — mind, body and spirit. By offering a wide array of clubs and activities, including Division II athletics, theatre, student publications, and study abroad, Belmont Abbey College invests in the personal growth of its students.

Upcoming event:
ABBEY EXPERIENCE
SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 25TH
9AM TO 2PM
Space is limited pre-register online now!

For more info call 1.888.222.0110 or
email admissions@bac.edu

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Stop suffering in silence

Recent headlines have been filled with reports of people struggling with thoughts and feelings so painful and terrible that they are compelled to act in unimaginable ways. Now, our own community is reeling from the tragic deaths of two little girls and the unfathomable pain of a beloved family.

We are left to wonder how this could happen. While there may never be an answer that completely explains these horrible acts, perhaps we can use this time to be reminded of the importance of breaking the chain of silence and taking steps to escape the despair of depression.

Speak out

People feel there is nowhere to turn, no one who will understand what they are going through. They may feel ashamed and scared by what is happening to them.

These are the "lies" that depression tells us and they are absolutely false. Silence feeds feelings of helplessness. Solitude in dealing with problems can lead to loss of hope.

There are tremendous resources available when someone reaches out and simply says, "I need help." Tell a friend or a loved one, a priest, a helpline operator.

Start by allowing others to know you are in pain and need support.

Get help now

The National Institute of Mental Health reports that 9.5 percent of Americans suffer from a depressive disorder.

The symptoms of depression include: sad or "empty" mood, loss of pleasure, appetite disturbance, sleep disturbance, either restlessness or feeling slowed down and heavy, loss of energy, feeling worthless or preoccupied by guilt, difficulty concentrating, thoughts of death and dying.

If left untreated or in more extreme cases, there may be thoughts of suicide, delusions (false beliefs) or even hallucinations (experiencing something through sight, sound, or other senses that is not really there).

Medication helps

The balance of our brain's chemistry is extremely important to our sense of well-being. When there is an imbalance, our mood will be affected.

There are numerous medications available now that can make a big difference in bringing that brain chemistry into harmony.

Are there side effects? Yes, but many side effects are temporary and not as noticeable when one becomes used to the medications.

If medications in the past have been less than helpful, do not give up. No one

Peace of Mind

LORI L. FOX
GUEST COLUMNIST

pill works for everyone and sometimes it takes a careful combination of medications to get it right.

Also, be aware that it may take several weeks for certain medications to build up to a "therapeutic level" — the point where a person can start to really feel a difference.

All of this should be discussed with one's physician. A psychiatrist is a medical doctor who is specially trained in this department.

Professional counseling

Through talk therapy, we are able to explore feelings and beliefs in a confidential and supportive environment. There can be great relief in having a place to bring problems and have help in making real changes.

Spirituality brings hope

Depression can also impact how a person is feeling spiritually, leading us to question faith, even God, and come up with empty answers.

However, the reverse is also true: spiritual beliefs and experiencing closeness to God can bring comfort, hope and empowerment in dealing with depression. Consider speaking with a priest, spiritual advisor or prayer partner.

Timing is important

Don't wait. Don't let the pain worsen and deepen.

Thoughts and feelings go hand in hand. Just as negative thoughts create dark feelings, dark feelings create negative thoughts. It's important not to wait until these thoughts and feelings start to affect behavior.

Many people who decide to speak up and get help regret not having done it sooner.

The counseling team at Catholic Social Services in the Diocese of Charlotte is available to help people who are dealing with depression and other issues. We offer professional, affordable counseling in a faith-based setting.

Please call me at (704) 370-3238 to schedule an appointment, or visit our Web site at www.cssnc.org.

Lori Fox is supervisor of counseling services for Catholic Social Services in the Diocese of Charlotte.

'Touched by Christ, We Respond with Gratitude'

DSA-funded ministries important part of many lives



Guest Column

BARBARA GADDY
GUEST COLUMNIST



The theme of the 2006 Diocesan Support Appeal, "Touched by Christ, We Respond with Gratitude," gives me an opportunity to reflect on the many times I have been touched by the presence of Jesus in my own life.

My thoughts immediately turn to the births of my three daughters. I remember counting their little fingers and toes, stroking their faces and peering into their bright eyes. I really felt I was touched by Christ in each of those experiences and was overwhelmed with gratitude.

I also realize that I had an enormous responsibility to care for each of these gifts from God — the responsibility to provide for their physical, spiritual and emotional needs.

I must admit that, at the time, I certainly did not think about the Diocesan Support Appeal-funded ministries and how they might relate to my own children. In fact, the DSA was about the furthest thing from my mind.

I was a lot more concerned with the everyday business of caring for these children. Yet the theme of this year's appeal prompts me a chance to look back over the years and recall all the ways these DSA ministries touched our lives.

When my oldest daughter turned 3, I registered her for the preschool religious education class. They needed catechists and, having a background in education, I decided to volunteer. I participated in the catechists' certification program to give me all the tools I needed to help form these children in the faith.

Over the years, I was both "Mom" and "Sunday school teacher" to every one of my girls. Then I was asked to become the coordinator for the parish faith formation program.

I went through two years of classes that better prepared me to provide quality programs for children, youth, adults and

RCIA in my own parish.

Meanwhile my children grew into teenagers and became active in the parish youth group. They attended the programs and retreats sponsored by the diocesan Office of Youth Ministry.

My oldest child was deeply concerned about issues of community outreach. While still a high school student, she participated in a six-week program called "Moving Faith into Action," sponsored by the diocesan Office of Justice & Peace.

As college students, they took advantage of campus ministry programs offered at their schools.

So as I travel down memory lane, I can see all the ways DSA-funded ministries have touched my own life and, either directly or indirectly, the lives of my girls, through faith formation, youth ministry, adult education, justice and peace, and campus ministry.

These all represent ways we were "touched by Christ."

I invite you to consider just one way you have been touched by Christ. Perhaps it was the births of your own children. Maybe it was through a special liturgy or program, the kindness of your pastor or deacon, or the companionship of your parish senior group.

Now take your own trip down memory lane. Chances are very good that you or someone close to you benefited in some way from one of the DSA-funded ministries.

With a gift to the 2006 Diocesan Support Appeal, you can help ensure that all of these ministries will continue to touch the lives of people throughout the diocese.

Barbara Gaddy is associate director of development for the Diocese of Charlotte.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

The Eucharist brings unity in charity for Catholics

Thank you for your overwhelmingly positive response to our Eucharistic Congress last September. Because of the great interest you showed in such a gathering in our diocese, plans are underway for our second Eucharistic Congress, to be held Oct. 6 and 7 of this year. I hope you are already making plans to participate!

The Eucharistic Congress is truly diocesan-wide in its scope. It is the one time a year when the entire Catholic family of the Diocese of Charlotte has the opportunity to come together to celebrate our oneness in Christ through the sacrament of unity, the Holy Eucharist.

It is a gathering of the priests, both diocesan and religious; the deacons; the women religious; all the seminarians; all the parishes and missions; all the schools; and all the staff in the diocesan offices.

St. John writes in his Gospel that Our Lord prayed for this unity among his disciples during the Last Supper: "I pray ... that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me" (John 17: 20-21).

The prayer for unity, and the institution of the Holy Eucharist as the sacrament of unity, proceeded together from the heart of the Lord at the moment of the Last Supper.

The theme for the 2006 Eucharistic Congress is "The Love of Christ Impels Us," a line taken from St. Paul's second letter to the Corinthians (2 Cor 5:14). The love of Christ that we celebrate in

From the Bishop

MOST REV.
PETER J. JUGIS
BISHOP OF
CHARLOTTE



the Eucharistic Sacrifice transforms us interiorly. It becomes the force that impels us to live faithful Catholic lives.

We partake of the real body and blood of Christ, and we grow in love. Our union with Christ is renewed and strengthened. And in addition, our union with each other is renewed and strengthened.

Through our sharing in Christ's body and blood, Christ makes us one in Him. It is the Holy Eucharist that brings about this unity in charity.

The celebration of the Holy Eucharist stands at the center of the life of the parish. It is the most important activity of the parish, and it unifies all the other activities of the parish.

The love that Christ places in us through our participation in Mass flows out from the Mass to be lived in all the other activities of the parish: in faith formation classes, youth ministry programs, visitations to the sick, activities of our parish organizations and even in social gatherings. All of these ministries and activities ultimately draw

their vitality from our worship.

The celebration of the Eucharistic Sacrifice gives life and meaning to all parish activities, imbuing those ministries and activities with Christ's love. The Holy Eucharist truly is the source of the life of the church. It is the engine that drives the entire life of the parish.

Our participation in the Eucharistic Sacrifice also brings Christ's love into everything we do outside of the parish, in our everyday life in the home and in society, at school, at work in our professions and in our social involvements. The love of Christ we celebrate in the Eucharist ultimately transforms all these areas of our lives, because we ourselves have first been transformed by our participation in the Holy Sacrifice.

It is beautiful to realize how Christ animates everything in our everyday life, and how everything ultimately comes back to the Eucharist as its source. That is why the Second Vatican Council encouraged our full, conscious and active participation (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy 14) in the Eucharistic Sacrifice; so much depends on the Mass to give life to our effective witness to Christ's love.

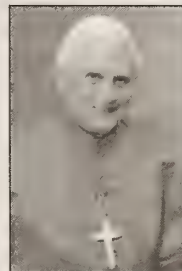
It is in the Eucharistic Sacrifice where we meet Christ and come into deeper union with Him. Our union with Him is a union of love, which we bring with us into our parish activities and ministries, and into our life outside the parish.

Let us find through our active participation in the eucharistic celebration and in our eucharistic adoration outside of Mass, the love which impels us in our daily living for Christ. Let us begin to prepare now for the many blessings that are in store for us at our October Eucharistic Congress!

God wants people to cooperate with him in forming world, pope says

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



Catholics 'entrusted' to action of God, pope says at weekly audience

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — God wants all men and women to cooperate with him in forming a world marked by harmony and peace, Pope Benedict XVI said.

At his Feb. 1 weekly general audience, the pope said the biblical phrase "kingdom of God" is an expression of God's saving plan for all humanity, a plan that includes God's active presence in human history.

"We are not at the mercy of dark forces, nor are we left alone with our freedom, rather we have been entrusted to the action of the powerful and loving Lord who has a plan for us, a kingdom to establish," the pope said.

"He is not indifferent to human history, but rather wants to realize with us and for us his plan of harmony and peace," he said.

Pope Benedict said men and women of every nation and every generation are called to follow God's will for their lives and allow his presence to be felt in the world.

Throughout history, he said, God has revealed his love for people, intervening to guide and protect them and sending his Son to save them.

All that God already has done and continues to do in history reveals that his kingdom is not based on "power and domination, triumph and oppression as unfortunately frequently occurs with earthly kingdoms, but this kingdom of God is a demonstration of mercy, tenderness, goodness, grace and justice," the pope said.

The Old Testament profession that God is slow to anger and rich in mercy, he said, is "a preparation for the profession of faith of St. John the Apostle, who said, 'God is love.'"

The words before Communion

Q. Nearly all priests and other Communion ministers say "The body of Christ" before giving us Communion. But one priest who helps out in our parish says "You are the body of Christ," and we answer "Amen."

I thought I was affirming my belief in the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Is there a change or an option for the words before Communion? (California)

A. What your visiting priest proclaims before giving Communion is, of course, true. As St. Augustine taught frequently, receiving Communion is for Christians a many faceted expression of faith: The body of Christ gives the body of Christ to the body of Christ.

The priest, a member of Christ's body, gives the eucharistic body to one who is already part of the body of Christ, the church.

It is a profound and beautiful mystery.

In Christian tradition, however, and according to liturgical rules, the profession of faith made in the "Amen" before Communion is a particularly specific expression of eucharistic belief. As you suggest, the communicant's "Amen" is a declaration of belief in the real presence of Jesus under the species of bread and wine.

But it is more than that.

The full significance of that "Amen" goes even deeper. In the consecration of the Eucharist at Mass, Jesus declares that in the eucharistic species he offers his body specifically as given for us and his blood specifically as shed for us.

Therefore, the command of the Lord that follows, "Do this in memory of me," means more than merely to perform a liturgical act, to "make" his person present in the eucharistic bread and wine at Mass. He tells us that, as he has given his life for us, we are to give our lives for each other.

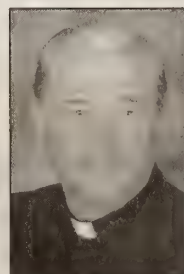
At Communion time, then, our "Amen," our yes, means not only that we believe it is the body and blood of Christ. It further signifies that we accept the meaning Jesus has given to this eucharistic union; we promise to give ourselves in wholehearted love to the service of others, as he has given himself for us.

Perhaps we have not heard much about this understanding of receiving Communion, but it is not a new idea in the church, nor is it a speculative novelty. Early Christian bishops and theologians write often that this is what Communion in fact must mean for us who receive it.

St. Augustine, for example, reflects this theology in his homily on the feast of the martyrdom of St. Lawrence.

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN
DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



"Just as Jesus Christ laid down his life for us, so we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers," he says. "Lawrence understood this. Just as he had partaken of the gift of Christ's self at the table of the Lord, so he prepared to offer such a gift."

By focusing attention on one aspect of the Eucharist, as the priest in your parish does, he seriously diminishes the impact of the specific interpretation the church points us to as we receive Communion.

It is true, we are the body of Christ. But the sacrament of eucharistic Communion directs us in a special way to what Jesus wants that to mean. It is a unique way he unites us to his attitude about himself, who did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life for his brothers and sisters (Matthew 20:28).

Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address, or e-mail: jjdietzen@aol.com.

Mountain mission serves dedicated community of Catholics

SPARTA — The mission church dedicated to St. Frances of Rome celebrates 40 years of existence in 2006, thus marking nearly half a century of Catholic evangelization in North Carolina's Allegheny County.

Before the early 1960s, Catholics in this mountain county trekked over the hills to Elkin or to North Wilkesboro to attend Mass. In 1961, priests from North Wilkesboro began traveling to Sparta, just four miles from the Virginia border, to celebrate Mass.

The local Catholics proved to be an industrious group during the 1960s, with Masses celebrated in the Sparta Community Center, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall, the homes of area Catholics and in the cafeteria of a shoe factory.

Though small in number, the Catholic population was determined to spiritually reinforce its presence by building a church. In 1965, Mary Ann Robinson — a New York Catholic whose nephew, Ed Darr, was one of the original parishioners of the mission church — paved the way for construction to begin. With a grant from the Catholic Church Extension Society, the project was underway.

Bishop Vincent S. Waters of Raleigh dedicated St. Frances of Rome Church in May 1966 in memory of Frances Payne Darr, Ed Darr's mother.

The church continued to be staffed by priests from North Wilkesboro until 1976. During that year, St. Francis of Assisi Church in Jefferson assumed pastoral care of the Sparta church. Priests of the Glenmary Home Missioners also arrived to serve at the churches in Allegheny and Ashe counties



COURTESY PHOTO

St. Frances of Rome Church in Sparta has served a small but dedicated community of Catholics in Allegheny County for 40 years.

In the mid-1980s, the St. Frances of Rome family began a fundraising drive with the intention of building a multi-purpose education building. After again turning to the Catholic Church Extension Society for assistance, the Catholic community in Sparta oversaw the building's construction.

Then-Bishop John F. Donoghue of Charlotte blessed and dedicated the structure in October 1986 at a Mass

attended by more than 200 Catholics, friends and clergy, including then-pastor Glenmary Father John Otterbacher.

Members of the Sparta Catholic community, who had called the fund drive a "journey in faith," could now enjoy a stronger sense of home with the addition. The building includes not only classrooms, but also a reception hall and kitchen.

Church membership in Sparta has increased from the three families who

ST. FRANCES OF ROME CHURCH

Hendrix and Highland Roads
Sparta, N.C. 28675
(336) 372-8846

Vicariate: Boone

Administrator: Father Patrick Winslow
Number of Households: 58

A mission of Saint Francis of Assisi Church
in Jefferson



Father Patrick Winslow

originally came together in worship to nearly 60 families today. Participation of families living in the North Carolina mountains during the summer months contributes to the seasonal Catholic population.

Glenmary priests served the mission church until 1998, when diocesan priests assumed pastoral care. Fathers Ronald Marecki, Wilbur Thomas and Mark Lawlor were three of the pastors to serve Sparta Catholics in the late 1990s.

In July 2004, St. Frances of Rome Church and its mother parish, St. Francis of Assisi Church in Jefferson, welcomed Father Patrick Winslow as administrator.

Staff writer Karen A. Evans contributed to this story.

get ignited!

Come hear these great
Catholic speakers

Dr Alice Von Hildebrand

George Weigel

Stephen Ray

Dr Jacques Mistrot

Ignited By Truth Catholic Conference February 17-18, 2006 Raleigh, North Carolina

Bringing to light the truth of the teachings of the Catholic Church and igniting in our hearts a love for our Faith

For complete details and online registration, visit:
www.IgnitedByTruth.com

Enrich your spiritual life!

Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise —

"The Footsteps of Paul"

Greece and Turkey — May 11-21, 2006

Space is limited—register now!



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,949 for inside cabin — includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

Istanbul — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace

Mykonos — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels

Patmos — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation

Kusadasi & Ephesus — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites

Rhodes — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith

Crete — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion

Santorini — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.



Serving at the Lord's Table

Three with Down
syndrome serve
parish, community

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

GREENSBORO — Three parishioners are proving to their parish and to themselves that disabilities won't keep them from achieving their dreams.

Richard Guthlein, Anne Kessler and Adam Widman volunteer as altar servers at St. Paul the Apostle Church in Greensboro. And they all have Down syndrome, a genetic disorder that causes delays in physical and intellectual development. But they are all determined to live "mainstream"

See SERVERS, page 5



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Anne Kessler and Richard Guthlein assist Oblate Father Paul Dechant during Mass at St Paul the Apostle Church in Greensboro Jan. 23. Kessler and Guthlein are among three altar servers in the parish who have Down syndrome.

Living Waters, Good Counsel

REFURBISHED CHAPEL
FEATURES PARISHIONER ART

BY JOANITA M.
NELLENBACH
CORRESPONDENT

MAGGIE VALLEY — The mother is absorbed in her child, who looks into her face with loving confidence. One hand rests on the neckline of her robe; the tiny fingers of his other hand caress the back of her neck.

This image — Mary, Our Mother of Good Counsel — now hangs in the window of the chapel in Living Waters

See CHAPEL, page 12

Catholic Schools Week 2006

Diocesan, national schools embody
'Compassion. Character. Values'

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — "Catholic Schools: Character. Compassion. Values" was the theme for the 32nd annual celebration of Catholic Schools Week, Jan. 29-Feb. 4.

Highlights of the week were National Appreciation Day for Catholic Schools Feb. 1 and National Appreciation

Day for Catholic School Teachers, a tribute to the 163,000 Catholic educators, observed Feb. 3.

The annual event is designed to build support for and to recognize the almost 8,000 Catholic elementary and secondary schools nationwide, including the 18 schools in the

See SCHOOLS, page 7



COURTESY PHOTO

Students and faculty of St. Leo the Great School in Winston-Salem display signs reading "Character," "Compassion" and "Values," the theme of this year's Catholic Schools Week, celebrated Jan. 29-Feb. 4.

The meaning of mystagogy

CATECHISTS EXPLORE
MYSTAGOGY, PASCHAL MYSTERY

STATESVILLE — Understanding the paschal, or Easter, mystery is a lifetime project, according to a theologian specializing in Christian initiation.

Father Andrew Varga, pastor of St. Luke Church in Westport, Conn., presented "Mystagogy: Unfolding the Paschal Mystery" to approximately 50 people from 20 parishes around the Diocese of Charlotte.

The presentation, held at St. Philip the Apostle Church in Statesville Jan. 21, was sponsored by the Diocesan Commission on the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults to provide theological training in mystagogy to initiation ministers, who help bring adult converts into the Catholic Church.

The RCIA is the norms and rituals for adults who wish to enter the Catholic Church. Mystagogy, the fourth and final stage of the RCIA process, is the ongoing instruction in the

See RCIA, page 13

Around the Diocese

Capitol flag flown at Holy
Angels; parishioner up for
national honor

| PAGE 4

Culture Watch

Vatican reacts to
Mohammed cartoons; saint
film premieres locally

| PAGES 10-11

Perspectives

Church's position on the
Uniform Anatomical Gift Act;
embedding faith

| PAGES 14-15

CHapel Hill NC 27599-0001
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
UNC
NC COLLECTION
#420836#
#8XNPDVQ.....3-DIGIT 275

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

STRIDING FOR A MIRACLE



CNS PHOTO COURTESY OF SHARBEL DUSSAULT

Rebecca Dussault of Gunnison, Colo., skis during the Alberta Centennial World Cup in Canmore, Alberta, in December 2005. The Catholic athlete will be part of the U.S. cross-country ski team during the 2006 Winter Olympics in Turin, Italy, which begin Feb. 10.

Colorado skier goes to Turin Olympics with faith, family in tow

DENVER (CNS) — If U.S. cross-country skier Rebecca Dussault, 25, wins a medal at the Winter Olympic Games Feb. 10-26 in Turin, Italy, she'll be the first American woman ever to have done so.

The realistic dream for the gifted, self-coached athlete is to place in the top 15.

"That would be pretty much the best U.S. women's result ever," she said. "There's about 80 competitors per sport and the sport has been dominated by Europeans."

But with God, all things are possible — and Dussault is a woman of strong Catholic faith.

In 2004 Dussault developed a deep appreciation for Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, a young Italian outdoorsman who lived an exemplary life of prayer and charity in the early 1900s.

Setting her sights on the 2006 Winter Games, she made Blessed Pier Giorgio the patron of her Olympic journey after realizing several similarities in their lives.

"He died at 24 and (my husband and I) were both 24," she said. "He's from Turin, Italy, and that's where the Olympics were going to be. He was a mountaineer and we're mountaineers."

Last August, as part of their World Youth Day trip to Germany, Dussault and her husband visited sites where

Blessed Pier Giorgio lived and hiked in Turin. They were allowed into Blessed Pier Giorgio's family home and met his younger sister, Luciana, who is 103.

"We prayed at the bed where he died, saw his skis and pictures and rosaries and the sanctuary he would run over the mountains to pray at," Dussault said.

While her dream is to win an Olympic medal, it's not her first priority. Her faith is.

A cradle Catholic, Dussault's faith became important to her at age 12, when she switched from public school to being home-schooled. Religion was a key part of the curriculum. She became enthralled with the richness and beauty of the Catholic faith — the sacraments, prayer, Mary and the lives of the saints.

"I had something to fall in love with," Dussault said, describing her growing faith knowledge. "It came alive for me and I made it my own."

At the Olympics, Dussault is asking the intercession of Blessed Pier Giorgio, who needs a miracle attributed to him if he is to achieve sainthood.

"Everybody hopes for the gold," Dussault said. "We've been telling people, 'Everything is possible for God.' ... If I'm going to win ... it's going to be by the intercession of (Blessed Pier Giorgio) — and the prayers of many faithful. I can't believe how many people are praying for me all around the world."

Don't kill mentally disabled person to save genius, says bioethicist

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Because human dignity is equal for all, doctors cannot take the life of a severely developmentally disabled person to harvest organs to save the life of a scientific genius such as Albert Einstein, said Franciscan Brother Daniel Sulmasy, a medical doctor and bioethicist.

There are not different levels of "inalienable dignity," he told the President's Council on Bioethics Feb. 2.

The intrinsic dignity of every person is the "foundational bedrock of a moral system" and should be the guiding force in bioethics, said Brother Sulmasy, director of the Bioethics Institute of New York Medical College.

The Franciscan was one of two guest speakers discussing the meaning of human dignity before the council, which advises President George W. Bush on bioethical issues.

During a question-and-answer session, Brother Sulmasy discussed the equality that human dignity gives all people.

"Is it true that a severely retarded person is the equal of Michael Jordan or Albert Einstein?" asked Robert George, a professor of jurisprudence at Princeton University and member of the President's Council on Bioethics.

Brother Sulmasy answered: "Yes, it is true. But if we behave in a manner consistent with this is another thing."

Council member Dr. Leon Kass, professor of social thought at the University of Chicago, asked if medical attention would be required at the end of a human life when a person is losing all his human capabilities.

Brother Sulmasy said that there is a natural finality to life in which a person loses his human capabilities. In such situations "one is not obliged to do everything possible" to prolong life, "but we cannot do something to snuff out life."

Brother Sulmasy did not apply his views on human dignity to assisted suicide or euthanasia during the council, but opposed both in writing to the council.

Diocesan planner

BOONE VICARIATE

BOONE — Internationally known theologian Megan McKenna will discuss *Resurrection Stories of the Gospels* at St. Elizabeth Church, 259 Pilgrims Way., Feb. 19, 12:30-2:30 p.m. McKenna uses poetry, stories and images from the Catholic tradition and other religious traditions to show how images and words are meant to convert and transform and bring meaning and hope to the world. This event is free and open to the public. For information and to register, please call Bob McHugh at (704) 753-2012 or Marie-Michele Darcy at (704) 556-1215.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — *Teams of Our Lady* is an international movement of small groups of married couples. Each team meets monthly to share a meal, prayer, Scripture and discussion. Teams provide a solid, spiritual direction for couples through a way of life promoting growth in married love, holiness and Christian community. An information night will be held Feb. 21 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., in the New Life Center, room 203. For more information, contact Vince and Mary Pat Arostegui at (704) 882-8757.

MINT HILL — Internationally known theologian Megan McKenna will discuss *Resurrection Stories of the Gospels* at St. Luke Church, 13700 Lawyers Rd., Feb. 18, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. McKenna uses poetry, stories and images from the Catholic tradition and other religious traditions to show how images and words are meant to convert and transform and bring meaning and

hope to the world. This event is free and open to the public. For information and to register, please call Bob McHugh at (704) 753-2012 or Marie-Michele Darcy at (704) 556-1215.

CHARLOTTE — The Evangelization Committee of St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd., will offer the *Catholics Returning Home* program Thursdays through Feb. 23. Catholics Returning Home is a welcoming program for Catholics who have been away from the church. Topics include concerns, the Mass, changes since Vatican II, reconciliation, and Catholic beliefs, prayer and spirituality. For more information, call the St. Gabriel Parish Office at (704) 364-5431.

GASTONIA VICARIATE

BELMONT — *Fostering Justice Worldwide*, sponsored by the diocesan Office of Justice and Peace, will share Catholic Relief Services (CRS) stories. This free event will take place at Queen of the Apostles Church, 503 N. Main St., Feb. 25, 1-4:30 p.m. The program will provide an overview of Catholic social teaching, CRS-related work in the Diocese of Charlotte and in Africa, presentations on effective advocacy and more. This event will be repeated in Asheville April 9, in Charlotte June 24, in Newton Sept. 9 and in Stoneville Nov. 4. For specific details about the Saturday afternoon events, call the Office of Justice and Peace at (704) 370-3234 or (704) 370-3225, or e-mail justicepeace@charlottediocese.org.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — "Vatican II: What was it? What changed? What now?" Forty years after the Second Vatican Council, we are still beginning to understand the many ramifications the Council has had on the Catholic Church. A faith formation group will meet through Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of St. Paul the Apostle Church, 2715 Horse Pen Creek Rd. For more information,

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

FEBRUARY 10, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 18

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

To respect life, people must remember God created it, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The more people set aside belief in God the creator, the greater the danger that they will lose respect for the value and dignity of human life, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Celebrating Mass Feb. 5 in the Vatican's parish church, the Church of St. Anne, and marking Italy's pro-life day, Pope Benedict said that when people stop thinking of human life as a creation of God they begin to think they have complete control over it.

Pope Benedict said Jesus came to earth as a human being in order to heal people of the "fevers" of ideologies and idolatry and of forgetting God.

"Where God is absent, the human person is no longer respected," the pope said.

Jesus did not come to earth primarily to heal people of physical maladies, the pope said, but to "reconcile them with God. God is our creator. God gave us life, dignity."

While men and women are called to safeguard and administer creation, they are not the lords of life, and they cannot presume to determine whether life is or is not of value, he said.

Even before organizing pro-life initiatives, the pope said, "it is fundamental to promote a correct attitude toward the other: The culture of life is, in effect, based on attention to others without exclusion or discrimination.

"Every human life deserves and needs to be defended and promoted," the pope said.

Too often "life is exalted as long as it is pleasurable, but there is a tendency not to respect it any longer when it becomes ill or disabled," Pope Benedict said.

When every human life is loved because it is created by God, then efforts to defend life — whether the life of a newborn, the infirm or the dying — become effective, the pope said.

call the church office at (336) 294-4696.

HIGH POINT — Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 4145 Johnson St., will offer a *free Spanish course*, Thursdays, 7-8:30 p.m., through March 23. For more information or to register, call Nancy Skee at (336) 884-0522.

GREENSBORO — The *Reemployment Support Group* of St. Paul the Apostle Church will meet Feb. 16, 7:30-9 p.m., in Room 8 of the Parish Life Center, 2715 Horse Pen Creek Rd. If you are currently out of work or looking to make a career change, join us for encouragement, support and informative topics to help you in your job search. For more information, call Colleen Assal at (336) 294-4696, ext. 226.

HIGH POINT — In February, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 4145 Johnson St., will launch the *Hope of Seeing Everyone Again* program (HOSEA) to invite Catholics who have distanced themselves from the Catholic Church, for whatever reason, to return. Small Christian communities will meet weekly for six to eight weeks to discuss various issues and concerns and to receive pastoral referrals and guidance. An open house will be held Feb. 21, 7-8 p.m., and will include a brief presentation on Catholic inquiry classes, the inactive Catholics program and continuing faith formation program. A tour of the church and refreshments will follow. To learn more, e-mail Rich Pohlman at tosfranciscan-letters@yahoo.com.

HICKORY VICARIATE

MORGANTON — Ignatius Press is sponsoring a nationwide premiere of the film "*The Passion of Bernadette*" Feb. 11 at St. Charles Borromeo Church, 728 West Union St. at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. For more information, call the church at (828) 437-3108.

MORGANTON — Do you have hot or cold anger? Quick or long-lasting? "*Taming the Lion Within: 5 Steps from Anger to Peace*" gives psychological, philosophical and spiritual perspectives and prac-

tical methods for dealing with anger. Dr. Rhonda Chervin will present this free workshop Feb. 15 and 22, 7-8:30 p.m., at St. Charles Borromeo Church, 728 West Union St. To register, call the church office at (828) 437-3108 or for more information, call Dr. Chervin at (828) 413-4624.

NEWTON — The *Little Flowers Catholic Girls' Group* is for all Catholic girls ages 5 and up. The group meets the fourth Monday of each month at St. Joseph Church, 720 West 13th St., at 4 p.m. in the Holy Family Hall. For more details, call Debbie Vickers at (828) 495-2039.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

MURPHY — A *Charismatic Prayer Group* meets Fridays at 3:45 p.m. in the Commons of St. William Church, 765 Andrews Rd. join us for praise music, witness, teaching, prayers and laying on of hands for those in need. For more details, call Gery Dashner at (828) 494-2683.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

WINSTON-SALEM — St. Benedict the Moor Church, 1625 East 12th St., hosts a 12:15 p.m. prayer service, *Veni Sanctus Spiritus*, the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. All are welcome to reflect on God and refresh the spirit in the middle of a day. For more information call Sister Larretta Rivera-Williams at (336) 725-9200.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Pope authorizes indulgences for caring for the mentally ill

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — On the occasion of World Day of the Sick, Catholics can receive special indulgences for caring for people who are ill or suffer from mental illness.

Pope Benedict XVI authorized the indulgences to encourage the faithful to show "Christian compassion and social solidarity toward the ill, especially toward those affected by mental illness," said U.S. Cardinal J. Francis Stafford, head of the Apostolic Penitentiary, the Vatican tribunal that regulates indulgences.

The Vatican announced the indulgences and outlined the requirements for receiving them Feb. 3.

An indulgence is a remission of the temporal punishment due for sins committed.

The 14th World Day of the Sick will be held in Adelaide, Australia, Feb. 11. The event's focus this year will be on mental health and the importance of offering proper care and support for people who suffer from mental illness.

Cardinal Stafford said the special indulgences include the normal requirements set by the church for all plenary indulgences: that within a reasonably short period of time the person goes to confession, receives the Eucharist and prays for the intentions of the pope, all in a spirit of total detachment from the attraction of sin.

Special plenary indulgences, he said, would be given to those who fulfill the normal requirements in conjunction with participating "with devotion" in a sacred ceremony in the St. Francis Xavier Cathedral in Adelaide or "any other place established by ecclesial authorities" dedicated to celebrating World Day of the Sick.

Cardinal Stafford said Catholics who, "like good Samaritans," work to help those who are ill — especially the mentally ill — and will not be able to attend a World Day of the Sick ceremony because they will be on duty could still earn the indulgence.

On Feb. 11 they must "generously offer their loving assistance to the sick for at least a couple of hours," caring for them as they would care for Christ, he said.

They must also fulfill the normal requirements for an indulgence when they can, he added.

Catholics who because of illness or other serious reason cannot take part in a Feb. 11 ceremony could still earn the indulgence, he said, by "devotedly praying for ill people" and offering their illness and difficulties up to the Lord, all in a spirit of total detachment from the attraction of sin.

The faithful could receive a partial indulgence during Feb. 9-11 by praying "with a repentant heart" for aid to ill people.

The power of ponies



CNS PHOTO BY PAUL FINCH, CATHOLIC SUN

Franciscan Sister Eileen Derrick poses in early January in Fayetteville, N.Y., with her two ponies, Griffin (left), an 8-year-old Haflinger she has had for one year, and Laekur, an 18-year-old Icelandic she has owned for six years. Sister Eileen said interaction with animals puts people in touch with something beyond themselves, bringing a sense of calm and well-being into their lives.

NEW HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER A GRADUATE OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Newly elected House majority leader Rep. John Boehner, a Catholic, is graduate of Cincinnati-area Catholic schools and Jesuit-run Xavier University.

Boehner, 56, has represented Ohio's 8th District since 1990. Among his efforts in Congress have been backing a school voucher plan for the District of Columbia and supporting a private effort to get businesses to help support needy Catholic schools in Washington.

A profile of Boehner in Xavier Magazine, published by the university, described Boehner as "a foe of abortion and gay adoptions," who "says he's a practical conservative mainstream Republican."

Boehner's counterpart across the aisle, House minority leader Rep. Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., also is a Catholic. She became the first woman to lead either party in Congress when she was elected to the post in 2002.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Feb. 10 — 7:30 p.m.
Give Your Heart Away Weekend
Catholic College Students' Retreat
Belmont

Feb. 15 — 6:30 p.m.
RCIA class
St. Gabriel Church, Charlotte

Feb. 17 — 10:00 a.m.
Diocesan Finance Council Meeting
Pastoral Center, Charlotte

Feb. 21 — 5:00 p.m.
Mass for Tribunal Personnel of the Atlanta Province
St. Patrick Cathedral



COURTESY PHOTO

North Carolina Air National Guard's 145 Airlift Wing Honor Guard raise a flag at Holy Angels during a ceremony Jan. 30. The flag had flown over the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C., in December.

Stars and Stripes

American flag from Capitol flown at Holy Angels

BELMONT — A special American flag is flying atop the flagpole at Holy Angels, Inc. in Belmont.

The flag was flown over the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. in December.

Rep. Patrick McHenry, R-N.C. 10th District and a parishioner of St. Michael Church in Gastonia, secured the flag in honor of Holy Angels' 50th anniversary and the 50th birthday of Maria Morrow, Holy Angels' first resident.

The N.C. Air National Guard's 145th Airlift Wing Color Guard from Charlotte raised the flag at Holy Angels during an outdoor ceremony attended by Holy Angels residents, staff and community leaders Jan. 30.

"What an incredible honor to have received such a gift," said Regina Moody, Holy Angels president and CEO. "We are grateful to Rep. Patrick McHenry and his staff for securing this special American flag."

The Air National Guardsmen also raised a second flag bearing Holy Angels' 50th anniversary logo. Both flags will fly throughout the year.

Following the flag ceremony, residents and staff participated in a musical and a parade led by Morrow in her new customized golf car, a recent birthday gift. A ribbon-cutting ceremony of Holy Angels' new intermediate care facility was also a highlight of this day.

The ceremony, hosted by the Belmont Chamber of Commerce, re-opened the home, which underwent recent expansion to include an additional seven beds.

The events were the first of several to be held monthly at Holy Angels during its

50th anniversary year. In February, residents will begin moving into Moody Place, Holy Angels' newest children's home, which features an additional 15 beds.

Holy Angels was founded in 1956 by the Sisters of Mercy, beginning a much-needed specialized service for children and adults, some of whom are medically fragile with varying degrees of mental retardation and physical disabilities.

The 145th Airlift Wing's primary mission involves the delivery of supplies (food, medical, equipment), transport of troops and the evacuation of people in harm's way.



Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center

Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212

704-568-0023

www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma

Owner/Director

Privately, Locally Owned

Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

A hero in our midst

St. Gabriel parishioner semi-finalist for national honor

BY KAREN A. EVANS

STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — A parishioner of St. Gabriel Church in Charlotte may soon achieve national recognition for his humanitarian work in the Diocese of Charlotte and in his native country.

Wally Penilla, a native of Lopez, Quezon, Philippines, was nominated for the Filipino Hero in America award by the Filipino-American Community of the Carolinas in acknowledgment of his countless hours of service.

Over the past 10 years, Wally has served more than 30,000 meals work at the Uptown Men's Shelter in Charlotte and has inspired hundreds of like-minded volunteers.

In addition to his volunteer work in Charlotte, Penilla has coordinated fundraising for Answering the Call of the Poor (ANCOP), an organization that builds homes in the Philippines through its parent organization, Gawad Kalinga.

ANCOP provides housing for the "poorest of the poor" — the homeless, squatters and displaced persons — in the Philippines, Penilla said. The program is similar to Habitat for Humanity, in that the future homeowners must contribute man hours to the construction of their home.

Gawad Kalinga, which in English means, "to give care," is an alternative solution to the problem of poverty not just in the Philippines, but the world. Its approach is integrated, holistic and sustainable — a concrete action plan to rebuild the Philippines. ANCOP is the network of international organizations that supports the work of Gawad Kalinga.

So far, Penilla's fundraising efforts have resulted in enough money to build 30 houses — \$30,000. He has also spearheaded efforts to raise money to purchase computers for schools in the Philippines.

Penilla often takes groups of teenagers to the men's shelter to prepare and serve meals.

"The homeless shelter makes a difference for the kids who volunteer,"



COURTESY PHOTO

Wally Penilla sits with his wife, Merly (center) and the interviewer delegate from the Ugat Foundation in the Philippines.

Penilla said.

Penilla said the work the teenagers do the shelter is mutually beneficial. They help the poor of Charlotte, while at the same time their eyes are opened to the conditions in which others live. He said the children of immigrants are especially affected.

"They get a different perspective — it's a different kind of poverty than they experience," he said. "Their eyes are opened to see that they are blessed."

Penilla and his family came to the United States in 1978, and have lived in Charlotte for the past 20 years.

"We have to repay what we've received from this country," said Penilla. "My work is just a small way of contributing."

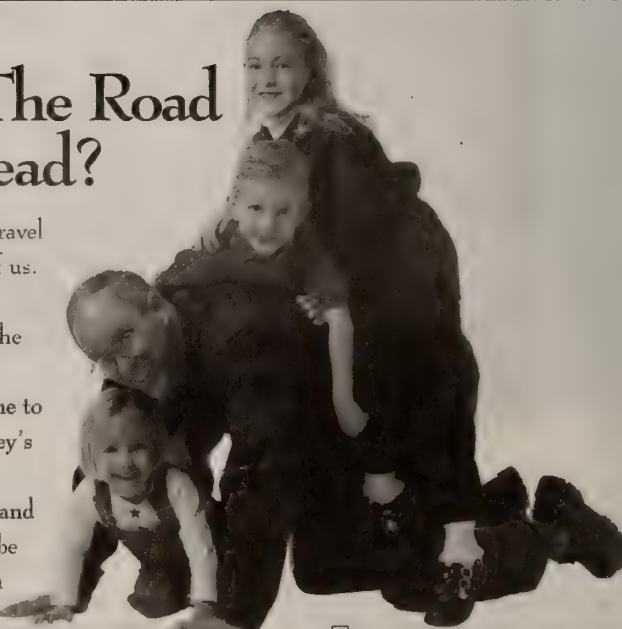
The Filipino Hero in America award is one of the Bayaning Pilipino Awards, which pay tribute to the values of humanitarianism, industry, determination and dedication to public service demonstrated by Filipino in the Philippines, Middle East and Asia-Pacific regions and the United States.

"I'm uncomfortable with the nomination," Penilla said. "There are lots of folks who do more than I do."

What's The Road Like Ahead?

The road we have to travel is different for each of us. The only certainty is that we all must end the journey some day.

If you take the time to prepare for that journey's end now, your family, favorite parish, school and diocesan ministry will be supported. A will is an essential part of that overall plan for your life's journey.



The Foundation
of the
Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte

To receive the free booklet "Better Estate Planning" contact Judy Smith, Director of Planned Giving, 704-370-3320; 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203. jsmith@charlottediocese.org.

'I LIKE HELPING IN GOD'S PRESENCE.'

Three with Down syndrome serve parish

SERVERS, from page 1

lives — working, going to school, participating in sports and worshipping in their church.

At a Sunday evening Mass in January, Kessler and Guthlein were the only two servers, assisting the newly assigned parochial vicar, Oblate Father Paul Dechant, at one of his first Masses at the parish.

Guthlein has been serving Mass at St. Paul the Apostle Church the past two years. Widman and Kessler have served at two Masses each, although Kessler also served at her church in Florida before moving to Greensboro with her parents.

"When Richard expressed interest (in becoming an altar server) and I asked for extra training for him, the parish was very supportive," Lynda Guthlein-Garguilo, Guthlein's sister said. "He is treated no differently than other servers."

"I like helping in God's presence," said Guthlein.

"I like to be with God and to help others," said Kessler about serving at the altar.

Kessler and Widman's parents and Guthlein's sister and brother-in-law all supported their family member's decision to become altar servers.

"Including Adam in our family has been easy, and having him be included in our community has been relatively easy," said Widman's father, Ed. "Having people in the parish develop expectations of him is where being an altar server is helping

him to be included (in the parish)."

Being altar servers isn't the only way these three special people are showing that Down syndrome isn't a roadblock to achieving their goals in life.

All three compete in the Special Olympics, and Kessler serves on the board of directors for Special Olympics North Carolina.

Kessler has competed in the Special Olympics since 1984, and has won several medals. Most recently, she took gold, silver and bronze medals in Alpine skiing events at the 2005 games in Nagano, Japan.

Widman attends Ragsdale High School in nearby Jamestown, where he serves as the Flying Tigers mascot during the football season.

Guthlein is a third-degree Knight of Columbus. He has been a member of the Knights of Columbus for the past four years.

Guthlein and Kessler also work part time at grocery stores in Greensboro.

The inherent value of all people, including those with disabilities, is an important pro-life issue in the Catholic Church.

Speaking at a 1989 international symposium on Down syndrome, Pope John Paul II criticized the "selective abortion" of handicapped children, declaring that the "search for genuine social progress" cannot ignore God's law.

The late pope praised scientists who continue to seek to understand Down syndrome despite a shortage of funds. He also lauded healthcare workers for helping people with Down syndrome to

"overcome the limitations brought on by their illness."

The families of people with Down syndrome particularly know their value, he added.

"You, more than anyone, know that, despite their handicaps, these children

are worthy of loving care, and readily give so much affection in return," said Pope John Paul II.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

French Catholic geneticist, Vatican appointee, one of discoverers of Down syndrome

Doctor also ardent defender of life

BY CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

PARIS — Dr. Jerome Lejeune, a French geneticist, was internationally known for his staunch support of pro-life causes. The Catholic physician and researcher was one of the three discoverers of the extra chromosome that causes Down syndrome.

Following his death in 1994, Pope John Paul II said Lejeune was "one of the ardent defenders of life, especially the life of unborn infants."

Lejeune had been a member of the papally appointed Pontifical Academy of Sciences since 1974. In March 1993, he was named president of the newly created Pontifical Academy for Life.

Lejeune was a strong opponent of abortion and unrestricted experimentation on human embryos. He advocated strong laws to strictly control the use of medical technology and experimentation on humans from the embryo stage onward.

In an interview in November 1993, he said the danger in medical technological advances is not progress but the attitude

of some doctors and scientists who think that technology has given them the power to create human beings and thus the power to create and destroy human life.

"We have human rights laws. Now we need laws on the right to be human," he said.

"Science cannot tell between good and evil," said Lejeune. Having the "extraordinary power of playing with tiny human beings or even with grown-ups" requires the need "to be told by authority what is good," he said.

Lejeune often criticized experiments on human embryos as unnecessary.

Claims that embryonic research would help solve problems such as Down syndrome, muscular dystrophy and hemophilia "were not based on science," he said in 1986.


To study such diseases, scientists would have to experiment on human fetuses, not embryos, he said. Lejeune said the term "embryo" applies to the first two months after conception and "fetus" applies to the remaining seven months of life "in utero," he said.

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

***** Now with 3 locations to serve you *****



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

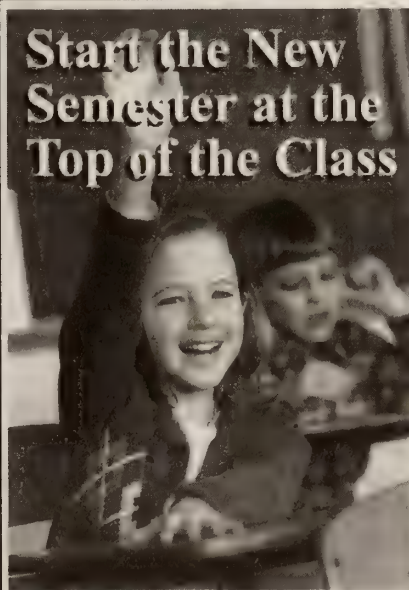
Visiting Angels. 

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooreville
704-663-1065

Start the New Semester at the Top of the Class



Felicia Susi, Owner/Director
Parishioner, St. Matthew Catholic Church
& Parent, St. Matthew Catholic School student

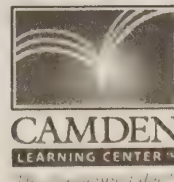
South Charlotte
(704) 752-4234
www.camdenlearningcenter.com

CAMDEN LEARNING CENTER™

is a personalized educational center offering specialized tutoring for all ages in:

Reading • Phonics
Written Language • Math
Study Skills
SAT/ACT Preparation

Let Camden help.



FIGHTING FOR LIFE

Bishop McGuinness students rally, march for life



COURTESY PHOTO

Students from Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville take part in the March for Life outside the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington, D.C., Jan. 23.

Thousands of youths attend pro-life events

BY ANTON VOROZHKO
SPECIAL TO
THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

WASHINGTON, D.C. — More than 130 students from Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville were among the estimated 25,000 young Catholics from across the nation gathered at the MCI Center for this year's Rally for Life and Youth Mass before the March for Life in Washington, D.C., Jan. 23.

The events are held to protest the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision legalizing abortion on demand.

"I went before being pro-life is a huge part of my faith, and my faith is a big part of who I am," said Jennifer Eklund, a Bishop McGuinness senior.

The March for Life "makes you think about how bad abortion is and it was amazing seeing all of the priests and religious," said freshman Sean Cary.

It was after a long procession of priests and bishops that Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick of Washington finally made it to the altar at the sports arena.

"Only when you have a national championship do you fill this hall with as many people as we have today," the cardinal said.

"And that makes sense because you are the champions of life."

The MCI Center was filled to capacity. Many youths and their chaperons were turned away, and so walked down the street to attend a Mass at St. Patrick's Church, which was also packed to capacity.

Cardinal McCarrick was joined at the altar by 100 priests and 21 of his fellow bishops, including Cardinal William H. Keeler of Baltimore, chairman of the bishops' pro-life committee; Cardinal Justin Rigali of Philadelphia, elected in November 2005 to become the committee's chairman this November; and Bishop Paul S. Loverde of Arlington, Va.

Ending the Mass, the cardinal echoed Pope Benedict XVI's words at his installation Mass last April: "The church is alive and the church is young."

After Mass, the young people walked from the sports arena to the Mall for the march.

Bishop McGuinness' campus ministry has taken students to the March for Life for the past five years. This year, 133 students made the pilgrimage to Washington.

The night before the march, the students joined more than 6,000 people many of them high school and college students — for the National Prayer Vigil for Life at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington.

The people filled every inch of the basilica's upper church, including the side chapels, and its lower Crypt Church. Closed-circuit televisions around the basilica beamed the Mass to those without a direct view of it.

The opening procession took about a half-hour, as did the recessional; the clergymen, walking two by two, were barely able to get through the crowd. Distribution of Communion took more than 30 minutes.

"We gather in this sacred space to bear witness yet again to the terrible cloud that has darkened our nation since the Supreme Court declared 33 years ago today that the life of a human being, a life created in God's image, may be ended before its birth," said Cardinal Keeler, the main celebrant and homilist.

"We come together to pray that this darkest of clouds might at last be lifted. We come together again to pray for the

Roe Reality Check

BELOW ARE MORE MYTHS VS. REALITIES REGARDING ROE V. WADE AND ABORTION, TAKEN FROM "ROE REALITY CHECK" ON THE U.S. BISHOPS' WEB SITE, WWW.USCCB.ORG.

Myth: "High Court rules abortions legal the first three months."

Fact: Abortion is legal through all nine months of pregnancy.

Despite the Jan. 23, 1973 claim by the New York Times that Roe v. Wade made abortion in the first three months of pregnancy legal, the Supreme Court ruled in Roe v. Wade that abortion may not be restricted at all in the first trimester. In the second trimester abortion may be regulated only for the mother's health.

After "viability," abortion may be prohibited except where necessary to preserve the mother's health.

Roe's companion case, Doe v. Bolton, defined maternal "health" as: "all factors — physical, emotional, psychological, familial, and the woman's age — relevant to the well-being of the patient."

Thus, abortion is legal and cannot be prohibited in the seventh, eighth or ninth months of pregnancy if any of these reasons is invoked.

"[N]o significant legal barriers of any kind whatsoever exist today in the United States for a woman to obtain an abortion for any reason during any stage of her pregnancy." (S. Rep. No. 98-149, at 6 (1983)).

Myth: Most Americans favor abortion.
Fact: Most Americans actually oppose it.

A recent Harris Interactive poll states 52% of Americans favor Roe v. Wade and 47% oppose it. But the poll describes Roe as "the U.S. Supreme Court decision making abortions up to three months of pregnancy legal."

That's wrong. The fact is, Roe made abortion legal through all 9 months of pregnancy.

In the same poll, 72% of Americans said abortion should be illegal in the second three months of pregnancy; 86% said it should be illegal in the last three months.

Even support for abortion in the first three months is open to question. In a 2004 Zogby International poll, 61% of Americans said abortion should not be permitted after the fetal heartbeat has begun. This occurs in the first month.

So why do 52% of Americans say they favor Roe v. Wade? Because they don't really know what Roe did.

triumph of life," he said.

Anton Vorozhko is assistant campus minister at Bishop McGuinness.

Catholic News Service contributed to this story.

WALK WHERE JESUS WALKED ON A DIOCESAN-SPONSORED PILGRIMAGE TO

THE HOLY LAND

September 5 – 14

with Fr. James Hawker, Diocesan Vicar
of Education and Pastor, St. Luke Church

Deepen your understanding of our Catholic faith and watch the pages of the Bible come alive as you experience daily Mass at many of the historical sites of our faith.

Highlights include:

- Tiberias, Mt. Carmel, Sea of Galilee area
- Mt. Tabor, Cana, Nazareth — Jesus' boyhood area
- Capernaum, Mount of Beatitudes, River Jordan
- Jerusalem area: Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Via Dolorosa, Lord's Tomb at Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Mount Zion, Upper Room, Dormition Abbey, Wailing Wall
- Dead Sea (excavations and scrolls), Masada, Holocaust memorial
- Bethlehem's historic sites — PLUS much more!

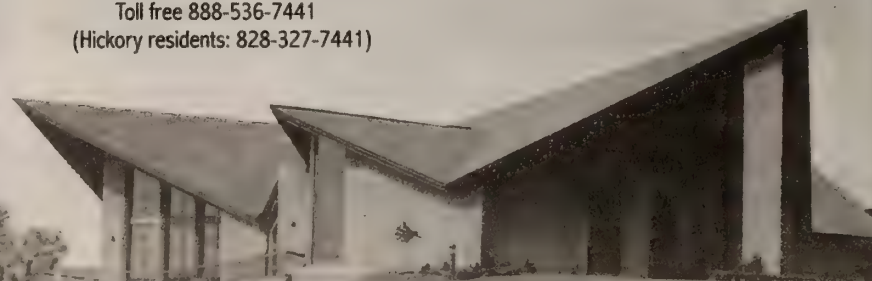


Price: \$2,499 from Charlotte (\$2,599 after June 22) includes airfare, most meals, first-class hotels and all tours. Airport taxes/fees, tips and insurance are extra.

Call Cindi Feerick at 704/370-3332 for a brochure with complete details or Pentecost Tours 800/713-9800 for registration.

Peace, Tranquility A Place Apart...

Toll free 888-536-7441
(Hickory residents: 828-327-7441)



**The Catholic
Conference
Center**

Check out our website
www.catholicconference.org
info@catholicconference.org

You've heard about our attributes,
but have you experienced them?

Call the Catholic Conference Center
today and get in on what you're missing!

Diocesan, national schools celebrate Catholic Schools Week

SCHOOLS, from page 1

Diocese of Charlotte.

"The theme was celebrated and lived throughout our 18 schools in a variety of events," said Linda Cherry, superintendent of diocesan Catholic schools.

Events included student appreciation days, volunteer appreciation days, special Masses, guest speakers and community outreach activities.

"From the all-MACS (Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools) family Mass at St. Matthew Church in Charlotte, to eucharistic adoration at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville to the delivery of breakfast to fire and police departments by students at Immaculate Heart of Mary School in High Point, something memorable happened at every school," said Cherry.

This year-round program is a collaborative undertaking by the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

Dominican Sister Glenn Anne McPhee, secretary for education at USCCB, said the theme of "Character. Compassion. Values" reinforces concepts that are part and parcel of every Catholic school.

"Schools live by and pass on values; they develop character and show compassion for every student," she said.

Many Catholic schools in the Gulf region suffered serious damage in the hurricanes, said Karen Ristau, NCEA president.

"True to their (school) character, most of them have reopened," she said. "Other students across the nation contributed more than \$1 million in a child-to-child relief effort, demonstrating that their compassion and values are enduring."

Several Catholic schools in the Diocese of Charlotte accepted more than 30 students displaced by the hurricanes.

"The values instilled by parents as the first educators of their children in the faith are re-enforced in our Catholic schools," said Cherry. "The compassion for others — within their own classrooms, schools, local communities and the world — has been shown, most recently through the schools' outreach to the families displaced by Hurricane Katrina."

"The character of each school is reflected in the character exhibited by the students who attend and the parents who support it, as well as the teachers, administrators and staff members," she said.

National Appreciation Day was established to encourage supporters nationwide to showcase the great accomplishments and contributions of Catholic schools to the country.

That day in Washington, a delegation of more than 150 Catholic school students, teachers and parents visited Capitol Hill to meet with congressional leaders to promote Catholic schools.

As part of their marathon day, they hand-delivered letters from chief administrators of Catholic education to their representatives and provide background information on Catholic schools to every congressional office.

Daniel Curtin, executive director of NCEA's Chief Administrators of Catholic Education, said distributing letters from superintendents gives Catholic leaders an opportunity to tell Congress about the Catholic schools in their communities.

"Many of our superintendents use this initiative as a timely reminder to reach congressional leaders directly with a united message about our priorities for Catholic education," he said.

Some of those letters were written by principals, parents and students in the Diocese of Charlotte, as



COURTESY PHOTO BY MIKE FORD

Bishop Peter J. Jugis greets students from St. Matthew School at the all-Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools Mass at St. Matthew Church in Charlotte Jan. 29. Students and parents from the eight MACS schools were invited to attend, with students from each school serving as lectors, extraordinary ministers of holy Communion and choir members.

well as by Cherry.

"All of our letters were hand-delivered to our Congressional representatives by someone from NCEA on that day," said Cherry.

NCEA is the largest private, professional education association in the world. Founded in 1904, the association's membership represents more than 200,000 educators serving 7.6 million students at all levels of Catholic education.

USCCB is the national public policy organization of the bishops in the United States.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on Catholic schools in the Diocese of Charlotte, visit www.charlottediocese.org/catholicschools.html.



AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles
Licensed & Insured
FREE ESTIMATES
www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185



Making your will?

Request a free Wills Kit from Catholic Relief Services.

It will help you practice good stewardship and create a lasting legacy to help the poor overseas.

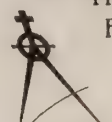
1-800-235-2772 ext.7318

Charting the Future

National Catholic
Educational Association
103rd Annual NCEA
Convention & Exposition
Atlanta, GA
April 18-21, 2006

Over 400 educational sessions,
700 exhibit booths, daily liturgies,
and special events

For information contact:
NCEA Convention Office
1077 30th Street, NW, Suite 100
Washington, DC 20007-3852
Phone (202) 337-6232
Fax (202) 333-6706
www.ncea.org



Charting the Future
in Challenging Times

in
Challenging
Times



Keeping dreams alive



PHOTO BY CAROLE MCGROTTY

Mayor Terry Bellamy of Asheville talks to students about following their dreams at Asheville Catholic School Jan. 30 as part of the Catholic Schools Week celebration.

Asheville mayor relays good advice to students

BY CAROLE MCGROTTY
CORRESPONDENT

ASHEVILLE — Never give up on your dreams.

That was the message given to Catholic students by Terry Bellamy, Asheville's first female African American mayor.

Bellamy visited Asheville Catholic School Jan. 30 as part of the Catholic Schools Week celebration. Other guest speakers included representatives of outreach programs served by the students throughout the year.

Against a backdrop of students' pictures portraying their lives and experiences at Asheville Catholic, Bellamy spoke about her own dream of becoming mayor.

"Nothing beats a 'can't' but a 'try,'" she said. "I believed it was my destiny to be mayor."

She encouraged students to keep journals, recalling how she kept one when she ran for mayor while serving as the youngest, and only African-American, member on Asheville's city council. Using Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "What is Your Life's Blueprints?" speech as a guide, Bellamy said her journal detailed her positive and negative aspects.

"What do you want to do with yourself? How will you get there?" she asked the students.

On her desk, she said, is a sign that simply reads, "Dream."

She recalled how two teachers and a counselor were her "meanest" supporters, always encouraging her to do better.

They "wouldn't let me sleep in class" and "were hard on me and didn't accept excuses," she said.

Teachers, said Bellamy, should do all they can to encourage and inspire students, noting she does not remember her teachers who were lenient.

After the speakers, students watched a slideshow depicting a year in the life of Asheville Catholic School. The student outreach program includes visiting with and making cards for local nursing home residents and helping out in area schools.

Other activities to celebrate Catholic Schools Week included a middle school science fair; a student-teacher appreciation day; a volunteer appreciation day; and a Mass celebrated by Msgr. Mauricio W. West, vicar general and vice chancellor, and concelebrated by Father John Schneider, pastor of St. Eugene Church in Asheville.

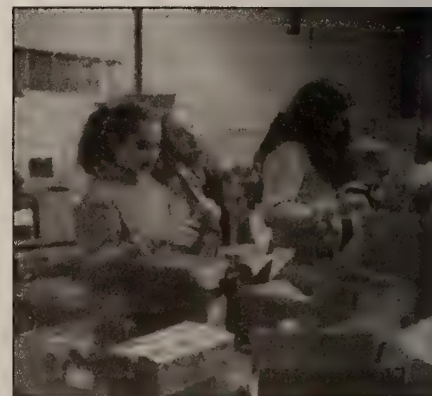
Diocesan Catholic schools celebrate



COURTESY PHOTO

First-grader Julia Winters and fourth-grader Olivia Herschel of Immaculate Heart of Mary School give a handmade rosary to a resident of Maryfield Nursing Home in High Point. The outreach was part of the Catholic Schools Week celebration, which included delivering baked goods to local police and fire departments, writing letters to U.S. soldiers overseas and creating Valentine's Day cards for Catholic school students affected by Hurricane Katrina in Mississippi.

Middle school students at Our Lady of Mercy School in Winston-Salem sort boxes at Second Harvest Food Bank Feb. 8, one of the school's community service projects during Catholic Schools Week. Other projects included volunteer work at Habitat for Humanity Restore and Ronald McDonald House.



COURTESY PHOTO

**Join Monsignor Renken and other Roman Catholics
on this Holland America Line Special!**

Mexican Riviera Cruise

12 Days starting at **\$899***

*This will be Monsignor Renken's third cruise as YMT's Catholic Chaplain.
He is co-pastor for six parishes in the Diocese of Springfield, Illinois.*

DAILY MASS ABOARD SHIP!

On October 12, 2006, board your 5-STAR deluxe cruise ship the *ms Ryndam*. There are fewer guests aboard, dazzling shows, daily tea at "tea time," spa with heavenly massages, facials or pedicures, and wine tasting. Fresh flowers, over a million dollars worth of art and classy décor create an elegant ambiance throughout the *Ryndam*. HAL's *Signature of Excellence* focuses on spacious, elegant ships and accommodations; sophisticated five-star dining; gracious, unobtrusive service; and extensive enrichment programs and activities aboard ship. Sail for three days along the Mexican Riviera to **Acapulco** (famous for the 'high-divers'); **Zihuatanejo** (a tranquil fishing village); **Puerto Vallarta** (the quintessential resort overflowing with the charm of Old Mexico); **Mazatlan** (with a massive city market and the historic colonial villages of Sierra Madres); and **Cabo San Lucas** (one of the most popular sun-drenched vacation spots in Mexico). Fly home October 23. *Prices (per person, double occupancy) start at only \$899 for inside staterooms, \$1199 for outside ocean view staterooms, and \$1899 for larger outside staterooms with private balcony. Add \$299 port/taxes/gov't. fees/service charges. Add \$500 round trip airfare from Charlotte.

\$100 deposits are now due. Family and friends are welcome.

**For information, reservations, letter from Monsignor Renken
with his phone number, and brochure call 7 days a week:**

'YOUR MAN' TOURS 1-800-968-7626

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



**BIG BOOK SALE NOW
at the Monroe Road location!**

- Unique gifts & cards
- Books, rosaries, medals
- Previously read book section
(at Lake Norman)
- Video rentals
- Artwork

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

Character. Compassion. Values'



COURTESY PHOTOS

Above: Father Paul Gary, rector of St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte, blesses students' throats at St. Patrick School on the feast of St. Blaise Feb. 3 during Catholic Schools Week. The blessing is carried out in churches on the feast of St. Blaise, a fourth-century bishop who, according to legend, saved the life of a boy who had a fishbone lodged in his throat.

Below: Father John Putnam, pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Salisbury, teaches third-grade religion class at Sacred Heart School Jan. 30 during Catholic Schools Week. That day's lesson introduced students to Jesus' Jewish heritage by celebrating a traditional Seder meal.



Juniors Rachel Chung and Deanna Zeitouni join freshman Zack King on "the Rock" at Charlotte Catholic High School during Catholic Schools Week. The Rock has become a symbol for student expression and is often painted to reflect birthdays and other celebrations.



COURTESY PHOTO BY ALEXA PONTON

Leading 'vertical lives'



COURTESY PHOTO

Father Antoine Thomas leads students in eucharistic adoration in the chapel at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville Feb. 3.

Eucharistic adoration, prayer stressed by priest

KERNERSVILLE — Spending time before the Blessed Sacrament is a crucial part of a student's life.

Father Antoine Thomas, a priest of the Community of St. John in Peoria, Ill., relayed that message at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville Feb. 3. Father Thomas' visit was part of the Catholic Schools Week celebration.

Father Thomas, founder of Children of Hope, a children's eucharistic adoration program being implemented in parishes around the country, was a featured speaker at the Diocese of Charlotte's first Eucharistic Congress in September 2005.

During Mass, Father Thomas urged the students to make and spend time

before the Blessed Sacrament and pray, regardless of how busy their lives may get. He challenged them to lead "vertical lives" — lives that will lead them to heaven.

After Mass, Father Thomas led groups of students in eucharistic adoration, spending time in silence and prayer in the school chapel.

"This day was truly a celebration of our faith and of the treasure that Catholic schools are," said Anton Vorozhko, assistant campus minister.

"Experiences like these are the ones that allow our youths to see that there is more to life than what our culture offers, that they were created for the glory of heaven," said Vorozhko.



COURTESY PHOTO

Students at St. Ann School in Charlotte show off their multicolored hairstyles during "Crazy Sock and Crazy Hair Day" Feb. 2, a day devoted to celebrating character, differences and tolerance during Catholic Schools Week. Several speakers also visited the school to discuss diversity.

The **Catholic Company**™

LOOK!

Catholic Gift Shop in South Charlotte!

Now open at St. Matthew Catholic Church • New Life Center – Rm. 104
Corner of Rea Rd. and Ballantyne Commons Parkway

Hours:
Monday-Friday 9-3
Sunday 10-2

704-927-4313
(Call for info or directions)

Bring in this ad for 15% off
your purchase.

(Not valid on "sale" items.)

Exp. 2/28/06

Pilgrimage to Poland – Remembering JPII

June 8, 2006 – 10 days, 14 meals

Warsaw, Czestochowa, Krakow, Auschwitz,
Divine Mercy Shrine, Wadowice & more.



Airfare, hotels & transfers included. \$2,789 per person (double) from Columbia, SC.
Call Fr. Andrew Vollkommer, Our Lady of the Lake, for brochure: 803-345-3962.

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Parodying a prophet

Vatican says freedom of expression does not mean offending religions

BY JOHN THAVIS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — The Vatican, commenting on a series of satirical newspaper cartoons that have outraged Muslims, said freedom of expression does not include the right to offend religious sentiments.

At the same time, the Vatican said, violent reactions are equally deplorable.

"Intolerance — wherever it comes from, whether real or verbal, action or reaction — always constitutes a serious threat to peace," Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said Feb. 4.

The cartoons, which make fun of the prophet Mohammed, were first published in a Danish newspaper last fall and have recently been reprinted in several European papers.

Islamic anger has grown, along with popular demonstrations. In early February protesting Muslims burned or vandalized Western embassy buildings in Indonesia, Syria and Lebanon.

The Vatican statement said "freedom of thought or expression ... cannot imply a right to offend the religious sentiments of believers," no matter what the religion.

Certain forms of ridicule or extreme criticism can constitute an "unacceptable provocation," the Vatican said.

It said governments and their institutions cannot be held responsible for the offensive actions of an individual or a newspaper. Violent protests never reflect "the true spirit of any religion," it said.

The Vatican suggested, however, that where free speech crosses the line and becomes offensive to a religion, national authorities "can and should" intervene.

The cartoons are considered blasphemous because Islam does not allow depictions of Mohammed, and they show Mohammed in a number of disrespectful ways. One cartoon, for example, shows Mohammed in a turban shaped as a bomb.

In separate statements, two Vatican officials also denounced the cartoons.

Archbishop Michael Fitzgerald, president of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue, said the ongoing demonstrations show how deeply Muslims have been offended.

"This is very important for them and therefore cannot be the object of derision or ridicule," he said.

The archbishop added that violent reactions to such offenses are not justified.

Cardinal Achille Silvestrini, a leader in the Vatican's diplomatic service, said the cartoons demonstrated a growing trend to make fun of religious symbols.

"Freedom of satire that offends the sentiments of others becomes an abuse — and in this case it has affected the sentiments of entire populations in their highest symbols," he said.

The cardinal said Christianity has similar sensitivities.

"One can understand satire about a priest but not about God. With reference to Islam, we could understand satire on the uses and customs and behavior, but not about the Quran, Allah and the Prophet," he said.

The cardinal said secular societies should not assume a right to offend religious sentiments. He noted that many countries consider it illegal to offend their national flag and asked, "Shouldn't we consider religious symbols on an equal level with the symbols of secular institutions?"

Msgr. Aldo Giordano, general secretary of the Council of European Bishops' Conferences, said this type of satire was a type of vulgarity that goes against human rights. But he said it was important not to overreact and "not make it an occasion for a clash of civilizations."

"We should be able to transform offenses in an occasion of greater solidarity," he said.

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: FEB. 19, 2006

Feb. 19, Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Isaiah 43:18-19, 21-22, 24b-25
Psalm 41:2-3, 4-5, 13-14
- 2) 2 Corinthians 1:18-22
- 3) Gospel: Mark 2:1-12

God's message of love, forgiveness holds true

BY BEVERLY CORZINE
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

If you were going to be shipwrecked on a desert island, what three books would you take with you?

In various games and interviews a participant must answer this familiar question. Of course, there are thousands of possibilities; however, one of the three most popular selections is the Bible.

I never have forgotten one person's reply in an interview I attended. When questioned about his choice, he answered: "I'd never be bored with the Bible. I'd discover something new each time I read it. The greatest stories of human failure and forgiveness are in it."

Fortunately, most of us have never been condemned to live on the proverbial deserted island with our chosen books. However, the messages of God's grace and forgiveness that wait between the

covers of the Bible have the power to do more than entertain or inform us.

The living words of God have the power to sustain and heal in the realms of modern culture as well as they did in the ancient world.

Our first reading from the prophet Isaiah was composed more than 2,600 years ago and recounts times when God's people broke their covenant relationship with God with some regularity. Each broken relationship Isaiah enumerates in this reading ended in suffering and destruction.

Nevertheless, among the turmoil of broken promises a faithful remnant of believers endured and did not lose sight of the God who had called them.

When Isaiah begins his passage with "thus says the Lord," we know it is a cue to pay particular attention to the message. The Lord's communication is a surprising one. It is not a communique of retribution filled with hell-fire and damnation, but a command that urges God's people to leave the past in the past and accept the bountiful, unmerited gift of forgiveness.

On this new day, the Lord is wiping the slate clean and asking the people to remember not the long ago, but to embrace the fact that God is doing something new.

The days of Isaiah the prophet are long past; however, when we hear the Gospel proclaimed and celebrate the Eucharist, we encounter the ultimate gift of reconciliation, forgiveness and love: Jesus.

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF FEB. 12-18

Sunday (Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46, 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1, Mark 1:40-45; Monday, James 1:1-11, Mark 8:11-13; Tuesday (Sts. Cyril and Methodius), James 1:12-18, Mark 8:14-21; Wednesday, James 1:19-27, Mark 8:22-26; Thursday, James 2:1-9, Mark 8:27-33; Friday (Seven Servite Founders), James 2:14-24, 26, Mark 8:34-9:1; Saturday, James 3:1-10, Mark 9:2-13.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF FEB. 19-25

Sunday (Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time), Isaiah 43:18-19, 21-22, 24-25, 2 Corinthians 1:18-22, Mark 2:1-12; Monday, James 3:13-18, Mark 9:14-29; Tuesday (St. Peter Damian), James 4:1-10, Mark 9:30-37; Wednesday (The Chair of Peter), 1 Peter 5:1-4, Matthew 16:13-19; Thursday (St. Polycarp), James 5:1-6, Mark 9:41-50; Friday, James 5:9-12, Mark 10:1-12; Saturday, James 5:13-20, Mark 10:13-16.

NEW COVENANT BOOKSTORE

- Books
- Cards
- Videos
- Jewelry
-and more!

336-760-1673

304 Upton St.,
Winston-Salem, NC
www.newcovenantbookstore.com

30 YEARS EXPERIENCE



ALICE & THE PYANO MAN

Henry C. Rozell III

2nd Generation

Piano Tuner/Technician

Piano Tuning, Repairs, Refinishing

Pianos Bought and Sold

FREE ESTIMATES

704-321-5843

Cell: 704-562-5394

Featuring Blue Diamond Exclusively



Malak Jewelers

At the Arboretum (St. Matthew parishioners)

We extend to you the very finest in Jewelry and Service...

Largest Selection - Best Quality & Prices Guaranteed

Certified Loose Diamonds

Platinum, Gold, Fine Jewelry

Sterling silver and watches

Estate Jewelry - Buy & Sell

26 years of Integrity and Experience!

(704) 341-1188 www.malakjewelers.com

8042-800 Providence Rd., Charlotte



Now featuring special
sterling silver medallion
of Pope John Paul II -
complimentary with
purchases over \$50
(one per purchase)



Construction has begun and we're on our way!

It's a new year, full of resolution and hope for the future. It's also a new beginning at Pennybyrn at Maryfield, for you and your retirement future. Construction has started on what will be the area's most sought-after retirement address. Don't hesitate to inquire about this enriching lifestyle offering unparalleled services and amenities as well as the security of on-site health care. Soon, Pennybyrn will be a reality—a new beginning for you and your retirement future—act now!

Call (336) 886-4103 or toll-free (866) 627-9343 to learn more about the exciting developments at Pennybyrn at Maryfield.

PENNYBYRN
at MARYFIELD
A Continuing Care Retirement Community

Sponsored by the Sisters of The Poor Servants of The Mother of God

1315 Greensboro Road, High Point, NC 27260
www.maryfieldliving.org



NP/CNH-Groundbreaking

Portraying a saint

'Bernadette' star promotes film's sequel as it debuts in U.S.

BY MARK PATTISON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Soap opera fans may know Sydney Penny from her current role as Julia on the ABC soap opera "All My Children," her two-year stint on the CBS soap "The Bold and the Beautiful" that ended last year, or a couple of other daytime dramas.

But a small — and, in the hopes of promoters, growing — group of film fans think of her most fondly from a pair of movies that never got a theatrical release in the United States.

Penny, 34, played St. Bernadette in the French-language film "Bernadette" released in 1988. The film was finally issued stateside last year, but only on a direct-to-video basis.

She also starred as the saint a year later in a sequel, known in English as "The Passion of Bernadette." Like "Bernadette," it is not being released in theaters, but Ignatius Press, which is distributing both films, has lined up church screenings beginning in February for "The Passion of Bernadette."

A screening will be held at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Morganton Feb. 11.

And Penny, when on breaks from the "All My Children" taping schedule, is helping promote the movie.

"The Passion of Bernadette" is "a buried treasure because it was only in French," Penny said. "The distributors were shaky: It's a slice of life of an iconic religious figure. They wondered whether there would be an appeal to a larger audience."

To Penny, the answer is yes.

"(It's) not just (for) Catholics or people who specifically grew up with Bernadette or had her story in their consciousness," she said. "It's a story about a woman a much wider audience can appreciate. It really is an interesting story to me. It gives the final portrait — a fuller portrait — of her life."

The original "Bernadette" focused on the saint's early life.

"I think that when they had the first film (finished) that Jean Delannoy (the director and co-writer) had wanted to make a sequel," said Penny, who is a Protestant. "He was much more passionate about her life in the convent, but the first film had to be made to pave the way for the second film."

"He was so extremely passionate about telling the story is why the film got made in the first place," she said.

According to Penny, the films are



CNS PHOTO BY IGNATIUS PRESS

Sydney Penny portrays Sister Marie Bernard in "The Passion of Bernadette."

still popular in some sections of France, where they were filmed.

"These have had two separate lives. They were released in Europe, and in the case of the first film, it's played all the time in Lourdes and also comes on television, always on Easter time," she said.

With more than a dozen acting credits on her resume, why promote a film made in the 1980s?

"I'm really pleased and curious to see people's responses, and it allows me to be part of a community that this means something to ... and I'm not referring to my work in particular, but the coming together of audience and director and actress and crew to see the fruition of what we've done," she said.

Penny will go to Wilmington, N.C., to do a personal appearance at St. Mary Church when "The Passion of Bernadette" has a screening there.

"I'm really fond of the town," she said. "I own a house there, so I spend a lot of time there when I'm not working. I've done a film there. I was queen of the azalea festival one year!"

Although in the first year of a three-year contract to star on "All My Children," Penny had time to film "Hidden Places," a Depression-era, romantic drama playing on cable's Hallmark Channel.

"It's a very lovely film, great for family viewing and all age ranges," Penny said. "You could watch it with your grandma and your 4-year-old daughter."

WANT TO WATCH?

"The Passion of Bernadette" will be shown at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Morganton at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Feb. 11. Call (828) 437-3108 for more info.

Valentine Dance for Singles, Couples and All Ages!



-featuring big band sound of Frank Love Orchestra
Special presentation: Professional Ballroom Dance Exhibition

Saturday, February 18 8 - 11 pm

Holy Spirit Parish Center - 537 North Highway 16, Denver

\$15 includes snacks and soft drinks

Sponsored by K of C Council 10389 Tickets: 704-483-5849 or 704-483-6448



Creators of the new stained-glass image of Our Mother of Good Counsel, which hangs in the window of Living Waters Chapel now renamed Chapel of Our Mother of Good Counsel in Maggie Valley, are (from left) Ron Van Dyck, Terri Van Dyck, and Al Triunfo, with wife, Blanche.

Refurbished chapel features unique art

CHAPEL, from page 1

Catholic Reflection Center, now named the Chapel of Our Mother of Good Counsel.

"Mary is honored under many names," Augustinian Father Francis J. Doyle said. "We Augustinians honor her especially as Our Mother of Good Counsel because she is the mother of Jesus, who is our good counsel."

Father Doyle, pastor of St. Margaret of Scotland Church and a staff member at Living Waters in Maggie Valley, spoke to parishioners assembled at Living Waters, adjacent to the church, for the naming ceremony Jan. 29.

"It's very appropriate that here at the reflection center, where people come for wisdom and counseling, we name the chapel for Our Mother of Good Counsel," he said.

Revealing history

Jan. 29 was chosen for the naming to coincide with the anniversary of Pope John XXIII's announcing the Second Vatican Council on Jan. 25, 1959. The pope prayed at the shrine of Our Mother of Good Counsel in Genazzano, Italy, in August 1959 that Mary would guide the Catholic Church's renewal.

That church, originally called St.

Mary of Good Counsel, was in ruins when Augustinian friars undertook its care and restoration in 1356. The image, known today as Our Mother of Good Counsel, was part of a larger fresco, probably painted between 1417 and 1431.

At some point the fresco was covered with plaster. Over it hung a terracotta figure of Our Mother of Good Counsel.

The friars began restoring the church in 1467. Soon the original image reappeared. A stone ledge being inserted into the wall cracked the plaster and revealed Fabriano's fresco, which was soon known as Our Mother of Good Counsel.

According to information from the Augustinians:

"One striking aspect of the fresco ... is that the upper portion of the image is separated from the wall so that much of the fresco is just a thin sheet of plaster. Yet the image of Our [Mother] of Good Counsel has survived for centuries in this precarious state, through the rebuilding of the main walls of the church, through a number of earthquakes, and even through the aerial bombardment of Genazzano during World War II."

Recapturing the image

Living Waters' stained-glass panel, created by St. Margaret of Scotland parishioners Al Triunfo and Ron and Terri Van Dyck, is based on early images of Our Mother of Good Counsel, with

one difference: mountains.

"In all the pictures there was no background," Terri Van Dyck said. "So I asked Father (Doyle) if it would be OK to put mountains in the background because we live in the mountains."

Triunfo cut the stained glass shapes: purple and green for mountains and trees, blue for sky, blue and red for Mary's mantle and gown, white for Jesus' infant dress, gold and amber for halos.

Terri Van Dyck, a professional porcelain and stained-glass artist, painted the faces and hands, then fired the pieces in her kiln to fuse the paint to the glass.

Triunfo and Van Dyck worked together to assemble the glass pieces; Ron Van Dyck built the frame.

Although Triunfo has worked with stained glass most of his life, this project "was different," he said. "I was able to put her (Terri's) artistic abilities with my craft."

And making the image "meant a lot to me," Terri Van Dyck added. "I've always had a deep devotion to Mary. I would talk to her: 'Mother Mary, this is in honor of you. Please help Al and me to do this in honor of you.'"

Enhanced surroundings

Hanging the panel completed the chapel's refurbishment. Improvements include new carpet donated by the Augustinian Province of St. Thomas of Villanova, to which three of the Augustinians in Haywood County belong.

The chapel's new altar and other marble furnishings came from St. Margaret of Scotland Church.

Like Petruccia, who so many years ago helped to restore the church in

Genazzano, St. Margaret of Scotland parishioners have helped to improve their church and Living Waters. Capital improvements at Living Waters, including new carpet in the conference room, are the result of contributions by individuals, both Catholic and non-Catholic, and through the stewardship of other parishes in the diocese.

Several years ago, Ron Van Dyck created St. Margaret of Scotland Church's blond oak baptismal font in memory of his youngest son, Barry. Over the next couple of years, parishioners donated materials for other oak church furnishings, including the ambo, paschal-candle holder, tabernacle surround, and the corbel to hold the sanctuary lamp.

The original marble altar remained.

With more parishioner donations, Ron Van Dyck created a new oak altar. Scott Roy of a nearby tile and stone company cut the center of the marble altar and inlaid the pieces in the oak altar. He fit the two remaining pieces of the altar top together and placed the new top back on the marble supports, now in the Living Waters chapel.

Roy, who is not Catholic, donated all labor for both projects.

The marble corbel that once held St. Margaret of Scotland Church's tabernacle now supports the chapel's tabernacle. The chapel's sanctuary lamp rests on its new shelf, formerly one of two holy water fonts in St. Margaret of Scotland Church.

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail jnell@dnet.net.

Archdiocese of Atlanta CATHOLIC SCHOOLS JOB FAIR

March 4, 2006

10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Cathedral of Christ the King
2699 Peachtree Road NE
Atlanta, GA 30305

www.christking.org

- ◆ Faith Based Education
- ◆ SACS Accredited Schools
- ◆ Competitive Salaries & Benefits
- ◆ Strong Parental Support
- ◆ Teaching Positions in Grades Pre-K - 12
- ◆ Qualified candidates should bring multiple copies of resumes ◆

Classifieds

FOR RENT

NEW LAKE LURE CABIN: Stay while touring the HGTV Dream Home! 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished. Off-season rates. 828-299-3714

Classified ads bring results! Over 125,000 readers! Over 49,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.



PART-TIME SECRETARY DIOCESAN PASTORAL CENTER

The Office of Development has an opening for a part-time secretary. The successful candidate must be a high school graduate who is computer literate with experience in Microsoft Office programs. Knowledge of Raiser's Edge by Blackbaud is helpful, but not required.

Responsibilities include standard office tasks such as data entry and database management, word processing, fielding phone calls, copying/collating, etc. This is a part-time position for 21 hours a week.

Please submit resume by March 1, 2006 to Barbara Gaddy, Office of Development, 1123 South Church Street, Charlotte, NC 28203 or bagaddy@charlottediocese.org.

Catechists explore mystagogy

RCIA, from page 1

mysteries of the faith that follows reception into the church.

"Mystagogy is meant to deepen the experience of initiation after the Easter Vigil," said Dr. Cris Villapando, director

of programs for the diocesan Office of Faith Formation, which oversees the RCIA, and a member of the Diocesan Commission on the RCIA.

Father Varga, who holds a master's degree in theology and a doctorate in ministry from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., serves as chairman of the liturgical commission

for the Diocese of Bridgeport.

"Perhaps the most valuable lesson I learned today from Father Andrew Varga is that the task of the RCIA is not merely 'preparation to the font' but 'through the font,'" said Michelle Calascione, the new parish catechetical leader and RCIA coordinator for St William Church in Murphy.

Mystagogy is often interpreted by many initiation ministers to end on Pentecost, the feast commemorating the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles, which marked the start of the church's mission on earth.

The feast is observed on the seventh Sunday after Easter.

Father Varga explained that a 50-day period of mystagogy is not the vision of the rite because the four major tasks of mystagogy cannot be accomplished in 50 days, nor "calendared" into one school year.

The tasks of deepening one's grasp of the paschal mystery — making the Gospel part of one's life through meditation, sharing in the Eucharist and performing works of charity — are life-long tasks, he said.

As such, he said, the theme of mystagogy is neither the end of the RCIA process nor the end of the catechumen's journey.

Father Varga likened the passion of a catechumen — someone undergoing the formation process — to reach the end of mystagogy to that of a racehorse bolting toward the finish line. The "mystagogues" demonstrate that same eagerness to dart into the world, proclaiming the mission of Jesus Christ, he said.

"The significance of mystagogy for

me is its power of conversion," said Villapando. "A momentous decision was made for Christ, and the community has to assist the neophyte (newly baptized) in the new life of discipleship. This discipleship involves prayer rooted in the Word, sacraments and charity."

There are two other common pitfalls that plague the proper implementation of mystagogy, said Father Varga.

The first is the "graduation mentality," analogous to what happens to people who finish their confirmation. The second is overeagerness on the part of RCIA coordinators to "sign up the neophytes for ministries" as some kind of an attempt to "cement" their ecclesial relationship.

Also, said Father Varga, mystagogy is the work of the entire faith community and not just the initiation team.

"If the initiation ministers took away that insight, and if they also linked mystagogy with lifetime discipleship formation, then the presentation was a success," said Villapando.

Cris Villapando and Editor Kevin E. Murray contributed to this story.




The Office of Faith Formation is one of the ministries supported by contributions to the Diocesan Support Appeal, an annual campaign in the Diocese of Charlotte that helps support 30 ministries that provide 50 programs. The 2006 DSA runs Feb. 4 to March 12.




COURTESY PHOTO


Father Andrew Varga, pastor of St. Luke Church in Westport, Conn., speaks to initiation ministers about mystagogy and the RCIA process at St. Philip the Apostle Church in Statesville Jan. 21.



BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED





Make your first move to an excellent education

Apply online now!

www.BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

Ranked one of the best comprehensive colleges in the South by U.S. News and World Report, Belmont Abbey College celebrates excellence and virtue steeped in its 130 year Catholic Benedictine heritage.

Just minutes from Charlotte, we offer our students numerous internship opportunities and career placement.

Our 15:1 student-faculty ratio provides for smaller class sizes and personal one-on-one mentoring.

We believe in development of the whole person — mind, body and spirit. By offering a wide array of clubs and activities, including Division II athletics, theatre, student publications, and study abroad, Belmont Abbey College invests in the personal growth of its students.

Upcoming event:

ABBEY EXPERIENCE

SATURDAY

FEBRUARY 25TH

9AM TO 2PM

Space is limited pre-register online now!

For more info call 1.888.222.0110 or email admissions@bac.edu

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Embedding faith in a news story

At times, participation can have dramatic effect

Journalists have a front row seat on history. At political events they are the last to arrive, yet they usually get the best vantage point. Press boxes at sporting events always serve food and drinks, all of it free. The trade-off is that the politicians and sporting teams get loads of free publicity.

There is an unspoken code among journalists who receive this largess — they don't participate in what is going on around them. They don't clap for the candidate, no matter how enthusiastic the crowd. They don't cheer for the home team that supplied the corndogs or prime rib.

Journalists are paid to watch, not to get involved.

When I worked as a television reporter, this professional disengagement allowed me to be less biased. But if the event were taking place in a Catholic church, I was conflicted between observing my faith and keeping a professional distance.

Now as communications director for the Diocese of Charlotte, I often escort reporters to Mass and other services. I don't hesitate to participate, but not surprisingly, most of the reporters I work with maintain an arm's-length demeanor. They stand and sit with the congregation, but they don't kneel during the liturgy of the Eucharist, don't join in prayer or song and don't receive holy Communion or even a blessing.

Except for a columnist named Tommy Tomlinson of The Charlotte Observer.

Tomlinson, who was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in 2005, has written a popular local column for the Observer since 1997. He was among eight reporters I escorted to a recent funeral Mass in Charlotte.

The story was tragically sad. Five-year-old twin girls were murdered, their father charged with the crime. The story generated a tremendous amount of interest in the community and the news media reported daily on whatever it could find that might shed an understanding light on the terribly sad deaths of two little girls.

At first the family shunned the media interest, but on the day of the funeral at St. Matthew Church, a decision was made to allow reporters, without their cameras, to attend and observe the

Catholics & the Media

DAVID HAINS
GUEST COLUMNIST



liturgy. Unlike other events, the news media takes the back row at funerals.

When the liturgy of the Eucharist began, Tomlinson surprised me by kneeling. Later, when Msgr. John McSweeney, pastor of St. Matthew Church, offered Communion, he invited non-Catholics to come forward for a blessing. Tomlinson, who isn't Catholic, got in line and crossed his arms.

Being "embedded" is a term that usually refers to a journalist who is traveling with soldiers in a war zone. It is refreshing to see that the concept also can have a more spiritual connotation.

Tomlinson later explained that being a reporter didn't prevent him from having strong feelings at the emotionally charged Mass.

"I wanted to know what it felt like to be in that line for the blessing," he said.

It wasn't first-person grandstanding, either. In his subsequent columns, he never made mention of his participation in the Mass. He did pay an eloquent tribute to the two young girls, their family and the faith that was so evident in the church.

He wrote, "You come to a funeral hoping to understand. But Tuesday there was no understanding. The singing and praying could not wash away the box at the center of St. Matthew Catholic Church, where Tessa and Sammie Crespi lay side by side under the lid. ... And while acknowledging that the deaths of Tessa and Sammie have provoked '10 thousand questions,' she (Mrs. Crespi) said people should think of her 'precious angels' as sacrificial lambs whose deaths dramatize the effects of mental illness."

Tomlinson demonstrated that the line between observing and participating can be fuzzy. His readers would understand, accepting it on faith, that through his involvement in the Mass he had their best interests at heart.

And besides, as he put it, "it never hurts to be blessed." Amen.

David Hains is director of communications for the Diocese of Charlotte. Contact him at dwhains@charlottediocese.org.

Expose the evil

Seeing is believing when it comes to abortion

I have spent more than half my life strategizing about how the people of God can most effectively fight, and end, abortion. There is no one line that summarizes my conclusions better than what St. Paul wrote in Ephesians 5:11: "Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them."

Evil flourishes when it is hidden; injustice festers when the victim is unseen. And history demonstrates that those who have overcome social injustices have followed Paul's advice to expose the evil.

For instance, those who fought the slave trade in Britain went to the ports to draw pictures of the boats and how the slaves were kept in them like sardines.

Exposing evil causes it to collapse under its own weight, as it confronts the light of human conscience. Overcoming injustice does not require that everyone believe it is injustice.

There is, rather, a critical mass at some point in the spectrum, when "enough" people are so convinced. The good news is that those people already have the conscience to reject the evil. The problem is that the evil hasn't been sufficiently exposed for them to see it.

So it is with abortion. The more it is exposed, the more people reject it.

Public opinion on abortion in America has been amazingly stable since Roe vs. Wade. The most significant shift occurred when the details of the partial-birth abortion procedure were exposed in the mid-90s. Never did a larger audience see and hear in more detail what abortion actually is.

Abortion needs to be exposed in five distinct ways:

— Statistics. Most Americans have no idea of the immense numbers of abortions, or that abortions occur throughout pregnancy. The abortion supporters themselves provide us the statistics.

See the Alan Guttmacher Institute's Web site, www.agi-usa.org. Just seeing these facts awakens many people that a change in abortion policy is necessary.

— Descriptions. Medical textbooks like Abortion Practice use the word

Guest Column

FATHER FRANK PAVONE
GUEST COLUMNIST



"decapitate" and "dismember" to describe what happens to the baby in abortion.

Moreover, there are now more sworn court testimonies from practicing abortionists than ever before, on all different abortion procedures (see www.priestsforlife.org/pba). Again, the abortionists' own words work against them. When we expose evil in this way, nobody can accuse us of making it up.

— Photos. Show people what abortion looks like, and they will never feel the same about it again. See how the photos impact people by reading their testimonies at www.priestsforlife.org/resources/abortionimages/graphicspraise.htm.

— Devastation to women, men and families. More and more mothers, fathers and families of aborted children speak out about how they have been devastated. The power of their testimony changes minds and hearts.

(See www.SilentNoMoreAwareness.org/testmonies.)

— Corruption in the abortion industry. Read the book "Lime 5" and see how malpractice, fraud and sexual abuse are rampant in legal abortion clinics.

See www.ClinicWorker.com to learn of other abuses and violations.

The road to ending abortion is clearly open in front of us. Simply take the evidence above and put it before the conscience of everyone you can.

Father Pavone is national director of Priests for Life.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less; pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

Catholic Schools: Character, Compassion, Values

Catholic educators share in formation responsibility

I'll never forget her. I'll always be grateful for her goodness.

Sister Dionysia was small in stature but a giant of a woman. Although she was a brilliant teacher, her most memorable lessons were shared beyond the classroom.

I was a ninth-grader at Cathedral High School in Boston. Sister Dionysia was the homeroom teacher who taught both English and Latin. One day she pulled me aside and said, "Jimmy, stay after school and wait for me."

I couldn't help but wonder what she wanted. I hoped I hadn't done anything wrong. I was quite sure I wasn't in trouble.

When Sister Dionysia returned from the convent I noticed her carrying a Boston cream pie placed on a plate and enveloped by cellophane. Boy, did it look tempting.

"Jimmy, take this home to the housing project. You and your family will enjoy it for supper," she stated.

I'll never forget what followed. As she passed the plate to me somehow or another I missed the move and watched helplessly as her gracious gift fell to the floor. While looking at the mess of the broken dish and delicacy intertwined within the less than protective covering, I asked myself, "What do I do for an encore?"

As I bent down to retrieve the remnants of the pie, Sister Dionysia spoke

Guest Column

FATHER JAMES HAWKER
GUEST COLUMNIST



those unforgettable words, "Don't worry, Jimmy, I'll get you another one." And she did!

Over the years since that memorable moment, I have enjoyed the privilege of speaking at numerous high school graduations. In every instance I've repeated the story of that after school experience.

Why? Because on that occasion, Sister Dionysia was both a teacher and a witness. The quality of her faith was exemplified by her spirit of generosity in giving and forgiving. Like Christ himself, she cared about me as a growing, maturing young man.

The theme of this year's Catholic Schools Week was "Catholic Schools: Character. Compassion. Values." It emphasizes the fact that the Catholic school is a unique setting within which the Catholic Church's educational mission is exercised.

While it is true that each of the curricula within the school is important, it

must be remembered that the most basic curriculum is the environment within which learning and relating take place. The role of the teacher is not simply to share information but to participate in the process of formation.

The teacher is to be attentive to the timely development of the cognitive, affective, attitudinal and behavioral dimensions of the learner. The teacher is to be a truly Christian character who exemplifies and enables in others values, including that of compassion, that are essential for the maturing believer.

Many of my high school classmates and I gathered last April to celebrate the 50th anniversary of our graduation. During the meal, we shared experiences that were etched deep in our memories.

Sister Dionysia's name was mentioned with affection and gratitude time and again. She, such a faithful disciple of Jesus, had invited and enabled so many of us to be and become truly Christian characters who would appreciate, assimilate and share the values of the risen Lord.

She was a true Catholic educator.

Thank the Lord that her story is reflective of the selfless service of so many who have succeeded her as Catholic educators.

Father Hawker is vicar for education in the Diocese of Charlotte and pastor of St. Luke Church in Mint Hill.

When troubles arise, seek Jesus' help in prayer, pope says

The Pope Speaks

POPE BENEDICT XVI



God's justice primarily aimed at freeing people from sin, says pope

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — When troubles arise in life or temptations appear, it is best not to try to figure out why, but to seek Jesus' help in prayer, said Pope Benedict XVI.

At his weekly general audience Feb. 8, the pope quoted the advice of a sixth-century desert monk, St. Barsanuphius of Gaza, who advised another monk not to fear trouble and temptation or to worry about their source, but to hold fast to the Lord.

Departing from his prepared text, the pope said, "These words ... are valid for us in our daily difficulties, problems, temptations."

"Do not try to conduct a theoretical reflection about their source, but do something positive: Invoke the Lord," the pope told an estimated 8,000 people overflowing the Vatican's audience hall.

In the face of struggle, the pope said, "Cry out to Jesus, 'Jesus, help me.' We are certain he will hear us because he is near to those who seek him."

"Let us not be discouraged, but let us run toward him, certain that we will reach the goal of our lives, Jesus the lord," Pope Benedict said.

The pope's audience talk focused on Psalm 145 and its recognition of God both as lord of the all the universe and as a loving father particularly concerned for the poor and the weak.

"God expresses his kingship by bending down to his most fragile and defenseless creatures," the pope said.

God's justice, which includes judgment, is primarily aimed at freeing people from sin and saving them, he said.

Pope Benedict said the psalm also lists the basic characteristics of a true believer: "He invokes the Lord in trusting prayer; seeks him in life with a sincere heart; fears his God, respecting his will and obeying his word; but, most of all, loves him, certain of being welcomed under the mantle of his protection."

The church's position on the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act

Q. Please explain the position of the church on the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act. What is it? Is it ethical and moral to offer one's body parts, or entire bodies, for transplant or medical research before or after death? How do you arrange to be a donor? (New Jersey)

A. It is morally lawful, and can be a generous act of charity, to donate one's organs or body tissues to persons who need them. Numerous parts of our anatomy, including bone, heart valves, skin and cornea, and major organs, can make the difference between life and death for thousands of people.

Body parts for transplant or research in medical care and science today. Though medical schools rely increasingly on models that simulate most major human physiological structures and functions, my understanding is that actual human bodies still provide advantages that other possibilities do not.

Some years ago, Pope John Paul II spoke of the shortage of donors for patients awaiting transplants. It is a matter of Christian generosity, he said, and "no solution will be forthcoming without a renewed sense of human solidarity" based on Christ's example, which can "inspire men and women to make great

sacrifices in the service of others" (April 30, 1990).

This just makes good human and Christian sense, of course. Over a lifetime of love and sacrifice, we help each other all the time. If something that has been ours in life can still do good for someone else, before or after death, why not?

In one way or another, countless people have given us part of their lives already. Without these we would not be alive today. If science allows us to extend the gift of our bodies even after death, it is something to be grateful for and to use thoughtfully but generously.

The ethics of a specific transplant procedure may become complicated, since it must deal with several considerations: the determination of death, if donating the organ depends on the donor's death; physical consequences for the donor if the donor is living; degree of hope for a successful transplant; proportionate balance between the physical and psychological danger to the donor and the benefit for the recipient; informed consent, and so on.

Amid today's legal battles over such issues as assisted suicide, the Catechism of the Catholic Church appropriately points out that it is morally unacceptable to directly cause a disabling mutilation or death of a human being, even if that

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



might help, or delay the death of, another person (No. 2296).

I believe you would be wise to discuss your desires with your family, and consider their feelings as well, before you make a decision.

The National Commission on Uniform State Laws published the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act in 1968 to provide a uniform legal environment for this "new frontier in modern medicine." All 50 states and the District of Columbia have adopted it.

A Uniform Donor Card providing for the gift of one's organs to a living person who needs them or all of one's body for education and research may be obtained from Living Bank, Box 6725, Houston, TX 77265.

Many regional centers also exist, and most states have donor forms attached to their driver's licenses. Funeral directors can usually supply more specific local information.

Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at Box 5515, Peoria, IL 61612, or e-mail: jjdietzen@aol.com.

Sheltered by God

Young women live out reality of contemplative life as Poor Clares

BY JEAN M. SCHILDZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ST. LOUIS — It's hard to imagine young women of today choosing a life of enclosure, silence and prayer.

But three happy, healthy young women — all in their 20s — are now in formation at the Monastery of St. Clare in St. Louis. Each heard God's call and chose to be a Poor Clare.

Sister Mary Therese of the Sacred Heart Lavery, 26, entered the Poor Clares in 2001. The former Texas A&M University engineering student learned about the monastic community on a "nun run," in which young women discerning a vocation visit several religious orders in a set period of time.

Sister Mary Christiana of Our Eucharistic King Schwent, 20, entered the monastery in September 2004. She learned of the Poor Clares through her youth group; her mother and a young priest also encouraged her vocation.

Sister Mary Joseph of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary Rieger, 27, arrived in October 2004. The University of Missouri-Columbia political science graduate, who once worked as an intern on George W. Bush's 2000 presidential campaign, hadn't even known there were Poor Clares in the St. Louis Archdiocese until a close friend led her to them.

The three differ in personalities, looks and backgrounds. But what is impossible to miss is the one thing they share in abundance: a joyfulness of spirit.

These young women have given up everything that the secular world claims is needed to be happy, and yet they couldn't be happier. Are they somehow different from other people?



CNS PHOTO BY MARK KEMPF, ST. LOUIS REVIEW

Poor Clare nuns (from left) Sister Mary Joseph of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary Rieger; Mother Mary Leo Hoffmann, abbess of the community; Sister Mary Christiana of Our Eucharistic King Schwent; and Sister Mary Therese of the Sacred Heart Lavery enjoy a lighthearted moment at the St. Clare Monastery in St. Louis in early January. The four nuns in the cloistered community are all in their 20s.

Not at all, said Poor Clare Mother Mary Leo Hoffmann, abbess of the 12-member cloistered community.

"We are ordinary women, but we've just been called to an extraordinary vocation," she said.

The Poor Clares carry on traditions handed down to them more than eight centuries ago by St. Clare of Assisi. They take vows of poverty, chastity, obedience and enclosure, promising to remain within the confines of the monastery.

The nuns meet and speak with

visitors from behind a grille, or partition, which physically separates them from the outside world. Even when their families come to see them, which is permitted four times a year, they remain in enclosure.

Their main ministry is prayer. They constantly pray for others and gladly accept prayer requests. Their prayer lives include frequent adoration of the Eucharist, praying the rosary and private meditation.

The nuns follow a simple rule of

silence. They are allowed to speak when it is necessary; otherwise, they keep silent throughout the day. During one recreational period daily, and on special occasions, they are free to talk.

Immersed in prayer, their days also are filled with caring for each other, chores, sewing — including making their own habits — music, cooking, studying the Catholic faith and helping to support themselves through the making of altar bread.

They don't eat meat. They don't use the Internet. They don't watch television, listen to the radio or read secular newspapers. One member scans the daily news to keep her fellow nuns informed of major events.

People who learn about their cloistered lives often ask how they can give up everything. Those who ask that question are looking at the situation from a worldly point of view, Mother Mary Leo said, and consequently would not be able to live in this way.

But these young women, she said, "have been touched by God's grace. They enjoy those things just as much as anyone else, but they see something deeper and of greater value than what the world is offering to them."

Sisters Mary Therese, Mary Christiana and Mary Joseph laughed and teased each other as they talked about their monastic lives. They leave no doubt they love what they do.

Some people think you have to be a saint to be a cloistered nun, but that is also not true, they said.

Explained Sister Mary Christiana: "He doesn't call the qualified; he qualifies the called."

The enclosure's purpose, they said, has more to do with keeping the world out than keeping in its occupants. It helps them to concentrate on what God intended and be totally devoted to him.

"It's so much harder to stay in a cloister than to leave," Sister Mary Joseph said. "You can always leave."

GET A LOW RATE BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

30-Year Fixed:


5.75%

As mortgage brokers, we work with a variety of lenders to find the best loan and rates for your needs & goals!


NEW WORLD MORTGAGE
A Lender For Life

1930 Camden Rd. Suite 2010
Chickadee, MO 63003

Rates subject to change. Certain restrictions on loan size apply. APR varies on loan placement.



Jayne McGonnell
Parishioner of St. Thomas Aquinas
704.549.4600 x1028
877.402.4600 (tollfree)
704.516.9682 (cell)



Debra Young
Parishioner of St. Matthew
704.549.4600 x1027
877.402.4600 (tollfree)
704.771.6251 (cell)



Let stairs be our problem... not yours!

Ask about our Stairway lifts.

- Easily attached to steps (not walls)
- Folds out of the way
- Fits most stairways (straight & curved)
- Very affordable (rent or buy)
- We install

Chair & Equipment Rentals & Sales, Inc.
800 Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC • (800) 333-8431
Member of St. Thomas Aquinas



Only 7 spaces left!

Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise —

"The Footsteps of Paul"

Greece and Turkey — May 11-21, 2006

Space is limited—register now!



Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

- Istanbul** — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace
- Mykonos** — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels
- Patmos** — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation
- Kusadasi & Ephesus** — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites
- Rhodes** — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith
- Crete** — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion
- Santorini** — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?

Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,949 for inside cabin — includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

For information, call Cindi Feenick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 793-9800.

Roman Catholic
Diocese of Charlotte



Established Jan. 12, 1972
by Pope Paul VI

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

Parish Profile

St. Mary Church flourishes
in mountain community of
Sylva

| PAGE 16

FEBRUARY 17, 2006

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 15 No 19

Chance encounter

PILGRIMS FROM DIOCESE MEET POPE AT VATICAN

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — For Doris Blackwell, meeting the pope was the surprise of her life. "I never expected that to happen. I still can't believe it," she said.

Blackwell was one of more than 60 pilgrims, most from the Diocese of Charlotte, on the "Journey of Faith" pilgrimage through Italy.

The pilgrims joined Father Frank O'Rourke, former pastor of Our Lady of Grace Church in Greensboro now on sabbatical overseas, who invited people from the parishes at which he has served on the six-day pilgrimage through Italy.

See MEETING, page 4

MEETING A NEED

Diocese holds first Spanish-language seminar on RCIA

BY MANUEL ALIAGA
SPECIAL TO
THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

HICKORY — Despite bad weather, more than 115 catechists from 26 parishes gathered for the first Spanish-language seminar on the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

The seminar, sponsored by the Diocesan Commission on the RCIA, targeted those involved directly and indirectly with RCIA, including catechists working in faith formation.

See SPANISH, page 7

Giving their hearts away



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

College students sort through clothing donations at Crisis Assistance Ministry in Charlotte Feb. 11. The students were participating in the third annual "Give Your Heart Away" weekend, which brings Catholic students from throughout the diocese to volunteer at ministries in the Charlotte and Belmont areas.

College students spend weekend serving others

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

BELMONT — College students from all reaches of the diocese recently gave away their hearts and time in the service of others.

The students gathered for the third annual "Give Your Heart Away" community service weekend Feb. 10-12. The retreat was sponsored by the diocesan Catholic Campus Ministry Office, which runs Catholic campus ministries at colleges and universities throughout western North Carolina.

Approximately 70 students and campus ministers from 11 colleges and universities participated in the retreat, headquartered at the McCarthy Spirituality Center on the Sisters of Mercy campus in Belmont. Students chose from a variety of service opportunities with the hope of making a difference in other people's lives.

See HEARTS, page 5

Sports and spirit

As Olympics began, Catholic involvement seen in Turin, on slopes

BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ROME — Snow, ice, skis and skates: Those are just some of the essential ingredients that have come together for the XX Olympic Winter Games Feb. 10-26 in Turin, Italy.

The Catholic Church was also getting into the mix,

adding its own sacred riches and traditions to an event that's brimming with Olympic spirit.

Even the Vatican has gotten involved in the games. Pope Benedict XVI blessed the Olympic flame during his Dec. 8 Angelus prayer in St. Peter's Square.

See GAMES, page 8



CNS PHOTO COURTESY OF TOMASEVICZ FAMILY

Curt Tomasevicz (second from right), a Catholic, is on a U.S. four-man bobsled team at the Olympic Winter Games in Turin, Italy.

Impelled by Christ

Upcoming youth
pilgrimage centered
on Eucharist

| PAGE 4

Culture Watch

Catholic winners of
'Amazing Race'; new
catechism compendium

| PAGES 10-11

Perspectives

Should you be
committed?; miracle
beyond reality

| PAGES 14-15

#BXNPDVQ.....3-DIGIT 275
#420836#
NC COLLECTION
UNC
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

SOUNDS OF GRATITUDE



CNS PHOTO BY MONTE MACE, THE LEAVEN

Carlos Martinez (right), a displaced New Orleans musician, plays the drums during a jazz concert he arranged at Holy Name School in Topeka, Kan., Feb. 3 as a way to thank the school and parish for helping his family after Hurricane Katrina. Playing saxophone is Loren Pickford and playing keyboard is John Brewer; both are New Orleans musicians.

Jazzman relocated to Kansas by Katrina thanks community with concert

TOPEKA, Kan. (CNS) — Holy Name School and Church in Topeka extended a helping hand last fall to a New Orleans jazz musician and his family whose home was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina.

On Feb. 3, Carlos Martinez said thank you in the way he knows best — by bringing a jazz concert to the school free of charge.

Martinez, a percussion drummer, worked in the 1990s with the Neville Brothers on "Valence Street," an album that was later nominated for Best Rhythm and Blues Vocal Performance in 2000.

The Neville Brothers are one of New Orleans' most famous and popular music groups.

After his arrival in Topeka, Martinez won a grant from the Jazz Foundation to put displaced New Orleans musicians back to work. He assembled a six-piece band made up of fellow jazz musicians from New Orleans and is now touring area schools and nursing homes.

Before the concert, Martinez thanked the more than 400 people assembled in the gymnasium for their help in relocating his family to Topeka.

"Thanks to the school, Catholic Charities and Charles Moore. You have given us a new family," said Martinez.

Moore is a local hospital official.

The family of five made their way to Topeka after their home was inundated by nine feet of floodwater. They stayed at the Superdome for two days, then Martinez and his wife traveled by bus to a military base in Oklahoma, while their

three children stayed with relatives in Baton Rouge, La.

The Martinezes were then driven by van to the Topeka area where they met Moore, director of medical facilities for the Kansas Bureau of Child Care and Health Facilities.

Moore offered the Martinez family a furnished, four-bedroom house rent-free. Meeting Moore was just the beginning of an outpouring of kindness from Topekans.

Holy Name School waived tuition for the three Martinez children, and after they joined their parents in Topeka, Holy Name parishioners helped outfit them with clothing and school supplies.

Martinez said Holy Name principal Tym Bonilla has taught the school's band some New Orleans-style music, and his wife, Latifa, has given dance instruction to the social graces class and helps with the school's children's wellness program.

"The family has been a wonderful blessing for us," Bonilla said.

One of the band members, saxophonist Loren Pickford, told the concert audience that Martinez was a real-life American hero.

"Carlos spent 48 hours rescuing people from the flood and taking them by boat to the Superdome," Pickford said.

As a tribute to the Topekans who had welcomed the Martinezes and so many others with open arms, the band performed "Over the Rainbow," from "The Wizard of Oz" as well as their traditional repertoire of New Orleans jazz.

Bill defining marriage as one man, one woman is killed in Maryland

BALTIMORE (CNS) — A bill that would have amended the Maryland Constitution to define marriage as being between one man and one woman was killed in the state's House of Delegates.

After learning that supporters of the marriage amendment had collected 47 delegate signatures that would have sent the measure directly to the House floor, Democratic Speaker of the House Michael Busch ordered an unusual recess Feb. 2 to prevent lawmakers from voting on the measure.

The House Judiciary Committee then killed the measure on a unanimous vote after members changed the bill to allow same-sex civil unions — a move Republican Minority Whip Anthony O'Donnell called a "poison pill" designed to guarantee the bill's defeat by altering its original purpose.

Richard Dowling, Maryland Catholic Conference's executive director, was not surprised the measure was defeated. He said Democratic Party leaders fear that if

the amendment passes both houses and goes before Maryland voters in November the issue will increase support for Republican Gov. Robert Ehrlich Jr.'s re-election.

"The debate has been driven by partisan interests and maneuvering, at least as much as by the marriage issue itself," said Dowling, who testified in support of the marriage amendment Jan. 31.

The drive to amend the constitution came after Baltimore Circuit Court Judge M. Brooke Murdock declared Maryland's 33-year-long ban on gay marriage unconstitutional. She stayed her ruling pending the outcome of an appeal to Maryland's Court of Appeals.

The Catholic conference is filing a friend-of-the-court brief in support of the appeal. Dowling said the bishops' opposition to the legalization of gay marriage is "not about denying persons the rights that are due them as citizens or barring individual citizens from participation in public or private program services and services that are generally accessible."

Diocesan planner

ASHEVILLE VICARIATE

ASHEVILLE — The *St. Martin de Porres Dominican Laity Chapter* meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the rectory building at the Basilica of St. Lawrence, 97 Haywood St. Inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Beverly Reid at (423) 638-4744 or bebereid@adelphia.net.

HENDERSONVILLE — The *St. Francis of the Hills Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order* meets the fourth Sunday of each month, 2:30-4:30 p.m., at Immaculate Conception Church, 208 7th Ave. West. Visitors and inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Joanita Nellenbach, S.F.O., (828) 627-9209 or jnell@dnet.net.

BOONE VICARIATE

BOONE — Internationally known theologian Megan McKenna will discuss *Resurrection Stories of the Gospels* at St. Elizabeth Church, 259 Pilgrims Way., Feb. 19, 12:30-2:30 p.m. McKenna uses poetry, stories and images from the Catholic tradition and other religious traditions to show how images and words are meant to convert and transform and bring meaning and hope to the world. This event is free and open to the public. For information and to register, please call Bob McHugh at (704) 753-2012 or Marie-Michele Darcy at (704) 556-1215.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — *Teams of Our Lady* is an international movement of small groups of married couples. Each team meets monthly to share a meal, prayer, Scripture and discussion. Teams provide a solid, spiritual direction for couples

through a way of life promoting growth in married love, holiness and Christian community. An information night will be held Feb. 21 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., in the New Life Center, room 203. For more information, please contact Vince and Mary Pat Arostegui at (704) 882-8757.

CHARLOTTE — Father Aniello Salicone of the Xaverian Missionaries will celebrate a *Healing Mass* March 3 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd. For more information, call the church office at (704) 554-7088.

HUNTERSVILLE — A *Mass to Honor Deceased Loved Ones* is celebrated the last Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. St. Mark Church, 14740 Stumptown Rd. For more information, call Pam Schneider at (704) 875-0201.

GASTONIA VICARIATE

BELMONT — *Fostering Justice Worldwide*, sponsored by the diocesan Office of Justice and Peace, will share Catholic Relief Services (CRS) stories. This free event will take place at Queen of the Apostles Church, 503 N. Main St., Feb. 25, 1-4:30 p.m. The program will provide an overview of Catholic social teaching, CRS-related work in the Diocese of Charlotte, CRS work in Africa, presentations on effective advocacy and more. This event will be repeated in Asheville April 9, in Charlotte June 24, in Newton Sept. 9 and in Stoneville Nov. 4. For specific details about the Saturday afternoon events please call the Office of Justice and Peace at (704) 370-3234 or (704) 370-3225, or e-mail justicepeace@charlottediocese.org.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — "Vatican II: What was it? What changed? What now?" Forty years after the Second Vatican Council, we are still beginning to understand the many ramifications the Council has had on the Catholic Church. A faith formation

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

FEBRUARY 17, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 19

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Marking World Day of Sick, pope says God sent Jesus to heal, save

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Out of his great love for all creatures, God sent his son to heal and to save, Pope Benedict XVI said.

"Christ is the hand of God extended to humanity so it could escape the quicksand of sickness and death, standing on its feet on the solid rock of divine love," the pope said Feb. 12.

Pope Benedict used the main part of his midday Angelus address to remind people that the church celebrated World Day of the Sick Feb. 11 and to ask for continued prayers for those who are suffering.

He asked Mary to watch over all the sick, but especially those who also "suffer from solitude, poverty and marginalization."

While the main celebration of World Day of the Sick took place in Adelaide, Australia, Pope Benedict joined Italian sick people and their caregivers at the end of a Mass Feb. 11 in St. Peter's Basilica.

Before personally blessing many of the people in the basilica, the pope said the church dedicates the Feb. 11 feast of Our Lady of Lourdes to those who are ill because in Lourdes, France, Mary "demonstrated God's tenderness toward the suffering."

Appearing to St. Bernadette Soubirous in Lourdes, Mary came "to remind the modern world, which risks forgetting, that the primacy of divine grace is stronger than sin or death," the pope said.

The 2006 World Day of the Sick was dedicated in a special way to people with mental illnesses and to those who care for them.

The pope asked Catholic health workers to let the love of God be alive in their hearts so that it would give direction to their projects and plans, but especially to the way they care for their patients and the patients' families.

group will meet through Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of St. Paul the Apostle Church, 2715 Horse Pen Creek Rd. For more information, call the church office at (336) 294-4696.

STONEVILLE — The Greensboro Council of Catholic Women will its annual Lenten Retreat Day, led by Father Louis Canino, March 9 at the St. Francis Springs Prayer Center. Mass will be at 10 a.m., followed by lunch. For more information, please call Carmen Wood at (336) 545-9266.

HIGH POINT — In February, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 4145 Johnson St., will launch the *Hope of Seeing Everyone Again* program (HOSEA) to invite Catholics who have distanced themselves from the Catholic Church, for whatever reason, to return. Small Christian communities will meet weekly for six to eight weeks to discuss various issues and concerns and to receive pastoral referrals and guidance. An open house will be held Feb. 21, 7-8 p.m., and will include a brief presentation on Catholic inquiry classes, the inactive Catholics program and continuing faith formation program. A tour of the church and refreshments will follow. To learn more, e-mail Rich Pohlman at tosfranciscan-letters@yahoo.com.

HICKORY VICARIATE

MORGANTON — Do you have hot or cold anger? Quick or long-lasting? "*Taming the Lion Within: 5 Steps from Anger to Peace*" gives psychological, philosophical and spiritual perspectives and practical methods for dealing with anger. Dr. Rhonda Chervin will present this free workshop Feb. 22, 7-8:30 p.m., at St. Charles Borromeo Church, 728 West Union St. To register, call the church office at (828) 437-3108 or for more information, call Dr. Chervin at (828) 413-4624.

NEWTON — The Little Flowers Catholic Girls' Group is for all Catholic girls ages 5 and up. The group meets the fourth Monday of each month at St. Joseph Church, 720 West 13th St., at 4 p.m. in the Holy Family Hall. For more details, call Debbie

Vickers at (828) 495-2039.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

MURPHY — A Charismatic Prayer Group meets Fridays at 3:45 p.m. in the Commons of St. William Church, 765 Andrews Rd. join us for praise music, witness, teaching, prayers and laying on of hands for those in need. For more details, call Gery Dashner at (828) 494-2683.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

WINSTON-SALEM — The Portiuncula Franciscan Center, 221 W. Third St., will host Lenten Faith Sharing "brown-bag" gatherings March 8, 15, 22, 29 and April 5, 12-12:45 p.m. We will spend time looking ahead to the weekend Lenten readings to prepare our hearts for the Word of God to take root. Bring your own lunch. Coffee and tea will be provided. For more information, call (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

WINSTON-SALEM — The Portiuncula Franciscan Center, 221 W. Third St., will host a book discussion on "*Humility of God: A Franciscan Perspective*" by Ilia Delio, O.S.F. This book deals with the theology of divine humility and God's relationship to the world, while at the same time tackling some tough questions. The group will meet March 6, 13, 20 and 27; April 3 and 24; and May 1, 8 and 15, 6-7:30 p.m. For more information, call (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

First lady meets with pope, discusses violence sparked by cartoons

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI expressed his hopes that the U.S. first lady's trip to the Winter Olympics in Turin, Italy, would be peaceful and spoke of his concern about violent protests taking place in many Islamic countries.

First lady Laura Bush and one of her 24-year-old twin daughters, Barbara Bush, met the pope at the Vatican Feb. 9 during a brief stop in Rome on the way to the Olympics.

After the meeting, she told reporters traveling with her that peace, terrorism and violence were among the topics the pope raised.

"He talked to me about the worries of terrorism, worries right now about violence in Beirut, Damascus and other cities" in the Middle East as protests continued over cartoons published in Europe that many Muslims find offensive.

"His hope and certainly our hope (is) for peace and tolerance" and for everyone to treat others with respect, she said.

Bush said she understood that Muslims could be offended by the cartoons and their caricatures of Mohammed, but "I do not think violence

is the answer."

The pope met with Bush, her daughter and Francis Rooney, U.S. ambassador to the Vatican. After their greeting, the group spent about 15 minutes talking at the pope's desk out of earshot of reporters and photographers.

At the end of the audience, Bush gave the pope a small silver bowl inscribed with her husband's signature, her signature and the presidential seal. The pope gave the Bush women rosaries and the ambassador a medal.

Pope Benedict asked Bush to pass on his greetings to her husband and she said, "He sent his best wishes to you."

In a Feb. 9 interview with Vatican Radio, Bush said, "The United States finds it repugnant to find that people would depict Mohammed in a disrespectful and ugly way."

While free speech is an important value, she said, "many times free speech is offensive."

Calling for more dialogue among nations and religions, she said, "We expect people would give respect to the deeply held religious views of people around the world."

Calming the protest



CNS PHOTO BY CARLOS BARRIA, REUTERS

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (CNS) — Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu speaks to supporters of Haitian presidential candidate Rene Preval as they try to enter the Montana Hotel, where electoral officials canceled a press conference to announce polling results in Port-au-Prince Feb. 13.

The archbishop was unable to leave the hotel to board a flight, but addressed the somewhat rowdy crowd, which calmed down and left.

Mass demonstrations erupted in Port-au-Prince, and at least one person was shot dead Feb. 13 following Feb. 7 presidential elections. Protesters said electoral officials were tampering with results to prevent Preval from winning 51 percent of the vote, which is needed to prevent a second round of elections; his lead had dropped from 60 percent to 48 percent.

Archbishop Tutu, a Nobel laureate and retired Anglican archbishop of Cape Town, South Africa, arrived in Haiti Feb. 11 at the invitation of the Peace and Tolerance Initiative, launched by the Organization of American States Special Mission and the Haitian bishops' conference.

Archbishop Tutu told Haitians that God has not forgotten them and will never forget them. He praised Haitians for their peaceful conduct throughout the elections and called on them to continue peacefully.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Feb. 17 — 10:00 a.m.
Diocesan Finance Council Meeting
Pastoral Center, Charlotte

Feb. 21 — 5:00 p.m.
Mass for Tribunal Personnel of the
Atlanta Province
St. Patrick Cathedral

Feb. 26 — 11:00 a.m.
Mass and blessing of New Parish Activity
Center
Our Lady of Consolation Church, Charlotte



COURTESY PHOTO

Doris Blackwell and Matt Milunic, pilgrims from the Diocese of Charlotte, meet Pope Benedict XVI during a papal audience at the Vatican Dec. 7.

Pilgrims from diocese meet pope at Vatican

MEETING, from page 1

visiting Rome, Assisi, Pompeii and Sorrento Dec. 1-8.

But for two pilgrims, Blackwell and Matt Milunic, the highlight was meeting Pope Benedict XVI during the papal audience at the Vatican Dec. 7.

Blackwell was having difficulty with her back during the trip, making it difficult to walk to the various locations.

"It was taking a toll on her. So my wife, Julie, and I got her a wheelchair," said Milunic, a parishioner of Our Lady of Grace Church.

"We took her everywhere and she didn't get tired," he said.

"It was such a relief," said Blackwell.

When Milunic wheeled her into St. Peter's Square for the papal audience, a Vatican guard motioned for them to use a different entrance.

"I mildly protested. I didn't want to get separated from my wife and the group," said Milunic.

The two were redirected through several checkpoints, getting closer and closer to the front.

"The next thing I know, we're up on the platform," said Blackwell.

"They put us about 20 feet from the pope, with about 30 to 35 other people in wheelchairs," said Milunic.

Pope Benedict dedicated his catechesis that day to Psalm 136, a hymn of thanksgiving for the everlasting kindness of the Lord. At the end of his audience, the pope greeted visiting cardinals and bishops and then, those in the wheelchairs.

"I was shy. I didn't know what to say," said Blackwell. "So I said, 'Thank you.' He looked me in the eye and replied, 'Thank you.'"

"He took care to make eye contact

and smile at everyone," said Milunic. "He shook my hand."

It was a memory that will remain with Blackwell, who attends Mass three times a week at Little Flower Assisted Living in Charlotte. She converted to Catholicism at around 7 years of age.

"I came from a three-room mill house in Augusta, Ga., and then there I was, looking at the pope," she said. "It was so exciting."

Even the pilgrims who did not get to meet the pope found the papal audience a highlight of the trip.

"To be in St. Peter's Square with thousands of other pilgrims all waiting to see the Holy Father — to perhaps touch his hand or cloak, to hear him speak — crowned the week," said Patty Jennings, secretary at Our Lady of Grace Church.

"It was an experience to be with so many others who wanted just the same — to be in the presence of our new Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI," she said. "It was a faith-affirming morning."

In addition to visiting the four major basilicas of Rome and other attractions, the pilgrims attended Mass daily at various churches throughout Italy, including in a chapel at the tomb of St. Peter at the Vatican.

"I feel like this is my first Mass," said Father Andrew Latsko, a retired priest of the diocese, recalling the experience.

Many pilgrims said the trip deepened their faith.

"We came away having made new friends, having deepened relationships and having discovered common bonds. Now we are joined together by this faith experience," said Jennings. "It was a special beginning to the Advent season, and for many the journey to Christmas was enriched."

Contributing to this story was Patty Jennings.

Impelled by Christ

Upcoming youth pilgrimage centered on Eucharist

BELMONT — Bishop Peter J. Jugis invites all high school and college students to join him for a spiritual pilgrimage.

The second Youth Pilgrimage to Belmont Abbey will be held April 2.

The day of prayer and reflection, which is free to all participants, is part of the preparation for the upcoming diocesan Eucharistic Congress, themed "The Love of Christ Impels Us," to be held in Charlotte Oct. 6-7.

The theme is also Bishop Jugis' motto, taken from St. Paul's second letter to the Corinthian Church.

"During the year of preparation, we have the wonderful privilege to devote ourselves more faithfully to our Lord, who is truly present in the holy Eucharist," said Bishop Jugis.

Approximately 250 youths attended last year's pilgrimage. The upcoming event will feature a eucharistic procession and adoration, Benediction and confession.

"This will be a wonderful opportunity during Lent to offer the sacrifice of a spiritual pilgrimage, worship the Lord in adoration, spend time with Bishop Jugis and other youths from around the Diocese of Charlotte and receive abundant grace and mercy from God as we prepare for our second Eucharistic Congress in the Diocese of Charlotte," said David Hains, director of communications for the diocese.

Youth ministry and young adult group leaders are encouraged to register their groups by March 10.

WANT TO GO?

For more information or to register, contact Paul Kotlowski, director of diocesan youth ministry, by March 10 at (704) 370-3211 or e-mail pjkotlowski@charlottediocese.org.

Bishop Peter J. Jugis carries a monstrance during a eucharistic procession with hundreds of youths as part of the diocesan Youth Pilgrimage to Belmont Abbey in February 2005. The upcoming pilgrimage at the abbey takes place April 2.



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

TAKE YOUR EVENT somewhere unusual...

The Catholic Conference Center offers the exuberance of nature in a celestial environment unlike any you've ever been to before. Eight meeting rooms. Fifty hotel-style lodging rooms. Bountiful dining and a staff ready to serve you in style! All this and more on 172 beautifully landscaped acres offering that special "retreat" environment in a modern conference setting.

1551 Trinity Lane, Hickory, NC 28602
(828) 327-7441 or Toll-free (888) 536-7441



**The Catholic
Conference
Center**

Check out our website
www.catholicconference.org
info@catholicconference.org

FROM THE COVER

'This was a weekend to get away and think about someone besides myself.'

College students spend weekend serving others

HEARTS, from page 1

Kristen Raliski, a junior at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, wanted to repeat the "awesome experience" she had on a service trip during her Christmas break.

"This was a weekend to get away and think about someone besides myself," said Raliski, who was on her first "Give Your Heart Away" weekend.

The students spent the retreat working at several area organizations, including Urban Ministries, Room at the Inn, Crisis Assistance Ministries, House of Mercy, Holy Angels and Marian Center, the Sisters of Mercy motherhouse.

At Urban Ministry Center in Charlotte, an interfaith organization that assists the poor and homeless, students served lunch to the homeless. Other students sorted through donated clothes at Crisis Assistance Ministry in Charlotte, which provides assistance and advocacy for people in financial crisis.

One group of students put together a Valentine's Day party for the residents of Holy Angels in Belmont, a nonprofit facility that provides programs for children and adults with varying degrees of mental retardation.

Another group visited the residents and helped with spring cleaning at House of Mercy in Belmont, which provides nursing care to people living with advanced AIDS.

Projects planned for Shining Hope Farm, a therapeutic horseback-riding program for people with disabilities, and Habitat for Humanity were rained out, said Mary Wright, director of diocesan campus ministry.

"A weekend such as this is evidence that our college students truly choose to give their hearts to those less fortunate than they," said Wright. "More than 50 students sharing their hearts with others is a humbling experience for all of us."

Stephanie Auger, whose home parish is St. James Church in Concord, heard her fellow students at University of North Carolina at Charlotte talking about the 2006 weekend, and decided to join them.

"I love going on retreats and experiencing the camaraderie among other Catholics," Auger said.

Catholic Campus Ministry, funded by the Diocesan Support Appeal and donations, helps college students answer the call from the U.S. bishops to put Catholic social teaching into action.

Josh Hallingse said his previous two "Give Your Heart Away" weekends changed his perspective on why other students volunteer and the importance of living a "non-profit life."

As a result of his participation in last year's service weekend, students from Appalachian State University came to Charlotte to help with University of North Carolina at Charlotte's Relay for Life.

"This is also a good opportunity to network with students from other schools to plan fundraisers," said Hallingse, a senior at University of North



COURTESY PHOTOS

Above: A participant in the 2006 Give Your Heart Away service weekend helps serve meals to homeless men at the Urban Ministries in Charlotte Feb. 11.

Right: Catholic students decorate for a Valentine's Day party at Holy Angels in Belmont Feb. 11.



Carolina at Charlotte, who grew up attending St. Eugene Church in Asheville.

"It is my hope that after a weekend such as this, students understand that service is for a lifetime and not just a weekend," said Wright. "I hope they left with a deeper understanding of our social teachings, a deeper commitment to our faith, and a heart of compassion for those less fortunate."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.



Catholic Campus Ministry is one of the ministries supported by contributions to the Diocesan Support Appeal, an annual campaign in the Diocese of Charlotte that helps support 30 ministries that provide 50 programs. The 2006 DSA runs Feb. 4-March 12.

Many Annuity Owners Lose Money. Will YOU?

Some annuity owners lose money because they didn't know what questions to ask when they bought, and their salesperson did not volunteer any information.

If you own an annuity or are considering taking advantage of their many benefits, my **FREE** report, "Using Guaranteed Annuities to Help You Survive Your Retirement," will tell you what questions to ask.

The report is **FREE** and shows you how to get more benefits from your existing assets and help preserve your annuity value.

Call 800-800-4960, ext. 7405 (24 hours)

for your **FREE** report!

Dr. Richard Pucciarelli

Certified Senior Advisor

Member of Asset Protectors and Advisors Group



Carolina Funeral & Cremation Center

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212

704-568-0023

www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma

Owner/Director

Privately, Locally Owned

Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus



AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles

Licensed & Insured

FREE ESTIMATES

www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185

With open arms

Parishioners recognized for refugee assistance

GREENSBORO—Several parishioners of St. Pius X Church in Greensboro were recognized recently for their work with refugees.

Anthony and Peggy Delisi, James and Diane Wierman, and Rich and Barbara Houseknecht were presented with certificates of recognition by Msgr. Anthony Marcaccio, pastor, during Masses Jan. 28-29.

The parishioners were honored for their years of service at the Lutheran Family Services' refugee resettlement program in Greensboro.

"We are extremely proud of these recipients and offer them our gratitude and continued support," said Toni Redifer, St. Pius X Church's parish and community life director.

"They are so dedicated, putting in countless hours to help the refugees," she said.

By donating food, clothes, household items, medical assistance and educational needs, St. Pius X Church has a history of assisting Lutheran Family Services, which has sponsored Montagnard, Sudanese and Liberian families.

"St. Pius X Church is a leader not only in supporting efforts on behalf of refugees, but working with many other ecumenical and social justice programs as well," said Redifer. "It is a cooperative effort between St. Pius X and many of the outreach programs, faith communities and organizations here in Greensboro."

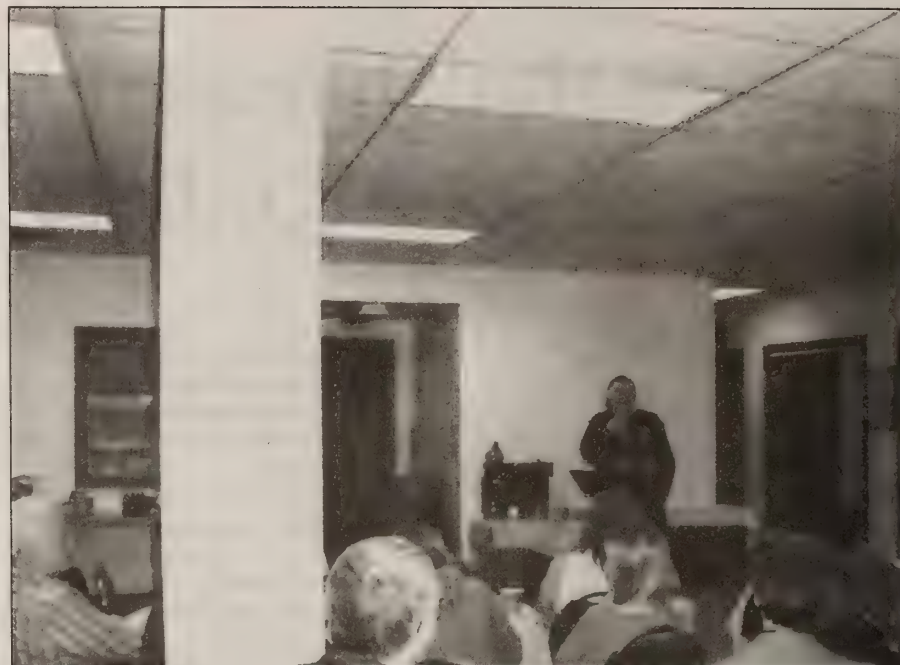
"Our parish is so supportive," she said. "I'm really in awe of all that they do."



COURTESY PHOTO

Tony and Peggy Delisi stand with Phok Ramah (center), a Montagnard refugee in the Greensboro area. The Delisis and other St. Pius X Church parishioners were recently recognized for their work with a refugee resettlement program in Greensboro.

In communion



COURTESY PHOTO

Father George Kloster, pastor of St. William Church in Murphy and Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hayesville, speaks on Christian unity at St. John Baptiste de la Salle Church in North Wilkesboro Jan. 13-14.

Priest, pope highlight need, steps for Christian unity

NORTH WILKESBORO — Catholics from around the Boone Vicariate recently came together to celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

A two-day celebration was held at St. John Baptiste de la Salle Church in North Wilkesboro Jan. 13-14. Father George Kloster, pastor of St. William Church in Murphy and Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hayesville, was the featured speaker.

Parishioners from churches in the Boone Vicariate, as well as Lutheran church members from North Wilkesboro, attended the event.

In his talk entitled "The Reception," Father Kloster spoke about the renewal of the Catholic Church after the Second Vatican Council and how the church should recapture its early essence and live according to the teachings of the Gospels and Jesus.

Father Kloster described the three aspects of ecclesial reception: the importance of the church's work, the restoration of unity among all Christian churches and the dialogue and interaction among Christian churches.

During his weekly audience at the Vatican, Pope Benedict XVI said the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, held Jan. 18-25, highlighted the need to "constantly pray to the Lord for the great gift of full unity among all Christ's disciples."

The pope also led an ecumenical evening prayer service closing the week, and said "the patient search for full communion among all the disciples of Christ" is based on the fact that God is love.

"Keeping our gaze on this truth, which is the culmination of divine revelation, divisions — while maintaining their painful seriousness — appear possible to overcome and do not discourage us," the pope said.

Drawn together by the same baptism and the same faith in Jesus as lord, Christian communities must overcome their divisiveness, but not necessarily

their different ways of expressing and celebrating their faith, he said.

Contributing to this story was Veronica Anthony, a parishioner of St. John Baptiste de la Salle.



THE ORATORY

434 Charlotte Avenue, P.O. Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586
(803) 327-2097

A DAY WITH THE RESURRECTION IN THE FOUR GOSPELS

Thursday, March 23

or

Saturday, March 25

9 am - 4 pm

Dr. Peter Judge

This Scripture day will examine the Resurrection stories in the four Gospels to reflect on the presentations of the empty tomb discovery and the appearances of the Risen Jesus. We will compare and contrast the accounts of the four canonical Gospels and connect the particular theology of each Gospel. Participants will explore the spirituality available in each account and appreciate how that speaks to believers today through sharing their reactions to the stories.

Dr. Judge teaches Scripture and Religion at Winthrop University in Rock Hill and has experience in Hospice ministry.

The same program is offered both days.

Cost: \$35 (lunch included)

**You could be singing too after more than
135,000 readers see YOUR company's
ad here!**

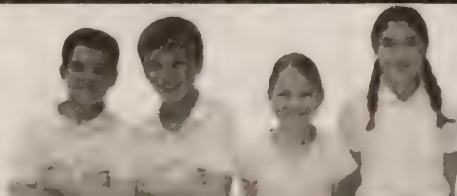


**LOW ad rates - easy for small businesses
and individuals, too!**

Call (704) 370-3332 now!
or ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org.

THE
CATHOLIC
NEWS HERALD

We Love Blessed Sacrament Academy !!



Call now to guarantee your child's enrollment.
Space is LIMITED! 704-841-2292

Visit us on the web: www.blessedsacramentacademy.org

Located behind Windsor Square in Matthews, NC. Independent of Charlotte diocesan schools. Member of NACIS.

- ◆ A classical curriculum in the Catholic tradition
- ◆ Latin, French, Music & Art
- ◆ Grades K-8
- ◆ Excellent scores on standardized tests



FROM THE COVER

'The sheer number of people coming ... shows us they want to participate.'

Diocese holds first Spanish-language seminar on RCIA

SPANISH, from page 1

The RCIA outlines the norms and rituals for adults who wish to enter the Catholic Church. The Diocesan Commission on the RCIA is part of the diocesan faith formation office.

The seminar was designed to provide an overview of the RCIA process, including its four stages: precatechumenate, catechumenate, purification and enlightenment, and mystagogy.

With a growing number of Hispanics entering the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Charlotte, the seminar offered catechists an opportunity to meet and exchange ideas.

"At the beginning, we thought that most of the community here was bilingual," said Carlos Casteneda, commission member. "We always invited them (Hispanics) to English-language workshops."

Late in 2005, the commission began receiving requests for faith formation training in Spanish, especially the RCIA.

"The sheer number of people coming from towns that are two hours away shows us that they want to participate, especially today, with this weather," said Casteneda. "The people need this."

The seminar was led by Nelson Bonet, a board member of the North American Forum on the Catechumenate and a member of the missionary group Amor en Accion, Spanish for Love in Action.

"Nelson Bonet offered great tips on how to 'break the ice' between the new catechumens and the catechist," said Ibis Centeno, Hispanic coordinator at St. Therese Church in Mooresville.

"He suggested we ask questions about trust and distrust at the beginning to get them accustomed to participating in the sessions," said Centeno. "By sharing their own personal experiences and getting acquainted with other members of the group early, the catechists will have a better idea of their progress as time goes by."

This seminar was one of a number of ways the diocesan faith formation office is reaching out to Hispanic members of the diocese.

In recent years, the office has supplied the office's western region with copies of "Eco de Fe," a video-assisted catechist formation program developed by the National Conference for Catechetical Leadership. The office also translated into Spanish the entire Catechist Recognition Process, a competency-based catechist formation process.



COURTESY PHOTO BY MANUEL ALIAGA

Nelson Bonet leads a presentation during the first Spanish-language seminar on the RCIA at the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory Feb. 11.

Manuel Aliaga is on staff with the diocesan Hispanic ministry office.

The Office of Faith Formation is one of the ministries supported by contributions to the



Diocesan Support Appeal, an annual campaign in the Diocese of Charlotte that helps support 30 ministries providing 50 programs. The 2006 DSA runs Feb. 4 to March 12.

Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Charlotte 704-334-6421

Pineville 704-544-1412

Mint Hill 704-545-4864


Derita 704-596-3291

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels. 

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065

BINGO
it's here!!!

St. Matthew K of C
BINGO at the new
South Charlotte Banquet Center
every Monday evening

Doors open: 6 pm
BINGO starts: 7 pm sharp!

Food and refreshments available
NON-SMOKING FACILITY
CASH ONLY - ATM AVAILABLE



9009 Bryant Farms Rd.

Directions: from 485- exit Rea Road (south). Right on Ballantyne. Past St. Matthew, turn left on Elm Lane (which turns into Bryant Farms Road). K of C Banquet Center is approximately 2 miles on the left.

Balance is key



CNS PHOTO BY TIM PARKER, REUTERS

Kimmie Meissner performs during the women's long program at the U.S. figure skating championships in St. Louis Jan. 14. The 16-year-old skater from the Archdiocese of Baltimore is competing in the Winter Olympic Games in Turin, Italy.

Faith, family are priorities for 16-year-old Olympic figure skater

BY JENNIFER WILLIAMS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

BEL AIR, Md. — Sixteen-year-old Olympic figure skater Kimmie Meissner may dazzle audiences and judges with her triple-axel jump, but off the ice, the high school junior is about as grounded as they come.

Shortly after the U.S. figure-skating championships in St. Louis in mid-January, in which she scored a second-place spot and a follow-up appearance on NBC's "Today" show, Meissner spent a Wednesday night eating with her parents, Judy and Paul, and studying for an upcoming algebra exam.

Like her life, Kimmie's room is split between the ordinary and her Olympic skater status, with clothes piled on a chair in one corner and competition medals hanging from another.

And while her rigorous practice schedule leaves no time for signature high school moments such as the school prom, participation in clubs or even lunch with friends, the teenager still leads a relatively normal life.

She goes to church on Sundays — her family belongs to St. Ignatius Church in Hickory, Md. — and she goes running with her dogs, watches television and snuggles at night with her cat, Ozzie.

"Sometimes he'll sleep on my head," the teen said with a grin.

Since she first hit the ice at age 6, her love of skating has been as gripping as the toe pick on the blade of a figure skate.

"Skating makes me so happy," said the young Olympian. "I'm not just doing it for a medal."

Even when she's told she should rest, Meissner said, she is itching to get her feet on the ice.

Over the span of a decade, her passion for and dedication to the sport have remained unwavering.

"I try to remind myself what my ultimate goal is," she said. "It could just be a little goal for the day like I want to skate a clean round or it could be a big goal like I want to go to nationals."

Meissner glides into a discussion about her family and her faith as smoothly as she swirls around a Delaware ice rink.

"God plays an important role in my life," she said. "I realize my talent was given to me by him, and I try to use it to the best of my ability."

She never prays to God to help her win, but when she was suffering a cold at nationals and her energy was sapped, she did look to God and thought, "I just need to do one program, and I would love to do good."

The teenager is keenly aware of her parents' sacrifices.

"My mom gives up a lot of social time," Meissner said. "And the boots and blades can be expensive. Everything piles up. I wouldn't be where I am today without their sacrifices."

"We're just so proud of her, because as good as she is on the ice, we know she's even better off the ice," said Judy Meissner, her mother.

Watching their daughter compete is stressful, said Paul Meissner, Kimmie's father, who himself plays ice hockey.

"She's a very determined young lady," he said.

Catholic involvement seen at Olympics

GAMES, from page 1

A Swiss Guard, who was sporting a tracksuit and sneakers instead of his usual colorful uniform, held the torch aloft for the blessing. The guard had received the flame from a Vatican gendarme, making it the first time Vatican representatives ever participated as Olympic torchbearers.

While the Vatican has never sent anyone to compete in the Olympics, the Vatican has a representative at the games.

For the first time, the head of the Vatican's new sports office, U.S. Father Kevin Lixey, is in Turin to network with national Olympic committees and chaplains from other countries. It will be the Legionaries of Christ priest's Olympic debut; the Vatican's church and sport desk was officially unveiled just days before the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens, Greece.

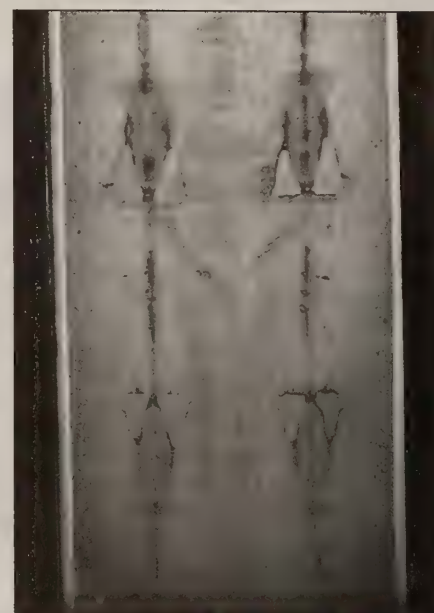
Outreach and faith

Parish churches all over Turin and the surrounding mountain villages will have their doors wide open to the public. Three dioceses are hosting concerts, special exhibits and additional Masses in several languages.

While Olympic sponsors will be handing out freebies to spectators and visitors, local Catholic, Waldensian and Orthodox churches are distributing 50,000 free copies of a special Olympic edition of St. Mark's Gospel.

While the city of Turin is still an industrial icon of the Fiat automobile, it is just as well-known for being the home of the Shroud of Turin.

Many people believe this 17-foot-long linen cloth bearing the image of a crucified man is Jesus' burial cloth. It



CNS PHOTO BY NANCY WIECHEC

The Shroud of Turin is seen in 2000 in St. John the Baptist Cathedral in Turin, Italy. Though the shroud will remain in storage during the Winter Olympics, the city's cathedral will feature a special exhibit showcasing the shroud and its history.

has been kept in the cathedral of Turin since 1578, but it has not been on public display since 2000.

Though the shroud will remain in protective storage during the Olympics, the city's cathedral will feature a special exhibit showcasing the shroud and its history.

Catholic athletes

The Olympics draw some of the world's finest athletes who come together in an atmosphere of peace and brotherhood — ideals that mesh perfectly with the Christian moral values of love and charity.

The **Catholic Company**™

Just in!

First Communion Gifts

Catholic Shop @ St. Matthew Catholic Church • New Life Center, Rm. 104
Corner of Rea Rd. and Ballantyne Commons Parkway - Charlotte, NC

Hours:
Monday-Friday 9-3
Sunday 10-2
704-927-4313
(Call for info or directions)

**Bring in this ad for 15% off
your purchase.**

(Not valid on "sale" items.)

Exp. 3/31/06

Earthbound ANGELS...

**POSITIONS AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY
HOME HELPERS, COMPANIONS & CNA'S**



Join our team of people who make a real difference in the lives of seniors —

Home Instead Senior Care is seeking friendly and dependable people in the Mecklenburg County area to provide home care assistance and companionship to seniors.

Call 704-344-9739

8 AND 12 HOUR SHIFTS AVAILABLE
Part Time, Full Time, AM/PM and Weekend Hours
Position requires a vehicle.

Home Instead
SENIOR CARE®

Olympic games

Competitors will represent some of the fittest, fastest and most graceful athletes in their sport, and some will also boast some strong spiritual muscle.

Rebecca Dussault, a U.S. cross-country skier from Colorado, will be following in the tracks of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, born in Turin in 1901 and beatified by Pope John Paul II May 20, 1990.

When he was not studying for his degree in mining engineering or helping people in need, Blessed Pier Giorgio would be climbing or skiing the same peaks where some Olympic mountain events are being held.

Dussault has made him the patron of her journey to the games, and she's inscribed his name on her skis for, if not a competitive, then a spiritual edge.

Derek Parra, 2002 Olympic gold and silver medalist in men's speedskating, will glide his blades across Turin's new Lingotto rink. He's easy to spot: He's one of just a few Mexican-Americans to take to the Olympic ice, and he always makes the sign of the cross before the starting signal.

Catholics will also be represented on the U.S. figure skating, women's ice hockey and bobsled teams and in the stands as well, cheering on their favorite athletes.

While some athletes wear their faith on their sleeves — or their skis — they'll all be digging down deep within themselves to do their best and live out their dream of taking part in the Olympics.

From Carolina to Turin

Catholic hockey coach feels blessed to be in third Olympics

BY JIM MYERS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Peter Laviolette knows that at the 2006 Winter Olympics he'll be experiencing a privilege few people attain: Already a two-time Olympic competitor, he gets another chance to bring home the gold, this time as head coach of the U.S. men's Olympic ice hockey team.

"I think you're lucky to go to the Olympics once, privileged to go twice and blessed to go three times," said Laviolette, a Catholic who also coached Team USA at the 2004 and 2005 International Ice Hockey Federation World Championships.

"You wonder how many more times you have after three," he added.

Laviolette played on the 1988 U.S. Olympic team in Calgary, Alberta, and captained the 1994 squad that competed in Lillehammer, Norway.

Coaching the men's national team isn't the only role handled by this Franklin, Mass., native. He also coaches the National Hockey League's Carolina Hurricanes.

While steering a pro sports franchise and the national team simultaneously may seem like a daunting task, Laviolette takes it in stride.

"There wasn't a lot to do for USA Hockey for a few months. There were no players to coach," said Laviolette, who said the real hard work begins in the

days leading up to the first game Feb. 15 against Latvia.

"It's a short tournament to run in a short amount of time," he added. "Strategically we're ready. There's not a lot you can do but be prepared."

Team USA was to practice together Feb. 14 before the first game. Then it would be five straight days of games before the medal round.

Laviolette's first head coaching assignment in the NHL was with the New York Islanders in 2001-03. He began his current assignment as head coach in Carolina midway through the 2003-04 season.

The Hurricanes failed to make the 2004 Stanley Cup playoffs, and last season was wiped out by the NHL's labor issues. But heading into this season's Olympic break, the Hurricanes sat atop the NHL standings.

Carolina, which in the past languished near the bottom of the league in goals scored, is almost unbeatable when scoring first and has yet to lose when leading after two periods.

Laviolette has not left his Catholic roots behind and incorporates his faith into his everyday life.

"I think the biggest thing for me is to try to be who I am. I try to be an honest person," Laviolette said. "You're a product of your environment. Growing up in a Catholic household, my parents taught me values consistent with Catholic teachings."






CNS PHOTO COURTESY OF USA HOCKEY

Peter Laviolette, coach of the National Hockey League's Carolina Hurricanes, is a two-time Olympic competitor and first-time head coach of the U.S. men's ice hockey team competing in the Olympic Winter Games in Turin, Italy.

Laviolette was coaching four of his Carolina Hurricanes players at the Olympics. Defenseman Bret Hedican and forwards Erik Cole and Doug Weight were on the regular roster, while forward Matt Cullen was a potential replacement player.



Having players who already play for a coach is important "because they're familiar with the team and you as a coach," said Laviolette.

"Ultimately, you need to get everyone on the same page instead of just a couple of guys. The team that has everyone working together has the best chance to succeed," he said.

BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED

Make your first move to an excellent education
Apply online now!
www.BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

Ranked one of the best comprehensive colleges in the South by U.S. News and World Report, Belmont Abbey College celebrates excellence and virtue steeped in its 130 year Catholic Benedictine heritage.

Just minutes from Charlotte, we offer our students numerous internship opportunities and career placement.

Our 15:1 student-faculty ratio provides for smaller class sizes and personal one-on-one mentoring.

We believe in development of the whole person — mind, body and spirit. By offering a wide array of clubs and activities, including Division II athletics, theatre, student publications, and study abroad, Belmont Abbey College invests in the personal growth of its students.

Upcoming event:
ABBEY EXPERIENCE
SATURDAY

FEBRUARY 25TH
9AM TO 2PM

Space is limited pre-register online now!

For more info call 1.888.222.0110 or
email admissions@bac.edu

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Compendium of catechism goes on sale in paperback March 31

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, a 200-page synthesis of the 1992 catechism, will be available in paperback March 31 from USCCB Publishing, the publishing office of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

A hardcover edition will follow shortly after. Both versions will be published in English and Spanish.

The compendium, made up of 598 questions and answers, echoes to some degree the format of the Baltimore Catechism, which was standard in many U.S. Catholic parishes and schools from 1885 to the 1960s.

It also includes two appendices — a list of Catholic prayers in English or Spanish, side by side with the Latin versions, and a list of “formulas of Catholic doctrine,” including the Ten Commandments, the beatitudes, the theological and cardinal virtues, and the

spiritual and corporal works of mercy.

Msgr. Daniel Kutys, USCCB deputy secretary for catechesis, said members of the U.S. bishops’ Committee on Catechesis have recommended that the compendium “be used as a standard reference companion to which teachers and catechists refer their students in much the same way they use Bibles for instruction.”

“It is not meant to replace religion textbooks, but to augment and complement them,” he added.

Pope Benedict XVI has said the compendium “contains, in concise form, all the essential and fundamental elements of the church’s faith.”

WANT TO ORDER?

The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church may be ordered online at: www.usccbpublishing.org, or by phone at: (800) 235-8722.

Priest says Michael Jackson unlikely to sing in papal prayer project

ROME (CNS) — Father Giuseppe Moscati said he never considered having Michael Jackson record all of the 24 prayers of Pope John Paul II he hopes eventually to set to music.

But, the priest said, to have Jackson sing one of the songs or to be part of a choir singing a song might have helped sales, reaching greater numbers of people.

However, when a Scottish newspaper published a story Feb. 6 saying there had been “secret discussions between the Roman Catholic Church and Michael Jackson to put the prayers of Pope John Paul II to music,” the project began to fall apart.

“It would be very difficult for the Vatican to accept the project,” said Father Moscati, director of Edizioni Musicali Terzo Millennio, a sacred music publishing and promotion company.

“Although he has been absolved by the courts” on charges of the sexual abuse of minors, it is clear Jackson’s image “cannot be put alongside that of the pope,” Father Moscati said.

The priest said he still would not mind the singer being involved on some level, but the furor created by the news reports makes Vatican approval doubtful.

“I did not go looking for him or for anyone else,” the priest said.

He mentioned the project to an

acquaintance who claimed to know Jackson “and I thought he had contact with other singers as well.”

“I never met Michael Jackson or his representatives or his lawyers,” the priest said. “And it was very inappropriate of them to tell the press.”

Father Moscati said he went through dozens of texts of Pope John Paul’s homilies, speeches and remarks for various occasions, paying particular attention to the prayers the pope often used to close his remarks.

“Many of them are prayers for peace, for young people, for the family or prayers to Mary,” he said.

The priest obtained permission to use the prayers from the Libreria Vaticana Editrice, which holds the copyright to all papal texts.

However, the final project — including the music and the singers — must be approved by the Vatican before publication.

Father Moscati has hired two Italian composers to set a few of the texts to music, although he said that if he finds some well-known singers who want to compose the music themselves that would be fine.

“At this point, I am hoping to find a producer in the United States who would want to join the project and who has contacts with professional singers,” he said.

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: FEB. 26, 2006

Feb. 26, Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Hosea 2:16b, 17b, 21-22
Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 8-10, 12-13
- 2) 2 Corinthians 3:1b-6
- 3) Gospel: Mark 2:18-22

Spiritual transformation is continual, requires change

BY JEAN DENTON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

When all is going well in your life and your spirit is in sync with God, just stay in the zone. You’re walking together: Jesus guiding, you following. Enjoy it, because it won’t last. So says this weekend’s Gospel.

Jesus’ disciples didn’t need to fast to seek closeness to God. Jesus was already with them. But one day he’d be taken away. Then they’d have to make serious decisions to walk with him again.

That’s how it always is in the world: Something or someone gets in the way of our relationship with God, and we must choose whether or not to do something about it.

It happened to Thomas. Ten years ago Thomas made a radical life change that many Christians have considered, but few have had the courage or strength to follow through with.

A faithful Catholic, Thomas had given years of hard work and commitment to his career, earning an enviable top executive position in a large, successful company. But when he began volunteering at an after-school pro-

gram in an inner-city housing project, his heart moved.

As he continued working with young people and their families in the program that provided a variety of social services, he also was deepening his relationship with God through a faith-sharing group in his parish church. Soon he could see too clearly the injustices in the social fabric of his community — something previously he’d been blind to while walking the corporate corridors.

He realized the lifestyle formed by his career path had drawn him away from God. To the shock of his family and colleagues, he and his wife walked away from that life. Cold turkey.

They left a big city, big jobs and big income for a small community and scaled-back lifestyle to work in low-paying, local family service agencies.

In the language of the Gospel, Thomas had been filled with the new wine of active discipleship, having found Jesus in the families at the after-school program. He had to make a change.

If he’d stayed in the old skin of his rat-race career, his fervor for justice would have died of frustration — or his job would have failed for lack of heart.

Spiritual transformation is continual and requires foundational change at every turn. I wonder if it has happened to Thomas again.

Questions:

What transforming moments in your walk with Jesus have brought you to make a dramatic change in your life? Where do you see a need for change to draw you closer to Jesus?

Scripture to be Illustrated:

“I will lead her into the desert and speak to her heart” (Hosea 2:16).

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF FEB. 19-25

Sunday (Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time), Isaiah 43:18-19, 21-22, 24-25, 2 Corinthians 1:18-22, Mark 2:1-12; **Monday**, James 3:13-18, Mark 9:14-29; **Tuesday (St. Peter Damian)**, James 4:1-10, Mark 9:30-37; **Wednesday (The Chair of Peter)**, 1 Peter 5:1-4, Matthew 16:13-19; **Thursday (St. Polycarp)**, James 5:1-6, Mark 9:41-50; **Friday**, James 5:9-12, Mark 10:1-12; **Saturday**, James 5:13-20, Mark 10:13-16.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF FEB. 26-MARCH 4

Sunday (Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Hosea 2:16-17, 21-22, 2 Corinthians 3:1-6, Mark 2:18-22; **Monday**, 1 Peter 1:3-9, Mark 10:17-27; **Tuesday**, 1 Peter 1:10-16, Mark 10:28-31; **Wednesday (Ash Wednesday)**, Joel 2:12-18, 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18; **Thursday (Lenten Weekday)**, Deuteronomy 30:15-20, Luke 9:22-25; **Friday (St. Katharine Drexel)**, Isaiah 58:1-9, Matthew 9:14-15; **Saturday (St. Casimir)**, Isaiah 58:9-14, Luke 5:27-32.

Pilgrimage to Poland – Remembering JPII

June 8, 2006 – 10 days, 14 meals

Warsaw, Czestochowa, Krakow, Auschwitz,
Divine Mercy Shrine, Wadowice & more.



Airfare, hotels & transfers included. \$2,789 per person (double) from Columbia, SC. Call Fr. Andrew Vollkommer, Our Lady of the Lake, for brochure: 803-345-3962.

Groce
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

1401 Patton Ave. 72 Long Shoals Road
Asheville, NC Arden, NC
(828) 252-3535 (828) 687-3530

**Assuring
Absolute
Integrity**

Asheville's Catholic Funeral Directors
Dale Groce • John Prock

Toll-free (888) 874-3535

Pre-arrangements and obituaries on-line at www.grocefuneralhome.com

Amazing siblings

Catholic winners of \$1 million 'Amazing Race' prize put family first

BY SISTER EILEEN CONNELLY
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

CINCINNATI — The Linz siblings of Cincinnati, who emerged as the winners of the CBS series "The Amazing Race" in December, credit a Catholic school background with their knowledge of geography and their use of teamwork.

The Linzes — Nick, 25; Alex, 23; Megan, 21; and Tommy, 20 — were the first team to cross the finish line near Niagara Falls, N.Y., netting a \$1 million prize.

Since the show's finale, the siblings have been busy with interviews and public appearances, including a visit to Immaculate Heart of Mary School in Cincinnati, where they all attended grade school.

They received an enthusiastic welcome from the faculty and students as they recounted some of their experiences.

Alex Linz, a 2000 graduate of St. Xavier High School who currently works as an emergency department technician at Mercy Hospital Anderson, credited the education they received and the values they learned at the school with helping them to win the competition.

"Our teachers at IHM always taught us to use teamwork," he said. "They

always encouraged us and were role models. I owe the person that I am today to them."

"I was fortunate enough to have taught all the Linz children," said Brother Ed Kesler, a Brother of St. Francis of the Poor and assistant principal at the school. "While here, they all displayed the team spirit and quick thinking that was evident during 'The Amazing Race' challenge."

"What a blessing it is as a Catholic educator to see such strong character and deep faith revealed by your students in such a public way," he added.

That character was demonstrated when the Linz siblings announced on national television that their prize money would be shared with their family. Half will go to their parents, Tom and Terri Linz, and the rest will be split seven ways among the four race participants and their three brothers who did not appear on the show.

"The money doesn't equate to what our parents have done for us," Alex Linz said, "and we wanted our siblings to know that we wish they could have been there."

When she heard her children's plans for their winnings, "it made me realize how special they are," said Terri Linz, "I

'Eight Below' a warm family film



CNS PHOTO BY DISNEY

Paul Walker stars in "Eight Below," a winning family-friendly adventure inspired by real events about a team of sled dogs left behind during a forced evacuation of a remote Antarctic research station. The dogs struggle against the odds while their devoted handler (Walker) races against time and indifference to mount a rescue mission. Set against spectacular South Pole vistas, the film balances action and heart-tugging emotion in telling its captivating tale of friendship and canine courage.

Some human and animal peril, predatory violence, and a few sad scenes that may upset the youngest children. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

watched each week with a lot of pride, although I did have to cover my eyes occasionally."

The Linzes were on a family trip to Cancun, Mexico, during the Christmas holidays in 2004 when they were approached by a CBS casting director and asked to audition for the show.

"We'd always joked that we'd never do reality TV, but 'The Amazing Race' was different," recalled Megan Linz, a 2003 graduate of St. Ursula Academy and now a student at Miami University in Ohio. "It seemed so real and so fun."

This season of "The Amazing Race" was the show's first "family edition" with 10 four-person teams. The families raced around the United States and Central America.

From the start of the race, Alex Linz said, "we didn't really have a strategy, because we didn't really see it as a competition. It was more of an opportunity to have fun, to have an adventure."

"We did decide that we were going to try not to fight and to keep the bickering at a minimum," added his sister. "We just wanted to play the game the best we could and do it for the experience, not the prize."

"The most important thing is that we were ourselves the entire time," Megan Linz added. "We never had to change who we are. We stuck to the values our parents taught us."

While Megan Linz is close to her brothers and is a self-admitted tomboy, she said it was hard being the only girl on the team.

"I can run with the boys for sure, but I can still be sensitive," she said.

Alex and Megan Linz both say the experience opened their eyes to different cultures and taught them patience and the importance of teamwork.

"It also reinforced what I already knew — that I have a great family," Alex Linz said.

Come and join us — "Following Jesus Christ"

St. Gabriel Parish Mission
February 20, 21 and 22



Very Reverend Joseph Wahl from The Oratory in Rock Hill, South Carolina will lead the presentations each morning and evening. Light lunch will be served each day.

Daily schedule -

- 11 a.m. — Mass followed by Mission presentation
(Light luncheon follows in the Ministry Center)
- 7 p.m. — Evening service in the Church

St. Gabriel Catholic Church
3016 Providence Road, Charlotte

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



BIG BOOK SALE NOW at the Monroe Road location!

- Unique gifts & cards
- Books, rosaries, medals
- Previously read book section
(at Lake Norman)
- Video rentals
- Artwork

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

Opponents of embryonic stem-cell research get good news, bad news

BY NANCY FRAZIER O'BRIEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — The first weeks of 2006 brought good news and bad news for opponents of embryonic stem-cell research, as a bill that would have encouraged the research in Delaware got significant revisions but new proposals supporting it cropped up in New Jersey and Michigan.

In Florida, competing initiatives on taxpayer funding for embryonic stem-cell research each failed to gain the 611,000 signatures needed to place it on the state's November ballot; the Florida bishops had backed a proposal to prohibit such research.

The heads of Virginia's two Catholic dioceses also issued a joint pastoral letter on "Science at the Service of Life," in which they called embryonic stem-cell research both unethical and unproven.

The Delaware effort to block a bill that would have given state sanction to embryonic stem-cell research was led by a grass-roots group called A Rose and a Prayer.

After the House approved a drastically amended version of the bill in January, Stephen Jenkins, a Wilmington attorney who helped form the organization late last year, said it would now seek to ban all research on embryos in the state, along with all forms of human cloning.

As passed in the House, the bill bans human reproductive cloning and the sale of human embryos but makes no mention of embryonic stem-cell research. Democratic Sen. Robert Venables and Republican Rep. Deborah Hudson, the bill's primary sponsors, had characterized the bill as a way for Delaware to be at the forefront of embryonic stem-cell research in the United States.

The revised bill now returns to the Senate, which had approved the original version last June. The Senate may approve the revised bill, amend the House version or take no action.

The Diocese of Wilmington and pro-life groups in Delaware had vigorously opposed the original legislation because it allowed for the destruction of human embryos. Republican Rep. Joseph G. DiPinto, co-sponsor of the House amendment that eliminated any mention of embryonic stem cells, said he may introduce legislation this spring to encourage adult stem-cell research, which the church supports.

"There is no reason why Delaware could not be a center of scientific excel-

lence with regard to the development of adult stem-cell research," DiPinto, a Catholic and a retired DuPont scientist, told The Dialog, the newspaper of the Diocese of Wilmington.

'Clone and kill' legislation

In New Jersey, legislation recently introduced in the Legislature would ask voters to approve \$230 million in public bonds for stem-cell research grants to universities, academic medical institutions and other entities in the state conducting scientific and medical research.

Another bill would authorize \$150 million for the construction of the Stem Cell Institute of New Jersey in New Brunswick and another \$60 million for research.

Two similar bills passed the Senate in 2005, but expired because the Assembly failed to take them up before the end of the legislative session that ended Jan. 9.

Under a 2003 state law, human embryos derived from fertility clinics can be used in research.

"We need to be clear that this funding will allow research to advance that will allow the creating, the cloning and the killing of human beings through the embryonic, fetal and newborn stages," said Marie Tasy, executive director of New Jersey Right to Life.

In Michigan, Gov. Jennifer Granholm's call in her State of the State address to repeal Michigan's law

prohibiting human cloning and embryonic stem-cell research drew strong criticism from the Michigan Catholic Conference.

Paul A. Long, the conference's vice president for public policy, said Granholm was irresponsible in telling Michigan families that the repeal would "lead to some sort of miracle cure."

The governor "is misleading these suffering families into believing that such 'clone and kill' legislation will alleviate the debilitating diseases that ail humanity," Long said.

"The facts are that scientists have been performing stem-cell research on embryos for over 30 years, and to date have yet to produce any miracle cures," he said.

Advocating for change

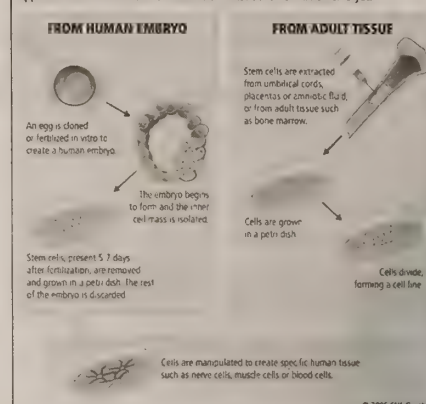
Florida groups that had supported proposals for and against taxpayer funding of embryonic stem-cell research vowed to continue their efforts to amend the state constitution, now aiming for the 2008 ballot.

"Without such an amendment, the people of Florida will be at risk for cooperation in destructive embryo research by supporting it with our tax revenues," the Florida Catholic bishops said last September.

The bishops also oppose a new proposal in the Legislature to provide

CREATING STEM-CELL LINES

Scientists believe stem cells could repair diseased or injured tissues. The Catholic Church opposes stem-cell research that involves the destruction of human embryos.



\$150 million in state funding over 10 years for embryonic stem-cell research.

Virginia Bishops Paul S. Loverde of Arlington and Francis X. DiLorenzo of Richmond said in their Feb. 2 letter that the newly established Virginia Catholic Conference would be "marshaling resources for the critical advocacy work needed to promote state investments in life-affirming research and at the same time protect the lives of embryonic human beings."

"Our church embraces scientific and medical advances that save lives, cure diseases and improve health, as long as those advances are not made by exploiting, harming or killing another member of our human family," the bishops said.

Contributing to this story were Gary Morton in Wilmington, Del., and Chris Donahue in Trenton, N.J.

EWTN Eucharistic Pilgrimage



May 23-25 with
Fr. James Ebright

pick-up points: Winston-Salem,
Greensboro, Charlotte

May 30-June 1 with
Fr. Michael Kottar

pick-up points: Winston-Salem,
Asheville, Sylva, Franklin

\$245 (dbl. occupancy) Includes: EWTN tour & tickets to Fr. Pacwa's TV show; day at Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament; lodging at St. Bernard Abbey; transportation, most meals and snacks

Call: Patti Dameron
(336) 785-4283 or (336) 413-8127
or Sherry Lehtenin
(828)524-5542 (after 5pm)

PART-TIME SECRETARY DIOCESAN PASTORAL CENTER



The Office of Development has an opening for a part-time secretary. The successful candidate must be a high school graduate who is computer literate with experience in Microsoft Office programs. Knowledge of Raiser's Edge by Blackbaud is helpful, but not required.

Responsibilities include standard office tasks such as data entry and database management, word processing, fielding phone calls, copying/collating, etc. This is a part-time position for 21 hours a week.

Please submit resume by March 1, 2006 to Barbara Gaddy, Office of Development, 1123 South Church Street, Charlotte, NC 28203 or bagaddy@charlottediocese.org.

Archdiocese of Atlanta CATHOLIC SCHOOLS JOB FAIR

March 4, 2006
10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Cathedral of Christ the King
2699 Peachtree Road NE
Atlanta, GA 30305
www.christking.org

- ◆ Faith Based Education
- ◆ SACS Accredited Schools
- ◆ Competitive Salaries & Benefits
- ◆ Strong Parental Support

◆ Teaching Positions in Grades Pre-K - 12

◆ Qualified candidates should bring multiple copies of resumes ◆

Classifieds

Classified ads bring results! Over 135,000 readers! Over 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

Many make mural



COURTESY PHOTO

Father James Solari (right), pastor of St. Michael Church in Gastonia, and art teacher Kriss Yavelak (second from right) stand with middle school students in front of a mural on the cafeteria wall of St. Michael School Jan. 31. Under Yavelak's direction, students worked after school to create the mural depicting St. Francis of Assisi. Father Solari blessed the mural at a school morning prayer meeting during Catholic Schools Week.

Discussing love



COURTESY PHOTO BY KIM KNOX

Msgr. Anthony Marcaccio, pastor of St. Pius X Church in Greensboro, visits with middle school students as part of a Valentine's Day assembly at St. Pius X School Feb. 13. Msgr. Marcaccio gave the students a lesson on the history and meaning of love.

A growing effort

School recognized for beautification program

WINSTON-SALEM — Good things are blooming at St. Leo the Great School in Winston-Salem.

The school garden club was featured in the November/December 2005 issue of *Today's Catholic Teacher* for their school beautification efforts.

On Feb. 1, during Catholic Schools Week, a magazine representative visited the school to present a School of the Month plaque. Principal Georgette Schraeder and fifth-graders Hannah Lee and Allan Washing, student gardeners; and Barb Vickland, garden club president, accepted the award from Annie Galvin Teich, vice president of catechetical products and services at *Today's Catholic Teacher*.

"As we completed renovations to upgrade our 50-year-old building on the inside, it immediately became evident that while beauty on the inside was important, we wanted to look beautiful on the outside as well," said Donna Birkel, school administrative assistant.

The beautification program, now in its third year, has been assisted by the PTO-sponsored student garden club, the Dandyions (formerly known as Bloomsquad), as well as teachers, parents and other students.

"I enjoyed working and planning with the students and faculty last year and look forward to helping the students appreciate the beauty, hard work and successful feeling gardening gives," said Barb Vickland, Dandyions moderator and teacher's assistant.

Students in second-through-eighth-grade are eligible for the garden club, which has helped by cleaning, weeding, planting and watering plants around the school campus. In addition to the achievements of the beautification

project, students have learned about agriculture and ecology during the process.

Third-grade teacher Maureen Patti introduced a cabbage plant program, which she has used for teaching math graphing. Middle-school science teacher Mythily Isaac has plans for a container garden this year, as does pre-kindergarten teacher Jan Wilson.

Sixth-grade students made decorative stones, which have been placed in front of the school along with student-built birdhouses.

The beautification project will soon involve a prayer garden, for which the students will create free-form stepping stones from clay.

"They will then choose a line from a Bible passage or a short prayer and etch this with a pointed tool into the surface of the stone," said art teacher Stephanie Iauco.

Placed randomly throughout the garden, the stones will provide an environment of beauty and contemplation.

"The best part of it all is that it just keeps growing in terms of the number of people involved and the opportunities for mental and spiritual growth," said Schraeder.

"I've even started my own garden at home," said fifth-grader Hannah Lee, a Dandyions member.

"It doesn't happen overnight. Gardens take time to grow and develop," said Schraeder. "You may have to uproot something you planted to allow something more beautiful to grow."

And that in itself is a significant lesson these students are learning.

Contributing to this story was Ruth A. Matheny of Today's Catholic Teacher.



COURTESY PHOTO BY DONNA BICKEL

Annie Galvin Teich (left) of *Today's Catholic Teacher* presents a School of the Month plaque to student Allan Washing, Principal Georgette Schraeder, student Hannah Lee and Barb Vickland, garden club moderator, for beautification efforts at St. Leo the Great School in Winston-Salem Feb. 1.

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Should you be committed?

Ability to change, grow lies within each person

You know who you are.

You're the one who sat on your sofa watching the Pasadena Rose Parade on television, volume low to tune out Teri Hatcher and the marching bands, pencil in hand, making your list of New Year's resolutions for 2006.

Well, now that the year is well under way, how are you doing with that list? What's that, you say? You've already thrown it away? Just can't do it? Who needs tired old resolutions anyway?

Take heart and read on, because you are certainly not alone.

How many of us have already given up on the New Year's resolutions we so optimistically set only a short time ago? Lose weight, stop smoking, be more patient with the kids, attend Mass more regularly ... it all sounded pretty good a few weeks ago, right? Yet here we are thinking, "Well, maybe next year."

What are we missing? What is that elusive "thing" that keeps us from achieving what we promise ourselves year after year?

Commitment. We need to be committed. No, not to an asylum, but to making the changes that will lead to better living.

As the German philosopher Goethe tells us, "Until one is committed, there is hesitancy, the chance to draw back ... the moment one definitely commits oneself, then Providence moves, too."

When we take steps to honor our promise to ourselves, how could God, who loves us, not help us along? For those of us whose spirit is willing, but the flesh is ... well, not so willing, let the following points strengthen your resolve and move you toward commitment.

Believe in yourself. When we don't have the belief that we are capable of making a particular change, then our chances of accomplishment are pretty slim. When we fail, we tell ourselves, "Who was I kidding? I knew I wouldn't be able to see this through."

If you are having a hard time buying into your goal, try "borrowing" someone else's belief in you for a while. A friend

Peace of Mind

LORI L. FOX
GUEST COLUMNIST



or loved one who says, "I believe you can do this," can be the beginning of building confidence in yourself.

Be accountable. It's a little too easy for us to let ourselves "off the hook." We tend to take our promises more seriously when they are made to another person.

Tell a friend what you are trying to achieve. Invite that person to take an active role in helping you stay on track. Having someone to answer to can improve your commitment to a goal.

Be resilient. Like the song says, "I get knocked down, but I get up again ..." Failure to meet a goal at the end of the day has nothing to do with our chances of meeting that goal tomorrow. Every day is a fresh opportunity as long as we choose to see it that way.

Break it down. Sometimes we have trouble staying committed to a plan when it is too big, complex or vague. Break a goal down into manageable steps with a timeframe for beginning and an end. Instead of trying to lose thirty pounds in six months, try four or five pounds on a month-by-month basis.

Now grab that pencil and commit yourself! Remember, the season of Lent begins March 1. We're entering a time of change and resurrection. The possibilities are endless!

The counseling team at Catholic Social Services in the Diocese of Charlotte is available to help people who are dealing with barriers to change. We offer professional, affordable counseling in a faith-based setting.

Please call me at (704) 370-3238 to schedule an appointment, or visit our Web site at www.cssnc.org.

Lori Fox is supervisor of counseling services for Catholic Social Services in the Diocese of Charlotte.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

Pope Benedict concludes series of audience talks begun by predecessor

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Concluding a series of audience talks begun by Pope John Paul II in 2001, Pope Benedict XVI said the psalms and canticles used for morning and evening prayer are a "flowering garden" of praise and contemplation.

At his weekly general audience Feb. 15, the pope announced that with a brief meditation on Mary's Magnificat he was concluding the series begun "years ago by my beloved predecessor, the unforgettable Pope John Paul II."

Because of the large number of visitors present, the pope actually held two audiences: one in St. Peter's Basilica and the other in the Vatican audience hall. The crowd included some 6,000 Italian grade school and high school students.

The pope told the students he was sure they had heard about his first encyclical, "Deus Caritas Est" ("God Is Love"), in which "I wanted to recall that the source and reason for our true joy is the love of God."

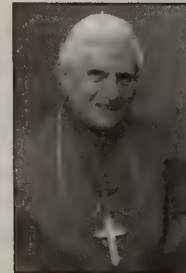
"I invite each of you to understand and increasingly accept this love, which changes lives and will make you credible witnesses of the Gospel," he said. "In this way, you will become authentic friends of Jesus and his faithful apostles."

The pope told the young people that they must help the weak and needy "feel the tenderness of the heart of God" and that by doing so they would make the world more just.

Over the course of the five years of the audience series, the psalm or canticle chosen for the papal meditation each week was sung at the beginning of the audience by a soloist and one or two

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



other singers.

But for the series finale, members of the Sistine Chapel choir sang the Magnificat.

Mary's hymn of praise to God for the great things he had done for her, the pope said, illustrates the "spirituality of the biblical 'anawim,' those faithful who saw themselves as poor not only in their detachment from any idolatry of riches and power, but also in their profound humility of heart, free of any temptation toward pride, open to the flow of divine saving grace."

Pope Benedict said he is "touched and surprised" every time he reads St. Ambrose's commentary on the Magnificat, especially the Italian saint's observation that "if, according to the flesh, there is only one mother of Christ, according to faith all souls generate Christ."

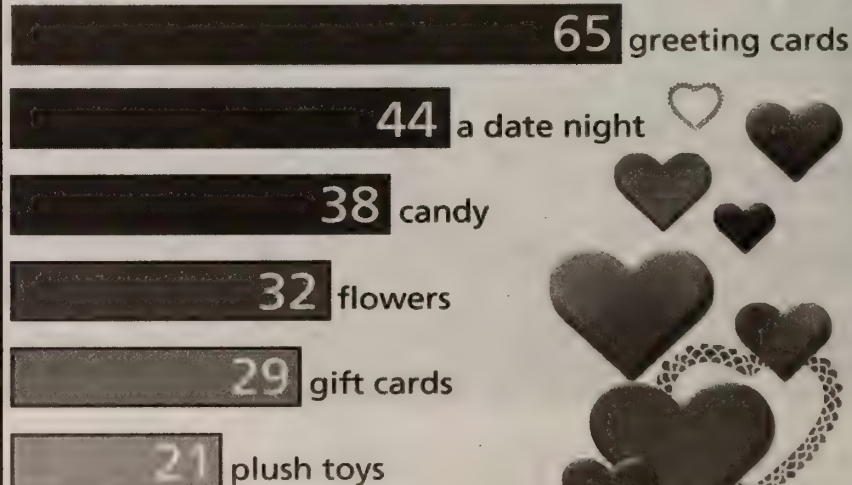
"Interpreting the words of the Madonna," the pope said, St. Ambrose "invites us to make sure that in our souls and in our lives the Lord finds a dwelling place, and not just a dwelling place to carry him in our hearts, but to carry him into the world, generating Christ in our time."

"Let us pray to the Lord that he helps us magnify him with the spirit of Christ and to carry him once again into the world," the pope said.

Valentine Celebrations

The giving of valentines originated in northern Europe soon after the arrival of Christianity.

Percent of Americans who celebrate with...



Source: Hallmark Research
©2006 CNS

The miracle beyond reality

Jesus' body and blood is there for all to see

Recently, Dr. James McGovern, a doctor of pediatric cardiology, gave a presentation that not only re-enforced our belief in the Eucharist, but also confirmed that many of us witness a eucharistic miracle weekly, even daily.

For Catholics, the Eucharist is where mere bread and wine are transubstantiated; that is, transformed into Christ's body and blood. Even though it still looks like bread and wine, it has been transubstantiated and is wholly Jesus Christ.

But to believe such a miracle, one needs to look at the evidence.

When you think about it, Christ actually said that the Eucharist really is him. He used the strongest language possible (six times in the Gospel of John) that there was no symbolism and that this was in fact God.

Those doubting, and there were many, decided to bolt with this alleged talk of cannibalism. Jesus did not ask them to come back and did not say he was speaking only figuratively.

But scroll back to Lanciano, Italy in 750 A.D. In the middle of consecration, a Basilian monk in a St. Legontian monastery saw the unspeakable — the bread and wine suddenly became flesh and blood, visually, there on the altar.

The monk was at first dumbfounded and paralyzed with fear. He then became elated after realizing what had just happened — the bread and wine had been changed into Jesus' body and blood as always, but this time there was actual flesh and blood on the altar.

The doubting Thomases were

Guest Column

KEVIN ROETEN
GUEST COLUMNIST

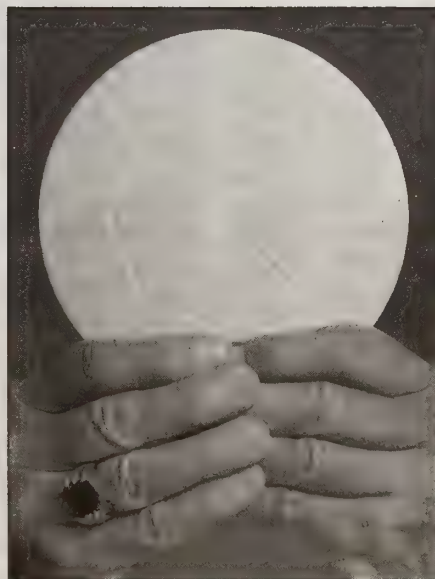
innumerable. Finally in 1970, a full roundtable of research, clinical tests and examinations were conducted. Unexplainable events were confirmed.

In 1981, a repeat external and microscopic analysis of the host tissue was performed. Incredibly, the tissue and the blood still remained intact after 1,250 years without being hermetically sealed.

Further, the blood type was found to be AB, consistent with other confirmed miracles in which the wine had become blood. Scientific analysis concluded the flesh to be cardiac (heart) muscle. Microscopic visualization and other testing demonstrated interconnections and bridges proving heart origin.

In another test that used rabbit, ox and human controls, anti-human antibodies confirmed the human origin. This is particularly interesting as there is a long tradition of Jesus' sacred heart within the Catholic Church.

As Louis Pasteur stated, "A little bit of science averts people from God; a lot of it takes us back to him." One specific earth-shattering fact was that the surface of the transformed tissue was perfectly smooth — never raised, chapped or



carved — though neither laser cutters nor human dissection existed in 750 A.D.

Bottom line, all faithful Catholic would hope that everyone would be in communion with this belief. For those who think that they have never seen an actual miracle, Lanciano awaits you now in Italy.

But to see the same miracle without traveling to Italy and without all the bells and whistles, all you have to do is go to Mass, where we can receive the transubstantiated body and blood.

As a Catholics, I pray that whoever sees the Eucharist (Jesus' body and blood) will not bolt as so many did in 33 A.D.

Kevin Roeten is a parishioner of St. Barnabas Church in Arden.

Why is Sunday the Lord's Day?

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN
DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



Q. Please explain the church's teaching on why Sunday is recognized as the Lord's Day. Is not the Sabbath mentioned in the Ten Commandments a Saturday? Granted, Jesus rose on Sunday, but what about God's commandment to keep holy the Sabbath? (New York)

A. First, Sabbath does not mean Saturday. The term comes from the Hebrew word "shabbath," to rest.

In the Jewish calendar this was the seventh day of the week, a day to imitate God's "rest" after the biblical six days of creation (Ex 20:11 and 31:17). The Hebrew community set aside this day for worship and rest from daily work, even for slaves and cattle.

Detailed regulations listing a variety of forbidden works, including prohibitions against cooking, lighting a fire and gathering manna in the desert, are found in the early books of the Hebrew Scriptures, the Old Testament. Violations often were punishable by death.

Even in later times Jesus himself was challenged by religious leaders for allowing his followers to pick ears of corn to eat on the Sabbath.

Though they were mostly Jews, the first Christians soon changed the Sabbath day of rest and prayer to Sunday for a variety of reasons.

First, as you note, the fact that the resurrection of Jesus is recorded in the Gospels as occurring on the first day of the week had much to do with making this the appropriate day to celebrate the Lord's Supper.

The pre-eminent celebration of the central event of their faith, the resurrection, was the Sunday Eucharist, though that specific name wasn't in the Christian vocabulary until some time later.

Christians also changed other days of observance, such as days of fast and penance, from those prescribed by Jewish law, partly to emphasize the separation from their Israelite roots.

Not until centuries later, after the Reformation, was there any significant Christian move against celebration of Sunday as the Lord's Day. When the Seventh Day Adventist Church began about the middle of the 19th century, four men and one woman who formed its nucleus were somehow convinced that Saturday should still be the "holy day" of the week.

It is one of the lesser ways the teachings of that denomination diverge from historic Christian tradition.

The "day of rest" called for in the Ten Commandments is still, as it always has been, part of Catholic Christian observance.

A time like no other

New year brings opportunities for planning

If you're like most of us, you have begun 2006 with a feeling of renewal that accompanies the start of another new year. You may be motivated to finish those tasks that have been put off for so long before you look toward accomplishing new goals.

If 2006 inspires you to review or begin your estate plan, here's a quick outline that experts suggest to help you prepare your will. Reflecting on these questions will allow you to have your ideas recorded in logical order and save you time and expense when you meet with your attorney or financial advisor.

— Who is important to you? Start with those who may be dependent on you for financial support, including your spouse, children, parents, siblings, grandchildren or others. Record each person's name, age and relationship to you.

Then consider your parish, Catholic school, Catholic agency, the diocesan foundation or the Diocese of Charlotte, along with anyone else you may want to include in your estate plan.

— What do you own? Everyone has an estate, not just the wealthy. Include in this list everything of value, as this is what makes up your estate: your house(s), automobile(s), cash, savings accounts, securities, real estate, life insurance, stocks, bonds and retirement plan assets, art, jewelry and any other property of value.

List the present value of each item, what it cost and any income it provides. List any mortgages or other debts.

— How do you wish to distribute your property? Jot down your ideas as you answer this question and think about who will receive the property you own.

You may want to designate specific items to some, while others would receive a dollar amount or percentage of your estate. You are the only one who can make these decisions based on your desires and the needs of each heir.

— Who can help you put your plans into action? In order for your planning to result in the distribution you intend, it's important to have the best possible professional advice. Your attorney can draft

Guest Column

JUDY SMITH
GUEST COLUMNIST



your will and offer suggestions for the very best ways to accomplish your wishes.

Additional financial advisors may be needed as well, depending on the complexity of your estate.

Make time now to do some estate planning and draft or revise your will as you look to those things you have been putting off and begin to focus on goals for this year.

The old saying, "You can't take it with you," is only partially true. What you can take with you is the satisfaction of knowing you have left your possessions where they can do the greatest good.

For more information and a free copy of the booklet "Better Estate Planning," call me at (704) 370-3320 or e-mail jmsmith@charlottediocese.org.

Judy Smith is director of planned giving for the Diocese of Charlotte.

Parish of St. Mary Church flourishes in mountain community of Sylva

SYLVA — The history of St. Mary Church involves the missionary zeal of a number of diocesan and Glenmary priests who have served in western North Carolina's mountain towns. But it was a layman known for his own missionary spirit who was instrumental in giving the Sylva church its start.

Prior to the mid-1950s, Catholics gathered for Mass in private homes, the local American Legion building and a downtown hotel.

Meanwhile, Michael William Murphy, who as a young Detroit businessman came to know Bishop Vincent S. Waters of Raleigh, had taken an interest in the missionary territory of western North Carolina. After his mother's death, Murphy moved to North Carolina and made a name for himself as a church builder.

After assisting in the construction of St. William Church in Murphy, Murphy came to Sylva and met Father (later Msgr.) Lawrence Newman. For several years in the 1950s, Father Newman served as pastor of St. John the Evangelist Church in Waynesville, which ministered to Catholic communities throughout North Carolina's westernmost counties.

With Murphy's financial assistance and Father Newman's direction, construction of a Catholic church in Sylva was soon underway.

In August 1955, Bishop Waters dedicated St. Mary Church and conferred the sacrament of confirmation on a group of parishioners. Murphy's work was done in Sylva for the time being, but his name would have a familiar ring in the area for years to come.

In May 1972, he was ordained to the priesthood at age 80 in the church he had helped build nearly 30 years before.

In June 1955, Bishop Waters invited the Glenmary missionaries of Cincinnati to



COURTESY PHOTO

St. Mary Church in Sylva has become a thriving church in western North Carolina due in large part to the enthusiastic spirit and support of William Michael Murphy, a layman who became a priest at age 80.

minister west of Waynesville.

Two Glenmary priests, Fathers Robert Healy and Francis Schenk, were appointed to the pastorate of the region and shared duties in Franklin, Bryson City, Cherokee, Cullowhee and Sylva.

St. Mary Church was a mission of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Franklin until 1972, when the Diocese of Charlotte was formed and the church received parish status. Glenmary Father John Loftus was appointed as the first pastor.

St. Mary Church has served the needs of its parishioners for a half century, experiencing much growth and change. In July 1983, a three-phase building program was devised to include construction of a new parish hall,

worship space and rectory.

The Glenmary's pastorate ended in Sylva in 1988, when Father William Evans was appointed administrator.

Over the years, building programs added the parish hall and classroom facility, the church was enlarged and a rectory was built. Parishioners did much of the work. At the request of Father James Cahill, who preceded Father Ray Williams as pastor, parishioners dedicated a memorial to the unborn.

Within the last few years, the church has been remodeled and confessionals have been constructed. In 2005, a new

ST. MARY CHURCH

22 Bartlett St.
Sylva, N.C. 28779
(828) 586-9496

Vicariate: Smoky Mountain
Pastor: Father Ray Williams
Number of families: 200



Father Ray Williams

baptismal font was installed in the newly constructed baptistry.

On Aug. 30, 2005 some 130 attendees including parishioners, Knights of Columbus, Catholic Daughters of the Americas and lay Carmelites attended a Mass celebrating the 50th anniversary of St. Mary Church.

Bishop Peter J. Jugis celebrated the Mass, which was concelebrated by a number of diocesan priests.

"This church is living up to the purpose for which it was dedicated," Bishop Jugis said in his homily. "We know what the word 'dedication' means — something that is set aside for a single purpose. This building is set aside for one single purpose: the celebration of the sacred rites so that the people of God can be formed into a living temple."

Father Williams, the church's pastor since 2002, was unable, due to illness, to attend the celebration.

"What I stressed with the people and what I felt myself is that we're building on the past," he said later.

WALK WHERE JESUS WALKED ON A DIOCESAN-SPONSORED PILGRIMAGE TO



THE HOLY LAND September 5 - 14

with Fr. James Hawker, Diocesan Vicar
of Education and Pastor, St. Luke Church

Deepen your understanding of our Catholic faith and watch the pages of the Bible come alive as you experience daily Mass at many of the historical sites of our faith.

Highlights include:

- Tiberias, Mt. Carmel, Sea of Galilee area
- Mt. Tabor, Cana, Nazareth — Jesus' boyhood area
- Capernaum, Mount of Beatitudes, River Jordan
- Jerusalem area: Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Via Dolorosa, Lord's Tomb at Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Mount Zion, Upper Room, Dormition Abbey, Wailing Wall
- Dead Sea (excavations and scrolls), Masada, Holocaust memorial
- Bethlehem's historic sites — PLUS much more!

Price: \$2,499 from Charlotte (\$2,599 after June 22) includes airfare, most meals, first-class hotels and all tours. Airport taxes/fees, tips and insurance are extra.

Call Cindi Feerick at 704/370-3332 for a brochure with complete details or Pentecost Tours 800/713-9800 for registration.

Only 7 spaces left! Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise — "The Footsteps of Paul" Greece and Turkey — May 11-21, 2006

Space is limited—register now!



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,949 for inside cabin — includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

Istanbul — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace

Mykonos — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels

Patmos — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation

Kusadasi & Ephesus — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites

Rhodes — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith

Crete — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion

Santorini — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.

Roman Catholic
Diocese of Charlotte



Established Jan. 12, 1972
by Pope Paul VI

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

Supreme decisions
Court to consider
constitutionality of
partial-birth abortion ban
|PAGE 16

FEBRUARY 24, 2006

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 15 No 20

Hidden treasures uncovered



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

A visitor to the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit at Discovery Place in Charlotte examine a model of the excavated Qumran community. The exhibit features 10 authentic scrolls and three replicas that include passages from Deuteronomy, Genesis, Isaiah and Psalms. The exhibition also features other artifacts discovered in association with the scrolls at Qumran.

Dead Sea Scrolls come to Charlotte

EXHIBIT OFFERS RARE LOOK
AT SIGNIFICANT DISCOVERY

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — For the next few months, Charlotte will be home to several of the oldest existing fragments of ancient Scripture.

The Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit at Discovery Place will allow Christians and non-Christians alike a rare opportunity to see what many archeologists, historians and theologians consider the most significant discovery of the 20th century.

"The Scrolls are not only a great historical discovery and artifact, but a connection between our faith today and the faith of the ages," said Frank Villaronga, diocesan director of evangelization and ministry formation. "Hopefully, when people see the Scrolls, they will feel closer to God and be

See SCROLLS, page 8

INSIDE THE ROMAN CURIA

Vatican official says pope will fix liturgical abuses firmly, gently

BY JOHN THAVIS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Editor's note: This is the first of an occasional series based on interviews with heads of Vatican offices. The articles will describe the work of the agencies and the main challenges they face and briefly profile the people who head them.

VATICAN CITY — The Vatican's top liturgy official said he expects Pope Benedict XVI to move against liturgical abuse with firm teaching and a gentle manner, recognizing that such mistakes often reflect

See ARINZE, page 5

Examining the evidence

Church cautious about
plan to examine
possible remains of
Joan of Arc

BY JONATHAN
LUXMOORE
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WARSAW, Poland — A French church spokesman expressed caution about a forensic scientist's announcement that he would analyze what might be the remains of St. Joan of Arc.

"The precise origin of these objects isn't known — all

See JOAN, page 12

'A Saint on Skis'

Handsome, holy Italian man known for
skiing, charity

BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

TURIN, Italy — Once upon a time, a young, handsome fellow, sporting skis and chewing on a cigar, zipped across the Alpine peaks in Bardonecchia, about 75 miles east of Turin.

Just a few months before he died in 1925 at the age of 24,

Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati had competed in a 15-kilometer race in the same mountains where the Olympic snowboarding competition was being held during the XX Olympic Winter Games.

"Who can imagine how happy he would be today to see

See BLESSED, page 7



CNS PHOTO BY CAROL GLATZ

Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati's remains are interred in this altar in the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Turin, Italy, Feb. 11. A special placard was set up for the Winter Olympics to highlight his life, faith and love of sports.

Around the Diocese

Youth group serves
homeless; Knights honor
community service

|PAGE 4

Culture Watch

Pope visits Jesuit-run
magazine; Catholic family
gets home makeover

|PAGES 10-11

Perspectives

Examining Black
History Month;
Lenten guidelines

|PAGES 14-15

#BXNPDVQ*****3-DIGIT 275
#420836#
NC COLLECTION
UNC
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

MOURNING A VISIONARY



CNS PHOTO BY REUTERS

A nun passes by the grave of Sister Lucia dos Santos inside the Carmelite cloister in Coimbra, Portugal, Feb. 17. The remains of Sister Lucia, the eldest of three Portuguese children to receive apparitions of Mary in 1917 in Fatima, Portugal, were transferred to the Basilica of Our Lady of Fatima Feb. 19. Sister Lucia died in her convent Feb. 13, 2005, at the age of 97.

More than 100,000 gather at Fatima to watch reburial of Sister Lucia

FATIMA, Portugal (CNS) — Despite a persistent rain, more than 100,000 people gathered at the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima to pray and witness the reburial of Carmelite Sister Lucia dos Santos, the last of three Fatima visionaries.

Sister Lucia died Feb. 13, 2005, in her cloistered convent in Coimbra, Portugal, at the age of 97.

She had been buried temporarily at the Carmelite convent while preparations were made for final burial alongside her two cousins, Blessed Francisco and Jacinta Marto, at the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima.

On May 13, 1917 — when Lucia was 10 years old, Francisco was 9 and Jacinta was 7 — the children claimed to have seen the Blessed Virgin Mary at Fatima, near their home.

The apparitions continued once a month until October 1917 and later were declared worthy of belief by the Catholic Church.

In 2000 Pope John Paul II beatified Sister Lucia's cousins, who died as children.

The late pope long credited Mary with saving his life; he was shot May 13, the anniversary of the first of the

apparitions in Fatima.

In 1984, he had the bullet fragment that was removed from his body placed in the crown of the Marian statue at the Fatima shrine.

Father Luis Kondor, assistant postulator of the children's sainthood cause, said the bishops of Portugal would ask Pope Benedict XVI to set aside the five-year waiting period and allow Sister Lucia's cause for canonization to begin.

The priest told Portugal's Catholic Radio Renascenca that before he died, Pope John Paul had expressed his willingness to set aside the waiting period called for by church law.

But Bishop Serafim de Sousa Ferreira Silva of Leiria-Fatima told the radio, "We must wait, with much patience and discernment, without precipitating things."

Archbishop Jorge Ferreira da Costa Ortiga of Braga, president of the Portuguese bishops' conference, told reporters: "More important than her beatification is the witness of holiness that Sister Lucia left as her testament."

Priests keep watch with families at Mexican mine entrance

MEXICO CITY (CNS) — As rescue workers slowly advanced through a collapsed mine in an effort to save 65 men trapped hundreds of meters below the surface, Father Juan Renovato was aboveground, trying to keep hope alive.

"People are getting desperate and hysterical," Father Renovato said Feb. 20, near the entrance to the Pasta de Conchos coal mine, near the town of San Juan de Sabinas in Mexico's Coahuila state.

Father Renovato and other priests were praying with and counseling the hundreds of family members and friends of the miners, who were trapped before dawn Feb. 19 when a gas explosion collapsed part of the mine.

Bishop Alonso Garza Trevino of Piedras Negras instructed the 12 priests in the area to take turns being at the entrance to the mine so that one of them would always be present for family members of the miners gathered there.

Officials said there had been no

communication with the trapped men and that they were not sure they were still alive. The miners reportedly had six hours' worth of oxygen at the time of the explosion, but Coahuila Gov. Humberto Moreira Valdes said the pumps that push air through the mine's ventilation shafts continued to work.

However, Moreira said it was not certain that the air was getting to the part of the mine where the men were believed to be trapped, which was about 220 yards below the surface and down about 1.4 miles of mine shaft.

Father Renovato, rector of Martyrs of Christ the King Cathedral in Piedras Negras, said the priests were telling the miners' family members to maintain faith and hope.

"We can't lose hope now, because now is when hope is most important," Father Renovato said.

"Every minute that passes makes the situation more difficult for the miners," he said.

Diocesan planner

BOONE VICARIATE

NORTH WILKESBORO — A *Catholic Scripture Study* group meets at St. John Baptiste de La Salle Church, 275 CC Wright School Rd. Visit www.catholicscripturestudy.com for more information. Classes meet Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m. Please call Rob Hicks at (336) 957-7193 for more information or if you plan to attend.

SPRUCE PINE — A *Rosary of Intercession for Priests* is recited each Friday at St. Lucien Church, 695 Summit St., before the 9 a.m. Mass. Prayers are offered for bishops, priests and deacons, and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. For more information, call the church office at (828) 765-2224.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — Father Aniello Salicone of the Xaverian Missionaries will celebrate a *Healing Mass* March 3 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd. For more information, call the church office at (704) 554-7088.

CHARLOTTE — John Pastryk, M.Div., University of Notre Dame, will present "What's My Part in God's Plan?" in the St. Matthew Church gym, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., March 3 at 7 p.m. Free childcare is available and must be reserved by March 1 by calling (704) 543-7677 ext. 1011. There is no charge for the presentation. For more information, call (704) 543-7677 ext. 1020.

CHARLOTTE — Passionist Father Vincent J. Segotta will preach at all Masses at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., March 4-5. The parish mission and renewal, "Toward the Heart of God, the Journey of

Faith" will take place March 6-8, 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the church. Monday and Tuesday evenings there will be a family dinner at 6:30 p.m. Child care will also be available each evening. For Mass time and reservations, call (704) 543-7677, ext. 1008.

CHARLOTTE — Father Ed Sheridan will be the celebrant at a *Mass celebrating the gifts of those with mental retardation* March 5 at 5 p.m. at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. Parishioners and visitors with varying degrees of mental retardation will serve as musicians, lectors, greeters and ushers. For more information, contact Mary Kennedy, St. Gabriel disability Ministry, at (704) 364-6964.

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., will host a *Christian Coffeehouse* March 11 at 7:30 p.m. Single and married adults are invited for an evening of contemporary Christian music, food and fellowship. For more information, call Kathy Bartlett at (704) 400-2213.

GASTONIA VICARIATE

GASTONIA — An *Interfaith Prayer Vigil for Peace* will take place at St. Michael Church, 708 St. Michael Lane, March 20 at 7 p.m. For more information, call the church office at (704) 867-6212, or Dennis Teall-Fleming, director of faith formation at Queen of the Apostles Church, at (704) 825-9600, ext. 26.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

STONEVILLE — The Greensboro Council of Catholic Women will host its annual *Lenten Retreat Day*, led by Father Louis Canino, March 9 at the St. Francis Springs Prayer Center. Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m., followed by lunch. For more information, please call Carmen Wood at (336) 545-9266.

HIGH POINT — Immaculate Heart of Mary

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-mail: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

FEBRUARY 24, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 20

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Lack of justice, peace shows sin still paralyzes people, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The lack of justice and peace in the world is a sign that despite people's good intentions, sin still paralyzes many of them, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Reciting the Angelus Feb. 19, Pope Benedict said the day's Gospel reading about Jesus forgiving the sins of the paralyzed man and healing him demonstrates that Christ's primary mission is to heal souls.

"The paralyzed man is the image of every human being impeded by sin from moving freely, from walking on the path of goodness, from giving the best of himself," the pope said.

"Evil, nesting in the soul, binds man with the ropes of lies, anger, envy and the other sins, and paralyzes him little by little," he said.

The presence of sin prevents humanity from fully developing "those values of brotherhood, justice and peace"

which are celebrated and proclaimed in solemn declarations signed by most countries in the world, he said.

Pope Benedict said there obviously are many complex reasons for the failure of the international community to realize the ideals it proclaims, but the Gospel calls Christians to trust that Christ can and will heal the world.

"Only the love of God can renew the heart of man, and only if it is healed in its heart can paralyzed humanity get up and walk," he said. "The love of God is the true force that will renew the world."

At the end of his address, Pope Benedict offered special prayers for the victims of the Feb. 17 mudslides in the Philippines, where more than a thousand are feared dead, buried beneath the mud.

"Our hearts turn to all those suffering the devastating consequences of the landslide in the Philippines," the pope said.

Church, 4145 Johnson St., will offer a *free Spanish course*, Thursdays, 7-8:30 p.m., through March 23. For more information or to register, please call Nancy Skee at (336) 884-0522.

HICKORY VICARIATE

HICKORY — St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St. NE, is offering a weekly *Catholic Scripture Study*. Catholic Scripture Study is a program whose members not only learn the Scriptures, but come to a deeper understanding of their faith in a setting that builds Christian fellowship. Evening and daytime classes meet at the church, Wednesdays, 6:45-8:30 p.m., and Thursdays 9:30-11:15 a.m. For more information, call Ann Miller at (828) 441-2205, or e-mail stalsess@charter.net.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

MURPHY — A *Charismatic Prayer Group* meets Fridays at 3:45 p.m. in the Commons of St. William Church, 765 Andrews Rd. join us for praise music, witness, teaching, prayers and laying on of hands for those in need. For more details, call Gery Dashner at (828) 494-2683.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

KERNERSVILLE — A *Catholic College Night* will take place in the Krispy Kreme Activity Center of Bishop McGuinness High School, 1725 N.C. Hwy. 66 South, March 13, 7-9 p.m. Dr. William K. Thierfelder, president of Belmont Abbey College, will be the keynote speaker. Parents and students can visit with representatives from several Catholic colleges and universities. For more information please call Anton Vorozhko at (336) 564-1246 or e-mail avorozhko@bmhs.us.

WINSTON-SALEM — The Portiuncula Franciscan Center, 221 W. Third St., will host *Lenten Faith Sharing* "brown-bag" gatherings March 8, 15, 22, 29 and April 5, 12-12:45 p.m. We will spend time looking ahead to the weekend Lenten readings to prepare our hearts for the Word of God to take root. Bring your own lunch.

Coffee and tea will be provided. For more information, call (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

WINSTON-SALEM — The Portiuncula Franciscan Center, 221 W. Third St., will host a book discussion on "*Humility of God: A Franciscan Perspective*" by Ilia Delio, O.S.F. This book deals with the theology of divine humility and God's relationship to the world, while at the same time tackling some tough questions. The group will meet March 6, 13, 20 and 27; April 3 and 24; and May 1, 8 and 15, 6-7:30 p.m. For more information, call (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

WINSTON-SALEM — Take time to explore the need for personal reflection and prayer. Franciscan Father Jude DeAngelo will present *An Out of the Way Place*, a program for professional caregivers, clergy and counselors. The program will take place March 16 and 23, 7:15-8:15 p.m., at The Portiuncula Franciscan Center, 221 W. Third St. For more information, call (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

CLEMMONS — A *Charismatic Prayer Group* meets Mondays at 7:15 p.m. in the eucharistic chapel of Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd. Join us for praise music, witness, teaching, prayers and petition. For more details, call Jim Passero at (336) 998-7503.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Vatican says number of priests increases, but varies by continent

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The number of priests and seminarians in the world continues to increase, but the situation varies widely from continent to continent, the Vatican said.

The most positive signs come from Asia and Africa, while Europe has shown a marked decline in priestly vocations, according to a Feb. 18 statement from the Vatican press office.

The statistics were released in connection with the presentation of the 2006 edition of the Vatican yearbook, known as the *Annuario Pontificio*, which catalogs the church's pastoral presence diocese-by-diocese.

The press office referred to data on church population, priests and seminarians through 2004, the last year for which statistics are available.

It said the number of priests in the world was 405,891 at the end of 2004, an increase of 441 from 2003. About two-thirds were diocesan priests and one-third members of religious orders.

Asia added more than 1,400 priests over that period and Africa added 840. The situation was relatively stable in North and South America and Oceania, while Europe showed a decrease of nearly 1,900 priests.

The number of seminarians in the world rose to just over 113,000 in 2004, an increase of more than 670 from 2003. Africa and Asia again showed the greatest increases, while Europe continued to evidence a "clear decline," the Vatican said.

The global population of Catholics reached nearly 1.1 billion at the end of 2004, an increase of about 12 million, or about 1.1 percent, from 2003.

The Vatican said the number of permanent deacons continued to grow, increasing by about 2.5 percent in the period 2003-2004. At the end of 2004, there were more than 32,300 permanent deacons in the world.

The Vatican issues a separate statistical yearbook later in the year.

Prayer and despair



CNS PHOTO BY REUTERS

A portrait of the Sacred Heart of Jesus lies on the ground as rescuers continue their work Feb. 20 at the site where mudslides buried the remote farming village of Guinsaugon in central Philippines. Rescuers held out little hope for survivors of the Feb. 17 mudslide in the village of 1,800 people.

Pope names 15 new cardinals, including two from U.S.

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In his first set of major appointments, Pope Benedict XVI named 15 new cardinals, including U.S. Archbishops William J. Levada, head of the Vatican's doctrinal congregation, and Sean P. O'Malley of Boston.

The pope announced the names at the end of his general audience Feb. 22 and said he would formally install the cardinals at a special consistory March 24.

The pope also convened the entire College of Cardinals for a day of reflection and prayer March 23 and said he

would celebrate Mass with the cardinals March 25, the feast of the Annunciation of the Lord. It will be the first gathering of the College of Cardinals since they elected Pope Benedict last April.

The pope said the new cardinals reflect the universality of the church.

The new cardinals represent 11 countries from five continents. Three are Vatican officials, nine are heads of dioceses or archdioceses around the world, and three are prelates over age 80 being honored for their service to the church.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Feb. 26 — 11:00 a.m.
Mass and Blessing of New Parish Activity Center
Our Lady of Consolation Church, Charlotte

March 4 — 2 p.m.
Rite of Election
Holy Cross Church, Kernersville

March 5 — 3 p.m.
Rite of Election
St. Michael Church, Gastonia

March 11 — 12 p.m.
Rite of Election
St. Eugene Church, Asheville

A giving SPIRIT

Youth group cooks, serves meals to homeless

STATESVILLE — Sometimes a little spirit goes a long way.

SPIRIT, the high school youth group at St. Philip the Apostle Church in Statesville, cooked, delivered and served food to more than 70 people at the Fifth Street Ministries soup kitchen Jan. 29.

The youths collected food and monetary donations from family and parishioners to make the meals, which consisted of spaghetti, salad, bread, brownies and drinks.

The youths have served at the soup kitchen annually, but this was the first

year they cooked the meal.

"They had a lot of fun and enjoyed the appreciation and compliments from the people who were happy to have such a nice meal," said Tina Swaney, youth minister.

Afterward, the youths reflected on the experience.

"They expressed thanks for what they take for granted and gave thanks for the opportunity to be the 'hands of Christ,'" said Swaney. "They felt that they had received so much more than they had given."



COURTESY PHOTO

Katelyn Harwell and Carolina Serna, youth group members from St. Philip the Apostle Church in Statesville, prepare food at the Fifth Street Ministries soup kitchen Jan. 29.

HONORING SERVICE



COURTESY PHOTO

Lindsey Tucker of Knights of Columbus Holy Cross Council 8509 presents Deacon Eugene Gillis with the Parishioner of the Year Award during the annual parish recognition program at Holy Cross Church in Kernersville Jan. 21.

Knights recognize efforts of Holy Cross parishioners, others

KERNERSVILLE — The Knights of Columbus recently presented a number of awards to parishioners of Holy Cross Church in Kernersville and other organizations.

The annual parish recognition program is sponsored by Holy Cross Council 8509 and the Columbiettes, its sister organization. Awards were given during the council's Jan. 21 spaghetti dinner, which raised funds for a local police officer wounded in the line of duty.

The award program recognizes individuals who voluntarily served the church and community through stewardship and service projects in 2005. The winners received certificates of appreciation and a combined award of \$250 to be distributed to charities of their choice.

Deacon Eugene Gillis, permanent deacon at Holy Cross Church, received the Parishioner of the Year Award.

The Gillis family helped found Holy Cross Church in the 1960s, and Deacon Gillis' service to the parish "in love, time and leadership are unparalleled," according to the council's newsletter.

Other nominees for the award were Al Livelsburger, Bill McAlidin and Fred Schaefer.

The David Reinhart Award was presented to Patricia Henderson who

"exemplified the selfless and dedicated volunteerism demonstrated by its namesake in the community at large."

Other nominees were Marie Kinney, Melanie Feeney Lewis and Frances Petticord.

Cheryl Gilreath received the Junior Achiever Award for her service to the sick and homebound. She served also as a missionary last summer in New Mexico. She desires to continue serving others by joining the religious life.

Others nominated were Madeline Lewis, Jason Meyer and Margaret Smith.

A special monetary award of \$250 was given to a fund for Kernersville Police Officer Jeff Weathers, who is recovering from injuries received in the line of duty. Other monetary gifts were given to the Just One Dollar For Africa Charity and a Holy Cross parishioner in need of assistance.

The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic fraternal organization founded in 1882.

26 years of Integrity and Experience!

Malak Jewelers

(St. Matthew parishioners)

We extend to you the very finest in jewelry and service
— lowest prices and satisfaction guaranteed!

- ♥ Engagements, anniversary and birthday gifts
- ♥ Platinum, gold - up to 50% off
- ♥ Sterling - 50-70% off
- ♥ Certified loose diamonds (GIA, EGL, IGI, UGL)
up to 50% below wholesale "Rapaport Diamond Report"

- ♥ Estate jewelry - buy, sell and trade
- ♥ Watches - sell, repair, battery replacement
- ♥ Custom designs and appraisals
- ♥ Layaway, engraving and expert repairs
- ♥ Corporate, bridal and baby gifts

(704) 341-1188 www.malakjewelers.com
Arboretum - 8042-800 Providence Rd., Charlotte



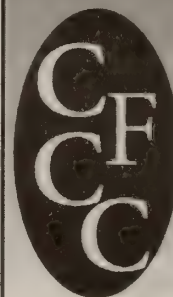
AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles
Licensed & Insured
FREE ESTIMATES
www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185



Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center

Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212

704-568-0023

www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma

Owner/Director

Privately, Locally Owned

Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

FROM THE COVER

Vatican official says pope will fix liturgical abuses firmly, gently

ARINZE, from page 1

ignorance, not ill will.

At the same time, the pope wants to offer reconciliation to followers of the late French Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre — but not at the cost of “disowning” the Second Vatican Council, said Cardinal Francis Arinze, the Nigerian who heads the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments.

Cardinal Arinze spoke about the direction of the new papacy in an interview in early February. He said he expected important movies — but not a purge — to improve liturgy under Pope Benedict.

“I do not expect an aggressive correction of abuses. I don’t think the pope is going to use the ecclesiastical hammer,” Cardinal Arinze said.

“Pope Benedict has very clear doctrine and convictions. What many people may not know is that he is not rough. He is gentlemanly, in the sense of what the prophet Isaiah said: ‘A bruised reed he will not break,’” the cardinal said.

Many liturgical abuses, Cardinal Arinze said, are “based on weakness of faith or ignorance” or on a wrong idea of creativity. Where improper practices occur, it is important to begin identifying them and talking about them, but without harming the people involved, the cardinal said.

That could be one reason the pope is focusing on the bigger faith issues, understanding that the quality of worship reflects knowledge of the faith, he said.

A good example, he said, is the pope’s first encyclical, “Deus Caritas Est” (“God Is Love”).

Liturgical direction

Many people are scrutinizing papal Masses for clues to liturgical direction under the new pope.

“Obviously, people are watching the details, and I cannot blame them,” Cardinal Arinze. “I think the papal liturgies are beautiful and that people like them.”

He said the election of Pope

Benedict, who wrote extensively about liturgy as a cardinal, kindled hope for reconciliation with the Society of St. Pius X, which was founded by Archbishop Lefebvre and which rejected the new Mass and several Vatican II teachings or directives.

Cardinal Arinze shares that hope, but said people should realize that the pope “cannot change the faith of the church.”

“He cannot disown Vatican II in order to make the Lefebvrites happy. The pope cannot reinvent everything, or act as if Vatican II did not take place,” he said.

Tridentine Mass

While some have proposed a wider indulgence to allow use of the pre-Vatican II Tridentine Mass with fewer restrictions, Cardinal Arinze said he is happy with Pope John Paul II’s rules, which require the involvement of the local bishop.

“When you speak of wider use for everybody, it raises some questions, which have to be examined more carefully,” he said.

The cardinal said he thought that for most people the question is not the Tridentine rite versus the new Mass, but the much more basic issues of faith, love of Christ and the appreciation of the importance of Sunday Mass.

“If a person has these, many of these other problems would fall into line,” he said.

Liturgical texts

Cardinal Arinze said one priority that has carried over to the new pontificate is the translation of liturgical texts.

“The pope has said, let the various translations of the Missal proceed quickly, because the people are waiting. These pieces of paper used on Sunday and little leaflets are not ideal. You really need the whole book translated,” he said.

He said the new Roman Missal, released in Latin in 2002, is 1,300 pages long and has excellent texts, including some new ones, but the people do not have them in their local languages.

The cardinal said he hoped work on the English translation would be completed in two years. He said that would not depend principally on the Vatican, but rather on the priority given the project by bishops’ conferences.

The Roman Missal is being translated by the International Commis-



CNS PHOTO BY ALESSIA GIULIANI

Cardinal Francis Arinze speaks Oct. 8, 2004 during a presentation at the Vatican on Pope John Paul II’s apostolic letter on the Eucharist.

sion on English in the Liturgy for bishops’ conferences, which can adopt, amend or reject the translation.

The worship congregation, meanwhile, has established a committee of 12 bishops, called Vox Clara, to help it evaluate the texts as they are being prepared.

The congregation’s closer watch on translations in recent years does not mean the Vatican wants to supplant local bishops and bishops’ conferences as the “key people” in translating liturgical texts, Cardinal Arinze said.

But sometimes, he said, the congregation gives its views on a particular translation as it is being done, so that translated texts will receive ratification in Rome with the least delay.

Heading a congregation

Cardinal Arinze, 73, has headed the worship and sacraments congregation since 2002. Liturgy has always been one of his primary interests, and he wrote his doctoral dissertation on sacrifice in a Nigerian traditional religion as an introduction to the catechesis of the Catholic Mass.

The cardinal has been a popular speaker in the United States, and his reflections on liturgy and other topics have been featured in a number of recent video podcasts.

He heads a staff of 36 experts responsible for responding to questions from around the world, reviewing texts and ministerial books in many languages,



hosting groups of bishops, attending a multitude of meetings and conferences, promoting liturgical knowledge and practice, and discouraging abuses.

Last year the congregation sponsored a study day at the Vatican to encourage dioceses to take liturgical music more seriously.

‘Spiritual banquet’

Cardinal Arinze said the main challenge facing his congregation is to encourage a spirit of prayer, which must grow out of faith. He said bringing people to Mass regularly is essential, and it hinges largely on two factors: catechesis and high-quality, faith-filled liturgies.

Celebrating Mass well involves lay ministers, but primarily the priest, who sets a tone through every word and gesture, the cardinal said.

Likewise, a priest has to preach well, making sure that his homily offers theological and scriptural enlightenment, and not merely verbal “acrobatics” to show off how many books he’s read, he said.

The cardinal said that if done well Sunday Mass will not be experienced as a heavy obligation, but as a spiritual banquet, a celebration appreciated by the faithful who are hungry for spiritual nourishment and want to adore God.

“You should not need a commandment to enter such a banquet hall,” he said.

The Diocese of Charlotte

In the Diocese of Charlotte, Bishop Peter J. Jugis said the parishes and religious houses are continuing the process of implementing the liturgical norms, which were promulgated in March 2005.

The liturgical norms cover all aspects of the Mass, from Introductory Rites to Communion. The norms ensure reverence for the Eucharist and preserve the unity of the Catholic Church.

“The liturgical norms are an indispensable reference point for liturgies throughout the diocese,” said Bishop Jugis.

The norms are available on the Diocese of Charlotte’s Web site, www.charlottediocese.org.

Contributing to this story was Editor Kevin E. Murray.

EWTN Eucharistic Pilgrimage



May 23-25 with
Fr. James Ebright

pick-up points: Winston-Salem,
Greensboro, Charlotte

May 30-June 1 with
Fr. Michael Kottar

pick-up points: Winston-Salem,
Asheville, Sylva, Franklin

\$245 (dbl. occupancy) includes: EWTN tour & tickets to Fr. Pacwa’s TV show; day at Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament; lodging at St. Bernard Abbey; transportation, most meals and snacks

Call: Patti Dameron
(336) 785-4283 or (336) 413-8127
or Sherry Lehtenin
(828) 524-5542 (after 5pm)

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



BIG BOOK SALE NOW
at the Monroe Road location!

- Unique gifts & cards
- Books, rosaries, medals
- Previously read book section (at Lake Norman)
- Video rentals
- Artwork

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

30 YEARS EXPERIENCE



ALICE & THE PYANO MAN

Henry C. Rozell III
2nd Generation

Piano Tuner/Technician
Piano Tuning, Repairs, Refinishing
Pianos Bought and Sold

FREE ESTIMATES

704-321-5843

Cell: 704-562-5394

AROUND THE DIOCESE

DIOCESAN PROFILE

Developing a diocese



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Jim Kelley (center), director of development for the Diocese of Charlotte, and Barbara Gaddy (second from left), associate director of development, discuss diocesan-based stewardship efforts with visitors from the Diocese of Wollongong, Australia, at the diocesan pastoral center in Charlotte Feb. 1, 2005. Kelley has worked in the diocesan development office for 20 years.

Director reflects on 20 years in development office

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — Jim Kelley has been a busy man for the last 20 years.

February 2006 marks two decades for Kelley serving as director of development in the Diocese of Charlotte.

"It's been an incredible experience. I could never have predicted any of it," he said.

Kelley manages the office that operates the annual Diocesan Support Appeal; assists parishes with stewardship efforts and capital campaigns; assists development efforts for diocesan Catholic schools, campus ministry and Catholic Social Services; directs the planned giving and major gift programs and writes grants.

"The primary focus of the office is to encourage parishioners to commit to stewardship as a way of life. We also provide parishes and agencies with services to provide funds for ministries that change lives," said Kelley. "That's been our focus for the last 20 years ... to help people."

"When Jim came on board, he wanted to take a route that truly changes people's lives," said Barbara Gaddy, associate director of development. "We haven't strayed from that concept."

Kelley also serves as executive director of the diocesan Foundation, which provides endowments for the diocese and its parishes, agencies and schools.

Prior to joining the diocese, Kelley worked as an administrative manager for Seventh Street Detox Center in Charlotte. He said God's hand was involved in his decision to accept then-chancellor Msgr. John McSweeney's invitation in 1985 to create the diocesan development office.

"From high school on, I've always asked God to direct me where he wants me to be," said Kelley. "He's always

helped me move in the right direction."

Kelley has helped the diocese move in the right direction also. According to Gaddy, the diocese is at the forefront of the United States, and possibly the world, in its stewardship efforts, thanks to Kelley.

"We're at the top because of the way our operations are set up," said Gaddy. "Jim directs all 15 of the office's stewardship and development programs, and we work as a team to coordinate those efforts. Very few development offices in the United States can say that."

Kelley is happy to share his development experience outside the diocese, authoring "Stewardship Manual: A Guide for Individuals and Parishes Developing Stewardship as a Way of Life" and "Sustaining and Strengthening Stewardship," as well as co-authoring two publications for the International Catholic Stewardship Council.

He has spoken at national conferences and provided onsite consulting work and presentations in 75 of the 195 dioceses in the United States.

"We've also taken our stewardship message to other countries, most recently when visiting Australia in 2004," said Kelley.

Representatives from several Australian dioceses have visited the Diocese of Charlotte three times to study development and stewardship efforts.

In addition to his hard-working staff, Kelley credits the efforts of those in the parishes, schools and agencies for their development and stewardship success.

"We have so many who take stewardship seriously and give back generously of their time, talent and treasure in gratitude for God's blessings in their lives," said Kelley.

Stewardship plays an important role in Kelley's private life as well. Married

Sibs on skis

Sisters find fun, competition on slopes

GREENSBORO — The lack of snow in the Triad didn't keep two students at St. Pius X School in Greensboro from taking to the slopes in ski competitions.

Both fifth-grader Madeline Burnham, age 10, and her sister, second-grader Caity Burnham, age 7, competed on the Sugar Mountain ski team at the High Country Junior Race Series state championships at Appalachian Ski Mountain resort Feb. 12.

Madeline took first place for the girls 9-10 age division and took top prize for most points earned in her division during the 2006 season.

Madeline also qualified this month to compete in the 2006 national ski competition hosted by NASTAR, a

national recreational ski-racing group, in Steamboat Springs, Colo., in March.

Margaret Burnham, their mother and an avid skier, introduced the girls to skiing when each turned 5 years old.

"They love to ski," said Burnham. "It's still brand new for Caity. But something clicked for Madeline this year and she got really fast."

Although Caity did not qualify for the national competition in Colorado, she plans to be there to support her older sister.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on the NASTAR 2006 national championships, go online at www.nastar.com.



COURTESY PHOTO BY ASHLEY BURNHAM

Madeline and Caity Burnham, students at St. Pius X School in Greensboro, recently participated in qualifying competitions for an upcoming national ski competition in Colorado.

with two children, Kelley is a parishioner of St. Matthew Church in Charlotte and has volunteered with homeless organizations and the United Way of Central Carolinas for the last 25 years.

His efforts have earned him a number of awards, two of which have been named in his honor — one from the local Homeless Services Network and one from the United Way.

Kelley looks toward the future with excitement.

"In the development office, we're always grateful but never satisfied. We can always do a better job; we can always improve to help others make a better way of life," he said.

And he can't imagine doing anything else.

"God led me to work in the diocese. We're making a great impact," he said.

"We're going to keep doing more to better serve the parishes, agencies and schools."

Contributing to this story was Staff Writer Karen A. Evans.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Under Jim Kelley's leadership over the last 20 years, the development office has:

- helped raise \$235 million for the diocese and diocesan schools and agencies;
- completed more than 114 capital campaigns, raising from \$45,000 to several million dollars;
- helped create 137 endowments in the diocesan Foundation;
- increased the Diocesan Support Appeal total from \$800,000 in 1985 to \$4.1 million in 2004.

GET A LOW RATE BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!


30-Year Fixed:

5.75%


As mortgage brokers, we work with a variety of lenders to find the best loan and rates for your needs & goals!

NEW WORLD MORTGAGE
A Lender For Life

1939 CAMDEN RD. SUITE 2010
GREENSBORO, NC 28603



Jayne McGonnell
Parishioner of St. Thomas Aquinas
704.549.4600 x1028
877.402.4600 (tollfree)
704.516.9682 (cell)



Debra Young
Parishioner of St. Matthew
704.549.4600 x1027
877.402.4600 (tollfree)
704.771.6251 (cell)

1939 CAMDEN RD. SUITE 2010
GREENSBORO, NC 28603

Rates subject to change. Certain restrictions on loan size apply. APR varies on loan placement.

Covering the Olympics



Mato Seth, a second-grader at St. Ann School in Charlotte, shares photographs from the Olympic Winter Games with his class Feb. 13. The photos were taken by Mato's father, Raphael Seth, a Charlotte television reporter who is covering the Olympics in Turin, Italy. Mato's father has been sending regular behind-the-scene updates and photos to the school.

St. Ann School is also participating in "Catch Winter Olympics Fever" with hundreds of other schools across the United States and Canada. The Internet project was started by a first-grade class at Market Street Elementary School in Boardman, Ohio, and involves learning about 15 Olympic winter sports and voting on the favorite sport.

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels.

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065

Holy Italian man known for skiing, charity to others

BLESSED, from page 1

the Olympics here" in his own backyard, said Cardinal Severino Poletto of Turin.

"He's a great saint, a modern model of holiness and youth," said the cardinal.

In order to tell Olympic visitors more about Turin's favorite saint-in-the-making, two Blessed Pier Giorgio associations came together to set up two exhibits for the duration of the games. One was set up in a small church in Bardonecchia and another in a Turin church where Blessed Pier Giorgio was made a Third Order Dominican, a lay order.

The exhibits, called "A Saint on Skis," tell the story of a young outdoorsman who was a friend to the poor and active in many church-sponsored associations and political groups that fought for social justice.

His great sense of humor and generosity made him very popular with his peers. With his closest friends he formed a club, "the Shady Characters," and he was nicknamed "Robespierre" and "the Terror" because of the practical jokes he liked to concoct.

Wanda Gawronska, Blessed Pier Giorgio's niece and the head of the Rome-based Pier Giorgio Frassati association, said people are attracted to this young man once they discover he led "a completely normal life."

"He had all the same problems young people have. He had exams to study for, parents who didn't get along, and he fell madly in love with a girl," she said while visiting Turin and the exhibits she helped organize.

He never gave up the fun things in life — he cherished his friends, he loved climbing mountains, skiing slopes, and helping his family, she said.

Humble living

But, at the same time, Blessed Pier Giorgio lived his life with an intense

spirituality and devotion to Christ and the Eucharist, she said.

"He really felt Christ" was present in those who were less fortunate, said Gawronska. "He said he saw the poor and suffering were surrounded by a particular light" that others did not have.

Gawronska, whose 103-year-old mother is Blessed Pier Giorgio's sister, said his pockets were always stuffed with tiny slips of paper — each one had the address or request of people who needed help.

"He went everywhere, bringing people food, looking for jobs for people, helping children, visiting the prison; he was someone people really counted on," she said.

Blessed Pier Giorgio was from an influential and wealthy family, but he pinched his pennies so he could spend most of his allowance on the poor.

People often asked him why he always traveled third class, Gawronska said. Though he did it to save money that he would later spend on others, he would reply, "because there was no fourth class."

He kept meticulous records of how he spent his allowance. On a page from a notebook he kept during a brief stay in Berlin, he listed the amounts he spent on others, like the "poor children of Berlin" and of the smaller amounts he spent on himself for coffee, bread and cigars.

He never went without his cigars, Gawronska said: "His expenses were always alms and cigars."

'Beneficial influence'

Blessed Pier Giorgio was active in Catholic Action and the Popular Party, which promoted the church's social teaching. He once said, "Charity is not enough; we need social reform."

Pope John Paul II, who beatified him in 1990, said Blessed Pier Giorgio had served as "a beneficial influence" during his own youth in Poland and that as a student he "was impressed by the force of his Christian testimony."

In a homily celebrating the International Jubilee for Athletes in 1984, Pope John Paul said Blessed Pier Giorgio's dedication to helping the poor and suffering was an example of how to sow peace among people, "making us brothers and sisters."

He called on his audience to look closely at how this young man lived and to use him as an example, "a program" to follow so that they, too, could "be messengers of the true peace of Christ."

Born in 1901, Blessed Pier Giorgio "anticipated the church teachings of the Second Vatican Council. He had a lay vocation, and this fascinated the church," said Gawronska.

Blessed Pier Giorgio, known as "the Man of the Eight Beatitudes," died from polio, probably after contracting it from the people he helped, she said.

His remains are buried in a chapel in Turin's St. John the Baptist Cathedral, next to the chapel housing the Shroud of Turin.

NEW COVENANT BOOKSTORE

- Books
- Cards
- Videos
- Jewelry
-and more!

336-760-1673

304 Upton St.,
Winston-Salem, NC
www.newcovenantbookstore.com



CNS PHOTO COURTESY ISRAEL ANTIQUITIES AUTHORITY

Jars, such as the one pictured above, were found at the site of the Dead Sea Scrolls in 1947. The jars were made more than 2,000 years ago and were used to store scrolls containing biblical and non-biblical texts.

What are the Dead Sea Scrolls?

In 1947, young Bedouin shepherds, searching for a stray goat in the Judean Desert, entered a long-untouched cave and found jars filled with ancient scrolls.

That initial discovery by the Bedouins yielded seven scrolls and began a search that lasted nearly a decade and eventually produced thousands of scroll fragments from 11 caves.

During those same years, archaeologists excavated the Qumran ruin, a complex of structures located on a barren terrace between the caves and the Dead Sea.

Shortly after their discovery, historical, paleographic and linguistic evidence, as well as carbon-14 dating, established that the scrolls and the Qumran ruin dated from the third century B.C.E. to 68 C.E.

Coming from the late Second Temple Period, during the time when Jesus Christ lived, the Scrolls are older than any other surviving biblical manuscripts by almost 1,000 years.

DEAD SEA SCROLLS COME TO CHARLOTTE,

SCROLLS, from page 1

compelled to read the Scriptures with a renewed energy."

The exhibit is the East Coast debut of an 11,000 square-foot exhibition featuring the original Dead Sea Scrolls, some of which have never been seen outside of Israel, and may never be again. The exhibition runs through May 29.

"This is undoubtedly one of the most prized exhibitions to come to Charlotte," said Larry Polsky, chair of the Discovery Place board of trustees.

The design and construction of the exhibit hall were led by Joanie Philipp, director of major projects for Discovery Place and a parishioner of St. Ann Church in Charlotte.

"In February 2005, we learned we had been approved for the exhibit," Philipp said.

She had planned to use an existing exhibit from a museum in Michigan, but in May 2005, she learned the Israel Antiquities Authority wanted an entirely new exhibit constructed.

"Normally it takes about two years to build an exhibit from the ground up," Philipp said. "We did it in eight months."

The discovery of the century

In 1947, a young Bedouin goat herder and his companions discovered clay jars filled with scrolls in a cave near the Dead Sea. That initial discovery began a search that lasted nearly a decade.

Two of the principal archeologists were G. Lankaster Harding, director of the Department of Antiquities in Jordan, and Father Roland de Vaux, a French Dominican priest who headed the Ecole Biblique (Bible School) in Jerusalem.

Eventually, the excavation of 11 caves yielded thousands of fragments from hundreds of scrolls, hidden for at least 2,000 years. Today, most of the artifacts from the site are kept in the care of the Israel Antiquities Authority, which continues to research, conserve and preserve the manuscripts.

The Dead Sea Scrolls date back to the time of Jesus Christ and include some of the earliest surviving texts later

forming the books of the Old Testament. Until the Dead Sea Scrolls' discovery, no existing texts of the Hebrew Bible could be dated before 895 C.E. (Common Era).

The Dead Sea Scrolls were transcribed between 250 B.C.E (Before Common Era) and 68 C.E, in Hebrew, Aramaic or Greek — closing a 1,200-year gap by a millennium.

"If you compare the Dead Sea Scrolls translation to the latest translation we have, they are extremely similar," said Father James Hawker, diocesan vicar for education and pastor of St. Luke Church in Mint Hill. "That would show that the latest translation we have, which was written about 900 A.D., is quite accurate."

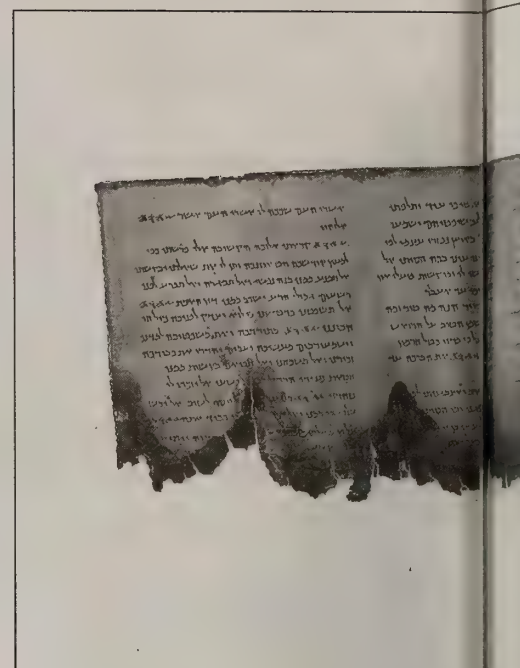
The Scrolls in Charlotte

The Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit at Discovery Place begins with entry into a gateway fashioned to look like the opening of a desert cave. After an introductory film, visitors hear and see the story of the scrolls, including their discovery, the controversy that surrounded them, their on-going decryption and the massive effort to preserve them.

The exhibition continues with installations illustrating the community of Qumran where the scrolls were written, and the lifestyle of those who wrote and copied them.

The Gallery of Scrolls features 10 authentic scrolls and three replicas that include passages from Deuteronomy, Genesis, Isaiah and Psalms. The exhibition also features other artifacts discovered in association with the scrolls at Qumran.

After the scrolls are exhibited in Charlotte, they will be returned to Israel and stored in darkness for a year for preservation purposes. Some of these same scrolls may never leave Israel again.



This fragment of a scroll found near the Dead Sea contains compositions not included in the Bible. The fragments on display at Discovery Place in Charlotte.

WANT TO GO?

The Dead Sea Scrolls will be on display at Discovery Place in Charlotte. The museum is located at 301 N. Tryon St. in Charlotte. Call (704) 372-6261 or (877) 849-4444.

"For anyone who is searching for a deeper understanding of their faith, the Dead Sea Scrolls are very valuable," said Father Hawker.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.



Please pray for the following priests who died during the month of March:

Rev. John Huston	1976
Rev. Francis Gorham	1981
Rev. Robert A. Gibson	1987
Rev. Justin J. Pechulis	1983

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

Hawaii

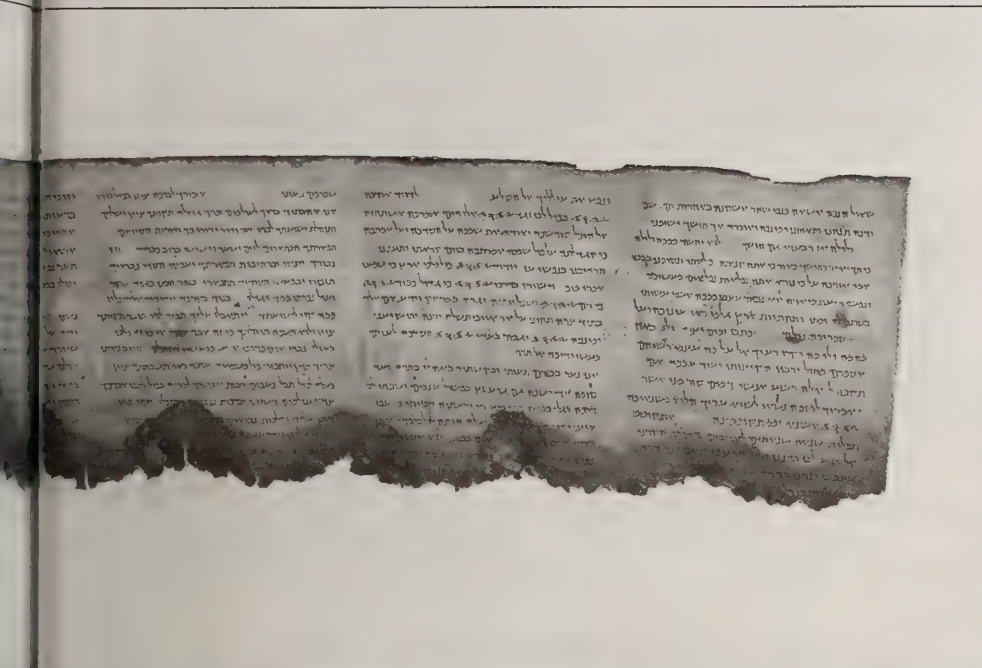
15 Days – 4 Islands: from \$1328*
Depart October 26, 2006

Join others on the most affordable two-week, four-island fully escorted Hawaiian vacation you'll ever find. Your group will fly to Honolulu for five nights in Waikiki, three nights on Kauai, two nights on Maui, one night in Hilo, and three nights in Kona. Sightseeing on every island includes: A Honolulu city tour with Punchbowl Crater and Pearl Harbor cruise to the Arizona Memorial, the Wailua riverboat cruise to the Fern Grotto, Iao Valley excursion & the old whaling capital of Lahaina, a Hilo orchid garden and Rainbow Falls, Black Sand Beaches, Volcanoes National Park and more! *Your price, from only \$1328 (per person, double occupancy) includes baggage handling, Hawaiian hotels, taxes, all flights between the islands, and escorted sightseeing on every island. Add \$700 for round trip airfare from Charlotte. 'Your Man' Tours specializes in Hawaii and has had its own office in Honolulu, offering carefree vacations, since 1967. This price is so low because travelers buy wholesale, directly from the actual Hawaiian tour operator. Friends and family are welcome! Space is limited and reservations with a \$100 deposit should be made now.

For information, reservations and brochure call 7 days a week:
'YOUR MAN' TOURS 1-800-968-7626

DEAD SEA SCROLLS

FER RARE LOOK AT HISTORY



COURTESY PHOTO

contains 41 Psalms and seven apocryphal. It is one of 10 original and three replicated through May 29.

Discovery Place through May 29.

in Charlotte. For more information, visit www.discoverscrolls.org.

DID YOU KNOW?

— Only Caves 1 and 11 have produced relatively intact manuscripts. Discovered in 1952, Cave 4 produced the largest find — about 15,000 fragments from more than 500 manuscripts were found.

— Scholars have identified the remains of about 825-870 separate scrolls.

— The scrolls can be divided into two categories — biblical and non-biblical. Fragments of every book of the Hebrew canon (Old Testament) except the book of Esther have been discovered.

— Prophecies by Ezekiel, Jeremiah and Daniel not found in the Bible are written in the scrolls.

— Although the Qumran community, where the scrolls were found, existed during the time of the ministry of Jesus, none of the scrolls refers to him, nor does any mention his followers described in the New Testament.

— The last words of Joseph, Judah, Levi, Naphtali and Amram (the father of Moses) are written in the scrolls.

— The scrolls contain previously unknown stories about biblical figures such as Enoch, Abraham and Noah. The story of Abraham includes an explanation as to why God asked Abraham to sacrifice his son, Isaac.

— Although most of the scrolls are made of animal skins, some are made of papyrus and one is copper. They are written with a carbon-based ink, from right to left, using no punctuation except for an occasional paragraph indentation. In fact, in some cases, there are not even spaces between the words.

— Some of the Dead Sea Scrolls actually appeared for sale in the Wall Street Journal June 1, 1954. The advertisement read, "The Four Dead Sea Scrolls: Biblical manuscripts dating back to at least 200 BC are for sale. This would be an ideal gift to an educational or religious institution or group. Box F206." The scrolls were purchased for \$250,000.

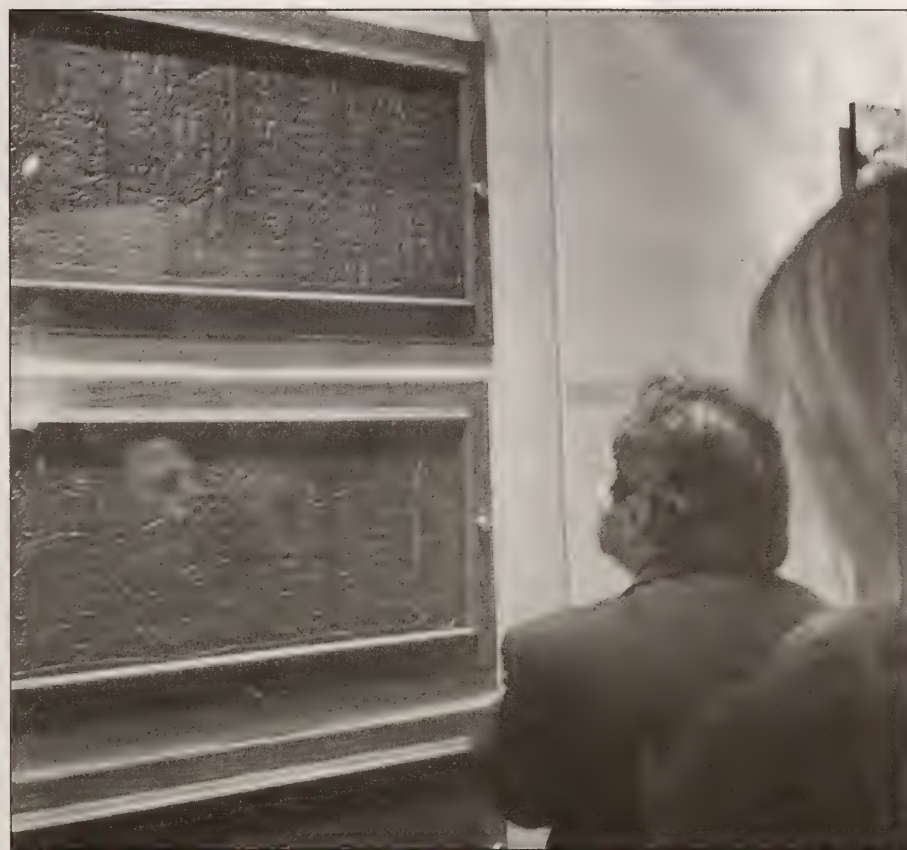


PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Visitors to Discovery Place examine the copper scrolls found among the Dead Sea Scrolls in Qumran. The scrolls contain a list claiming the existence of hidden treasure. The actual existence of such a treasure has never been proven or refuted.

Why are the Dead Sea Scrolls Important?

Since their discovery, the scrolls and the identity of the nearby settlement of Qumran have been the object of great scholarly and public interest, as well as heated debate and controversy.

They represent an invaluable source for exploring the nature of post-biblical times and probing the sources of both Judaism and Christianity.

Judaism

The Dead Sea Scrolls include a range of contemporary documents that serve as a window on a turbulent and critical period in the history of Judaism.

In addition to three groups identified by Josephus, Judaism was further divided into numerous religious sects and political parties. With the destruction of the Temple and the commonwealth in 70 C.E., all that came to an end. Only the Judaism of the Pharisees—Rabbinic Judaism—survived.

Reflected in Qumran literature is a Judaism in transition: moving from the religion of Israel as described in the Bible to the Judaism of the rabbis as expounded in the Mishnah (a third-century compilation of Jewish laws and

customs which forms the basis of modern Jewish practice).

Christianity

The Dead Sea Scrolls, which date back to the events described in the New Testament, have added to our understanding of the Jewish background of Christianity.

Scholars have pointed to similarities between beliefs and practices outlined in the Qumran literature and those of early Christians. These parallels include comparable rituals of baptism, communal meals and property.

Most interesting are the parallel organizational structures: the sectarians divided themselves into 12 tribes led by 12 chiefs, similar to the structure of the early Christian Church, with 12 apostles who, according to Jesus, were to sit on 12 thrones to judge the 12 tribes of Israel.

Many scholars believe that both the literature of Qumran and the early Christian teachings stem from a common stream within Judaism and do not reflect a direct link between the Qumran community and the early Christians.



THE ORATORY

434 Charlotte Avenue, P.O. Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586
(803) 327-2097

Pregnancy/Newborn Loss: Remembrance and Healing

Friday, March 31- 7:30 pm
to
Saturday, April 1- 4pm

Cathy Connelly
and Martha Beahm

For mothers and fathers who
have lost a child during
pregnancy or early infancy,
whether thirty days or thirty
years ago.

Both directors are certified chaplains with training and experience in perinatal loss support and now work in the pastoral care department of Sisters of Charity Providence Hospitals in Columbia, SC. Martha Beahm is an ordained Protestant minister, as well as a marriage and family therapist. Cathy Connelly is a Catholic lay ecclesial health care minister.

Cost: \$45 - Commuter
(includes lunch)
\$75 - Overnight

The Catholic Company™

Just in!

First Communion Gifts

Catholic Shop @ St. Matthew Catholic Church • New Life Center, Rm. 104
Corner of Rea Rd. and Ballantyne Commons Parkway - Charlotte, NC

Hours:
Monday-Friday 9-3
Sunday 10-2
704-927-4313
(Call for info or directions)

Bring in this ad for 15% off
your purchase.

(Not valid on "sale" items.)

Exp. 3/31/06

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Spreading the word

Pope tells magazine staff church must participate in cultural debates

By CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — The Catholic Church must participate in modern cultural debates, finding ways to present enduring truths in a serious, yet accessible way, Pope Benedict XVI said.

The pope met Feb. 17 with the editors and staff of La Civiltà Cattolica, a Jesuit-run magazine founded by Pope Pius IX in 1850 and one that continues to be reviewed by the Vatican Secretariat of State before publication.

By writing about cultural, social and political issues, the pope said, the magazine helps the Catholic Church in its dialogue with the modern world, identifying positive trends and offering the guidance of the Gospel.

Increasingly, modern culture is "closed to God and to his moral law, even if it is not always prejudicially adverse to Christianity," the pope said.

At the same time, he said, there are many signs of hope, including "the new sensitivity to religious values on the part of many men and women; renewed attention to sacred Scripture; respect for human rights to a greater degree than occurred even in the recent past; (and) the desire to dialogue with other religions."

In the face of such ambiguity, he said, "Catholics are called to make a great effort to develop the dialogue with modern culture and open it to the perennial values of the transcendent."

The mission of La Civiltà Cattolica, he said, is "to participate in the contemporary cultural debate both to propose, in a serious yet popular way, the truths of the Christian faith in a clear manner faithful to the magisterium of the church and to defend, without a polemical spirit, the truth, which is sometimes deformed,

including through unfounded accusations against the church community."

Pope Benedict said the teaching of the Second Vatican Council is the "lighthouse" that should guide the magazine.

He said that although the council concluded 40 years ago its "doctrinal and pastoral riches" have not been fully appreciated.

"Undoubtedly, it gave the church an impulse capable of renewing it and preparing it to respond adequately to the new problems that contemporary culture raises," he said.

In addition, Pope Benedict said, the documents and statements of the Vatican and of bishops' conferences around the world in response to new concerns are a "living spring" the magazine can draw upon in its work.

The pope asked the magazine's staff to devote special energy to explaining and promoting the social teaching of the Catholic Church.

Father Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, superior general of the Jesuits, addressed the pope on behalf of the magazine's staff, telling him La Civiltà Cattolica wants its work to be marked by fidelity to the Holy See and love for the church.

"At the beginning of the 21st century, new problems confront the church," he said.

Father Kolvenbach said the pope had outlined the problems in several of his writings, but particularly in his encyclical "Deus Caritas Est" ("God Is Love").

"Our magazine intends to move along the lines indicated in the documents in the conviction that in them and through the action of the Holy Spirit" the church would be led and protected "through the joyful and the painful events of human history," Father Kolvenbach said.

Pope to visit Vatican Radio as it celebrates 75 years

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI was scheduled to visit the Vatican's own radio station as it celebrated its 75th anniversary.

Since Feb. 12, 1931, when Pope Pius XI officially inaugurated Vatican Radio, every pope except Pope John Paul I — who was pope for 34 days — has paid at least one official visit to the station or its broadcasting centers.

On March 3, Pope Benedict was scheduled to visit the radio's headquarters at the Palazzo Pio building that sits at the opposite end of the wide boulevard in front of St. Peter's Basilica, just across

from Castel Sant'Angelo.

The pope was to wrap up his visit by delivering an address to the radio's staff in the building's Marconi Hall.

The building is the radio's programming and broadcasting hub, where journalists from 59 different countries produce more than 64 hours of programming daily in some 45 different languages.

The radio's general director, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, told journalists Feb. 21 that the high point of the radio's anniversary celebrations would be Pope Benedict's visit.

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: MARCH 5, 2006

March 5, First Sunday of Lent

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Genesis 9:8-15
Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9
- 2) 1 Peter 3:18-22
- 3) Gospel: Mark 1:12-15

Repent, believe in Gospel, says Jesus

By DANY LUBY
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Each year, many of us think hard about what we should "do for Lent."

Many choose spiritual practices involving additional religious disciplines — special prayers, more frequent attendance at Mass, participation in Lenten devotions like Stations of the Cross and eucharistic adoration, etc.

Many others focus more on practices of detachment, observing Lent by "giving up" one thing or another for the duration of the season — sweets, smoking, a favorite TV show, that daily glass of wine with supper.

Such customs have been a longstanding tradition among Catholics, and they are valuable not only in themselves but for the way they strengthen our sense of identity as Catholics, mem-

bers of this ancient community of disciples of Jesus.

As we wrestle with specific choices about how we will observe this holy season, it might be wise to reflect on Jesus' words in the Gospel for the first Sunday of Lent. There the Lord frames our task in two related parts.

"Repent," he tells us; that is, turn away from sin and darkness, from the habits of self-indulgence that blind us to the needs and rights of others. Step aside from patterns of selfishness that isolate us from family, church, the larger human community.

But repentance is not the end of Jesus' Lenten call.

"Repent," he tells us, "and believe in the Gospel."

Turn away from sin, and at the same time turn toward the light of life in Christ. Live in a way that reflects a firm conviction that God loves us with an undying and passionate love, that we are, all of us, God's beloved children, sisters and brothers in Christ.

As we choose our individual and communal Lenten practices, may we measure our choices by how they will help us both "repent" and "believe in the Gospel."

Questions:

How do my typical Lenten practices assist me to both "repent" and "believe in the Gospel"? What is one new practice that might help reinforce my desire to repent during Lent? My desire to believe the Gospel?

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF FEB. 26-MARCH 4

Sunday (Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Hosea 2:16-17, 21-22, 2 Corinthians 3:1-6, Mark 2:18-22; **Monday**, 1 Peter 1:3-9, Mark 10:17-27; **Tuesday**, 1 Peter 1:10-16, Mark 10:28-31; **Wednesday (Ash Wednesday)**, Joel 2:12-18, 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18; **Thursday (Lenten Weekday)**, Deuteronomy 30:15-20, Luke 9:22-25; **Friday (St. Katharine Drexel)**, Isaiah 58:1-9, Matthew 9:14-15; **Saturday (St. Casimir)**, Isaiah 58:9-14, Luke 5:27-32.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 5-11

Sunday (First Sunday of Lent), Genesis 9:8-15, 1 Peter 3:18-22, Mark 1:12-15; **Monday (First Week of Lent)**, Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18, Matthew 25:31-46; **Tuesday (Sts. Felicity and Perpetua)**, Isaiah 55:10-11, Matthew 6:7-15; **Wednesday (Lenten Weekday)**, Jonah 3:1-10, Luke 11:29-32; **Thursday (St. Frances of Rome)**, Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25 or 4:17 (Esther's Prayer), Matthew 7:7-12; **Friday (Lenten Weekday)**, Ezekiel 18:21-28, Matthew 5:20-26; **Saturday (Lenten Weekday)**, Deuteronomy 26:16-19, Matthew 5:43-48.

Mark your calendar now for the
Second
Diocese of Charlotte
Eucharistic Congress —
Charlotte Convention Center
OCTOBER 6 & 7



Diocese of Charlotte
EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS
2006

Visit the Web site
www.GoEucharist.com
often for the latest updated
information about programs and
speakers, as well as opportunities
to volunteer.



Construction has begun and we're on our way!

It's a new year, full of resolution and hope for the future. It's also a new beginning at Pennybyrn at Maryfield, for you and your retirement future. Construction has started on what will be the area's most sought-after retirement address. Don't hesitate to inquire about this enriching lifestyle offering unparalleled services and amenities as well as the security of on-site health care. Soon, Pennybyrn will be a reality — a new beginning for you and your retirement future — act now!

Call (336) 886-4103 or toll-free (866) 627-9343 to learn more about the exciting developments at Pennybyrn at Maryfield.

PENNYBYRN
at MARYFIELD
A Continuing Care Retirement Community

Sponsored by the Sisters of The Poor Servants of The Mother of God

1315 Greensboro Road, High Point, NC 27260
www.maryfieldliving.org



NP/CNH-Groundbreaking

Texas Catholic family featured on 'Extreme Makeover: Home Edition'

BY CINDY BREWER
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VICTORIA, Texas — Seven-year-old twin sisters Tara and Sara Kubena, diagnosed with leukemia when they were 3, received a big surprise when they found out their family had been selected to receive a new home designed by the team of ABC's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition."

The show's host, Ty Pennington, and others from the series announced the surprise to the family Jan. 17.

A week later John and Monica Kubena and their four children — Tara and Sara have two other siblings, Brady and Kelly — were presented with a 4,200-square-foot home on the same property of the two-bedroom trailer home where they had been living.

The home is equipped with special features to help the girls' medical conditions.

The episode featuring the Kubenas, who are members of Holy Cross Church in East Bernard, was scheduled to air Feb. 19.

"We went above and beyond," Ed Sanders, one of the home's designers, said. "We didn't need to do it, but we have (given them) access to all the technology, and with all the pain (Tara's) been in, you're darn right we're going to go all out."

The Kubenas have been inundated with medical bills over the past few years. After the girls were diagnosed with their disease, they underwent chemotherapy treatments and their cancer went into remission.

Last year, Tara's leukemia returned and she had to undergo a bone marrow transplant at Texas Children's Cancer Center in Houston.

And her home's conditions were not up to the standards for a girl whose immune system was nearly destroyed.

That's where "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" came in. On Tara's 102nd day after her transplant, the show's producers made the announcement that the Kubena family had been

"We went above and beyond."

—Ed Sanders

selected for a home makeover.

In January 2005, Tara's aunt sent a letter to the show telling the Kubena family's story and explaining why they need a home makeover. The show receives nearly 15,000 requests per week.

The Kubena family was chosen from the thousands of others who sent in letters and tapes because "they're such a worthy family," according to the show's staff members.

The new home could mean the difference between life and death for a cancer patient whose immune system is working at only about 10 percent capacity, said Tara's oncologist, Dr. ZoAnn Dreyer, who said it is so important to remove the viruses from the air in Tara's home.

"It is best when (recovering patients are) around filtered systems," she said.

More than 1,000 volunteers from Houston, East Bernard and surrounding towns worked to complete the new house in 106 hours; a house this size would normally take six months to build.

A team installed an air purifying system into the home and more than 100 vendors donated labor and supplies.

When the home was unveiled to the Kubena family, a crowd of nearly 2,500 people, more than the population of East Bernard, were on hand to welcome them. High above the new house flew a plane pulling a banner that read "Welcome Home Tara."

Local schools let out early so students could attend the home's unveiling. A special place was reserved for the second-grade classmates of the twins, as some in the crowd had waited overnight for a good spot.

The television program also donated a new Ford hybrid SUV and a vacation for the family to use once Tara is healthy enough. And, to top it off, an anonymous donor donated the cost of the house's taxes and insurance for 10 years.



Let stairs be our problem... not yours!

Ask about our Stairway lifts.

- Easily attached to steps (not walls)
- Folds out of the way
- Fits most stairways (straight & curved)
- Very affordable (rent or buy)
- We install

Chair & Equipment Rentals & Sales, Inc.
800 Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC • (800) 333-8431

Member of St. Thomas Aquinas



Church cautious about plan to examine remains

JOAN, from page 1

we have are some fragments of cloth and human rib," said Bertrand Vincent, spokesman for France's Tours Archdiocese.

"Even if these are confirmed as belonging to a young woman of the period, who was burned to death, this won't prove it's Joan of Arc. For now, the church is showing maximum prudence and reserve," said Vincent.

Philippe Charlier, professor at Raymond Poincare Hospital, west of Paris, announced that he would analyze the fragments allegedly retrieved from below the stake in Rouen, France, where St. Joan was executed in 1431 at age 19.

In a telephone interview with Catholic News Service Feb. 17, Vincent praised Charlier's "professional expertise and good intentions" and said that Tours would "take note" if the project were "conducted seriously, with proper results."

"However, unless something extraordinary is achieved, and it's proved beyond all reasonable doubt that these are Joan of Arc's remains, the

church will not consider them the relics of a saint," the spokesman added.

Vincent said that Father Jean-Louis Gaudier of Chinon had consented to Charlier's examination of the bone and cloth, which have been housed in a Chinon church museum since 1938.

However, he added that the remains, which were located at a Paris pharmacy in the 19th century, were not regarded as "church objects."

St. Joan, a peasant girl from Domremy in eastern France, was burned as a witch and heretic in May 1431 after leading a French army against English invaders and lifting the siege of Orleans.

The national heroine, who was canonized in 1920, reputedly heard the voices of saints as a young girl and was widely credited with altering the course of the 1337-1453 Hundred Years' War and strengthening French nationhood.

Speaking at a Feb. 13 Paris press conference, Charlier said he hoped to verify with DNA and carbon-14 tests that the remains were genuinely those of a 19-year-old female, as well as pinpointing the precise year and month of death.

"In ideal circumstances, our scientific studies will match historical accounts by showing the body was

burned three times on the same day," the forensic expert said.

"We would then have a bundle of arguments, so detailed and close to the record, that we would be able to say with almost complete certainty that they are indeed the remains of Joan of Arc," said Charlier.

The professor said his team also hoped to prove a piece of animal bone found with the remains belonged to a cat, thus bearing out historical accounts that

cats often were thrown on the stake with alleged sorcerers.

He added that his findings would be presented to a conference in Bourges, France, later this year.

Last year, Charlier's team studied the remains of Agnes Sorel, mistress of King Charles VII, the 15th-century French king who fought alongside Joan of Arc. Charlier said test results confirmed the historical record that Sorel died of mercury poisoning.



HOLY ANGELS

THE HARDEST JOB YOU'LL EVER LOVE!

POSITIONS NOW AVAILABLE!

FOR NEW & EXPANDING SERVICES

WANTED

CARING... ENERGETIC... FUN... HARD WORKERS...

DIRECT CARE PROFESSIONALS - Full-time, Part-time, Weekend Relief

1st, 2nd & 3rd Shifts including every other weekend.

Required: High School/GED

Prefer individuals with 2-3 years work experience, preferably in healthcare and/or working with children/or adults with developmental disabilities. Responsible for physical care, goal implementation, and associated duties for assigned residents. Training provided for all positions.

Be sure to bring your resume with job history and references.

APPLY AT: Holy Angels, 6600 Wilkinson Blvd., Belmont, NC

Phone: 704-825-4161 www.holyangelsnc.org

Licensed Clinical Social Worker

Licensed Clinical Social Worker needed for small, non-denominational Christian non-profit agency operating programs for homeless, single, pregnant women and single mothers with children. Job responsibilities include: providing case management and counseling services for clients; supervising residential staff; and rotating on-call duties.

Minimum requirements: To be considered for the position, applicant must be a licensed clinical social worker, have a MSW and 5 years of human service experience. Must possess mature judgment, be able to work independently and be detail oriented.

Preferred: Experience working with pregnant women, homeless clients and knowledge of Guilford County resources. Fluency in Spanish, experience with Medicaid billing issues and HIPAA requirements are helpful.

The job is full-time on Monday through Friday with rotating on-call duties. Competitive salary is negotiable and based on experience. Health, dental and life insurance benefits as well as generous vacation and sick time are offered. Position to begin on March 31st. Interested parties should send resume and salary requirements to Room At The Inn of the Triad, Post Office Box 29584, Greensboro, NC 27429 or fax to (336) 275-9522. No phone calls, please.



The Catholic Shoppe
AT BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

Part Time Position Available

Catholic bookstore seeking part time employee, 10-15 hours per week. Must be available to work on Saturdays. Prior bookstore experience a plus. Ideal candidate will have a strong intellectual knowledge of and personal commitment to the Catholic faith. Send cover letter, resume & three professional references (including names & contact information) to Human Resources, Belmont Abbey College, 100 Belmont-Mt. Holly Rd, Belmont, NC 28012.

Classifieds

SERVICES

COUNSELING SERVICES: Individuals. Couples. Family. Lucille Moses, BSN, M.Ed. North Carolina Licensed Professional Counselor. 1801 East 5th Street, 108-B, Charlotte. 704-366-6507 or 704-942-4334.

COUNSELING SERVICES: With a faith perspective. Elizabeth Pantas, MA-Ed., LPC. Individual - Group - Marriage Counseling. (828) 628-4621. Basilica of St. Lawrence parishioner.

FOR RENT

NEW LAKE LURE CABIN: Stay while touring the HGTV Dream Home! 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished. Off-season rates. 828-299-3714.

Classified ads bring results! Over 125,000 readers! Over 49,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

Archdiocese of Atlanta CATHOLIC SCHOOLS JOB FAIR

March 4, 2006

10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Cathedral of Christ the King
2699 Peachtree Road NE
Atlanta, GA 30305

www.christking.org

◆ Faith Based Education

◆ Competitive Salaries & Benefits

◆ SACS Accredited Schools

◆ Strong Parental Support

◆ Teaching Positions in Grades Pre-K - 12

◆ Qualified candidates should bring multiple copies of resumes ◆

Crowned with faith



COURTESY PHOTO

Pre-kindergarten students wear crowns to celebrate the 100th day of classes at St. Michael School in Gastonia Feb. 6. The students explored different ways to reach 100, and their teachers read books to them, taught math skills and played games.

A great work

Teacher helps get Bible recorded onto CD

KERNERSVILLE — Last fall, when a student of Roni Barrow asked if he could listen to the New American Bible on CD, she replied: "Sure, I'll order it and we should receive it in less than a week."

So Barrow, the Learning Support director at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville, contacted RFB&D, a company that provides audio recordings of textbooks and reference and professional materials for people with "print disabilities" — those unable to read due to a disability.

But she was unable to order the CD — it had yet to be recorded.

So Barrow asked a company representative if the Bible could be recorded onto a CD and sent to the school's Learning Support department, which provides books on CDs for Learning Support students.

RFB&D (Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic), agreed to the project, but asked Barrow to be patient.

"This is the Bible, so it may take a while," said Melinda Hayes of RFB&D.

To assist RFB&D, Barrow sent the company two copies of the New American Bible to use for the recording. The company began recording the text in February 2005.

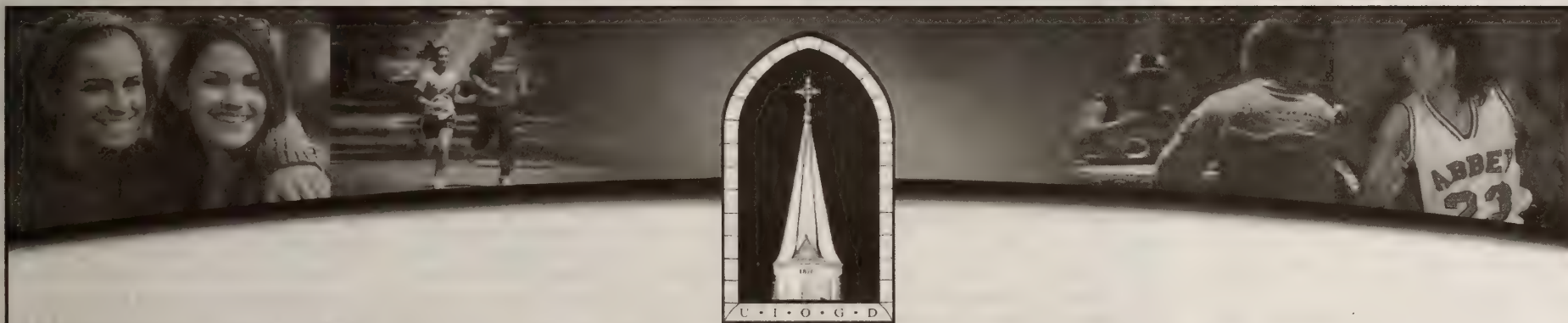
By December 2005, the recording was complete. And now, in addition to Bishop McGuinness, Catholic high



COURTESY PHOTO

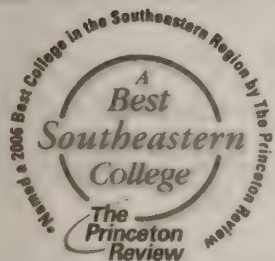
Roni Barrow, Learning Support director at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville, holds a copy of the New American Bible and the CD recordings of it. She helped get the Bible recorded onto CD for use in her department and in other high schools.

schools across the country will be able to order the New American Bible on CD.



BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED



Conveniently located on campus
I-85 exit 26

Join us Friday, March 24th from 2pm to 6pm
for our Abbey Experience open house event!

RSVP by calling 1.888.222.0110, emailing admissions@bac.edu or logging onto

www.BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Farewell to February

Month noteworthy for appreciating culture, love

For a short month, a lot happens in February. On the frivolous side there is the Super Bowl (quick, who won in 2001?) and Groundhog Day (tell me again, what does it mean if the groundhog sees its shadow?).

But the second month on the calendar also gives us a lot to ponder — love and the treatment of our fellow man are the thinking person's themes for this chilly time of year, as February gives us the grandeur of Black History Month and the whimsy of St. Valentine's Day.

From Black History Month, we get an appreciation of the culture and contributions of our black brothers and sisters. St. Valentine's, pumped up by the steroids of media attention, has morphed the patron saint of lovers into an obligation to buy cards, chocolates, flowers, perfume and stuffed animals.

For Catholics in North Carolina there is a curious intersection of Black History Month and the love exemplified by St. Valentine. In a 1948 diocesan book, "First Synod of the Diocese of Raleigh," the Catholic Church supported the sanctions imposed by the state against interracial marriage: "Marriages between a white person and negro, or Indian, or between a white person and person of negro or Indian descent to the third generation ... are void."

To understand this sanction, it is important to know that priests play a dual role at wedding ceremonies. On behalf of the Catholic Church, the priest is a witness to the sacrament of matrimony that the husband and wife confer on one another. It is the exchange of the wedding vows that binds a man and woman.

The union is witnessed and then blessed by the priest. At the same time, the priest performs the civil union of marriage that is recognized by the state.

The language of the synod book on interracial marriage reads like a piece of legislation, which is to say it is nearly incomprehensible. It likely was taken verbatim from state law. So, perhaps it is understandable that the synod book merely followed what the law required.

But Richard and Debi Hill don't see it that way. The Hills, an interracial couple, are members of St. Matthew Church in Charlotte.

"We have always experienced love and acceptance in the Catholic Church," said Debi. "It blows me away that the Catholic Church once condoned segregation."

How many interracial couples had broken hearts on Valentine's Day because church and state forbade their union in

Catholics & the Media

DAVID HAINS
GUEST COLUMNIST



COURTESY PHOTO

Richard and Debi Hill, married for 28 years, are members of St. Matthew Church in Charlotte.

matrimony? How many children weren't born out of those loving relationships?

February, it turns out, contains lovers' histories that never were.

The Hill family includes the couple's two children and three children from Richard's previous marriage. What if they wanted to marry in 1948 instead of 1978?

"My life would be totally different," said Debi, "I had a poor self image before my marriage to Richard. With my marriage and my faith I am a mother, I own a business and I volunteer regularly at church. We really feel that God brought us together."

And what God has joined let no man tear asunder.

The days banning interracial marriage are gone, but thankfully, not forgotten. Black History Month is also a potent reminder of injustice.

I enjoy Black History Month so much that I wouldn't mind seeing a Hispanic History Month, an Asian History Month and yes, even a White History Month. Each of our respective cultures has made a contribution to the rich soup that is America — just the right recipe for a cold winter's day.

David Hains is director of communications for the Diocese of Charlotte. Contact him at dwhains@charlottediocese.org.

A look at Lent

A general introduction to the season

Lent is the season the Catholic Church gives us to take stock and review our lives, to root out all that is not good and true and replace it with the faithful and the holy. In these 40 days, the Catholic Church turns to the ancient penitential practices of fasting, almsgiving and prayer. These practices remain as rich and life-giving in the year 2006 as they were when practiced by the early Christians and by our Jewish forbearers.

Fasting reminds us of our hunger for God, which no worldly thing can satisfy. Almsgiving reminds us that love of God and love of neighbor are inextricably intertwined, and that we bear responsibility for each other. Prayer reminds us to center our lives on God who alone gives meaning to all we do.

Lent is a most special time. The liturgies and devotions of Lent call us to a kind of spiritual "spring cleaning," identifying relationships that are disordered and sins that imprison and then seeking forgiveness and healing. We root out the darkness of sin so as to enter the Easter mysteries with a clean heart bathed in the healing, life-giving light of Christ.

Guidelines for Lent

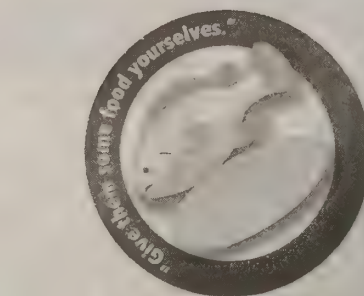
1) The time of Lent is to be observed by Catholics as a special season of prayer, penance and works of charity.

2) Ash Wednesday, March 1, and Good Friday, April 14, in particular, are the most important penitential days of the liturgical year. They are days of both fast and abstinence. All Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence.

3) The rule of fasting states that only one full meal a day can be taken. Two small meals, "sufficient to maintain strength," are allowed, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals breaks the fast, but drinking liquids does not. The rule of fasting binds all Catholics from age 18 to 59.

4) Abstinence refers to the eating of meat. Under the present law, it does not include egg or milk products, meat stock soups or gravies. The rule of abstinence binds all Catholics 14 years old and older.

5) The substantial observance of the laws of fast and abstinence is a serious obligation. Those whose work or health would be impaired are excused from fasting and abstaining. The individual



conscience can decide if there is a proper cause to excuse. A more serious reason should be present to excuse from Ash Wednesday and Good Friday penance.

6) Self-imposed fasting on the other weekdays of Lent is recommended. Abstinence on all Fridays of the year is also highly recommended. The Peace Pastoral of the American Bishops, stating that prayer is incomplete without penance, urges Friday abstinences as something all American Catholics should offer up for the sake of world peace.

7) Parents and teachers should see to it that even those who are not bound by the laws of fasting and abstinence because of age are brought up in an atmosphere that is conducive to a sense of penance.

8) The faithful should be clearly and positively encouraged to receive the sacrament of reconciliation during Lent. There should be adequate time scheduled for confessions before Easter. Group reconciliation services should not be scheduled for the last days of the Holy Week. At no time is it permitted to schedule a group reconciliation service for the purpose of giving general absolution without individual confessions.

9) The liturgical directions of the Sacramentary and the Lectionary must be faithfully observed regarding all the special Holy Week rites.

10) Funeral Masses are not allowed on Holy Thursday, Good Friday or Holy Saturday. The funeral rite outside of Mass can be held either in church or at the chapel on those days, with a funeral Mass later.

11) The RCIA is incorporated into the liturgy during Lent. The Rite of Election is celebrated on the first Sunday of Lent. On the third, fourth and fifth Sundays of Lent, the Scrutinies take place during Mass.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

Help is on the horizon

CSS program assists grandparents raising kids

Imagine that a woman walks into her kitchen to prepare dinner. She glances at the stack of bills on the counter and wonders how they will all get paid this month. Reaching for a skillet, she grimaces — her back has been aching all day.

Suddenly a 3-year-old bundle of energy runs into the room, toy motorcycle revving at top volume. Little arms demand to be picked up. Despite her aches and pains, the woman holds the child, kisses him, and remembers that she is the only living being that this child can depend on for love and care.

This woman is 70 years old.

There are currently 5,174 grandparents who are raising their grandchildren in Charlotte. The challenges are daunting. While most grandmas and grandpas get to spoil and dote over their grandkids and then say "bye-bye" at the end of the day, there are people who are spending their "golden years" parenting one or more of their grandchildren, or even great-grandchildren.

Their own child is incapable of doing this job due to death, incarceration, addictions or mental illness. Now these grandparents are dealing with tantrums and diapers, immunization schedules and car seats.

They are the primary source of love and comfort for their grandchildren. Parenting "tools" that they used more than 20 years ago are dusted off and applied in this era of cell phones and

Peace of Mind

LORI L. FOX
GUEST COLUMNIST



Internet predators.

The good news is that tremendous hope and help are available through New Horizons for Families and Children. With a grant funded by Smart Start of Mecklenburg County, Catholic Social Services has developed a program to help grandparents access every support available to allow them to raise healthy and happy children.

New Horizons serves the unique needs of these families by providing:

- information and referrals;
- assistance in obtaining benefits, including Medicaid;
- assistance with daycare needs for those who qualify;
- parenting education and parental coaching;
- family, marital and individual counseling;
- ongoing support groups;
- case management; and
- advocacy.

Through New Horizons, grandparents

are given help in integrating new parenting skills in the areas of discipline, setting healthy boundaries, developing positive daily routines and improving communication techniques.

They are given a place to talk about their experiences and concerns and to form strong bonds with case managers, counselors and each other. Together, New Horizons and grandparents are forming a community of hope in which children can grow up healthy and happy.

Imagine that a 70-year-old woman wakes up to a pair of big brown eyes watching her.

"Grandma," she hears, "can I have oatmeal for breakfast?"

She turns her head toward the bedroom window and sees a bright sunrise on the horizon. She smiles. It's going to be a good day.

To learn more about New Horizons for Family and Children, call Colleen Cranford, program director, at (704) 370-3248 or visit www.cssnc.org.

Lori Fox is supervisor of counseling services for Catholic Social Services in the Diocese of Charlotte.

Catholic Social Services counseling is one of the services supported by contributions to the Diocesan Support Appeal, an annual campaign in the Diocese of Charlotte that helps support 30 ministries providing 50 programs. The 2006 DSA runs Feb. 4 to March 12.



Pope asks for prayers for his ministry on feast of Chair of St. Peter

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — With hundreds of candles lighting a sculpture of the Chair of St. Peter behind him, Pope Benedict XVI encouraged Catholics to grow in their faith and asked for prayers for his ministry as the successor of St. Peter.

Celebrating the Feb. 22 feast of the Chair of Peter, Apostle, Pope Benedict held part of his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Basilica, where Gian Lorenzo Bernini's statue is located, and part in the Vatican audience hall, where he announced he would create 15 new cardinals.

In greeting Italian students in the basilica and in his talks in 10 languages in the audience hall, the pope offered a reflection on the ministry of St. Peter as Jesus' choice as leader of the Apostles.

He encouraged the estimated 8,000 people in the audience hall to spend some time in St. Peter's Basilica, looking at the Bernini statue specially lighted for the feast day "and to pray in a particular way for the ministry which God has entrusted to me."

"Raising your gaze to the alabaster window just above the chair, invoke the Holy Spirit so that with his light and his strength he would always sustain my daily service to the entire church," the pope said.

Pope Benedict explained that the feast day celebrates the ministry of St. Peter as bishop of Rome, a ministry symbolized by his chair, the symbol of his responsibility for teaching the faith and of his authority.

"Providence led Peter to Rome, where he ended his service to the Gospel with martyrdom," the pope said.

"For this reason, the see of Rome, which received great honor, also received the responsibility Christ entrusted to Peter to serve all of the particular churches for the edification and unity of the entire people of God," he said.

As successor of St. Peter, he said, the pope is called not only to serve the church in Rome, but to guide the universal church.

"Celebrating the chair of Peter means, then, attributing to it a strong spiritual significance and recognizing it as a privileged sign of the love of God, the good and eternal pastor, who wants to gather the entire church and guide it on the path of salvation," the pope said.

Shaking hands in the middle of Mass

Q. Who started this new ritual of shaking hands in the middle of Mass?

I've had my arthritic fingers crushed. I've had parishioners blow their nose and then offer their hand to me. I often sit in front to see and hear the Mass, but I'm tempted to isolate myself in back. I think this entire scenario is unnecessary and superfluous. (Illinois)

A. Let's start with your first question. The rite of the sign of peace is not new. It is among the oldest rituals connected with the Sacrifice of the Mass. At least five times the New Testament speaks of Christians greeting each other with a "holy kiss" or a "kiss of love."

We know that at least by around the year 150, this "kiss" was already a regular part of the eucharistic liturgy, as an expression of unity and peace among Christians.

For centuries, the Pax (peace) as it was called was exchanged by everyone at Mass. Beginning in the late Middle Ages the practice was observed only by attending clergy, and other signs, such

as an embrace, usually substituted for an actual kiss.

This continued until our present time when the kiss, or sign, of peace is again prescribed in some manner for all the faithful. Instructions for Mass prescribe that before the breaking of the bread each person offers a sign of peace to those nearby.

The church in this way asks for peace and unity for herself and for the whole human family, and the faithful offer a sign of their communion with the church and of their love for each other before receiving Communion together (General Instruction of the Roman Missal 82).

Despite of your misgivings, therefore, the sign of peace has deep roots as a fitting expression of the Catholic Christian meaning of the Mass and holy Communion, the sacrament we still refer to as "the sign of unity and the bond of love."

A touch such as a handshake, an embrace or a kiss may not be the perfect possible sign of peace. But it can still

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN
DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



carry a message we need to understand if we are to celebrate the Eucharist together as Christ intended it to be celebrated.

Many Catholics share your arthritis problem. But don't isolate yourself. Your difficulty can be handled in a charitable manner.

Just look at the persons next to you, smile, and say "Peace be with you." No one will be offended, and you will be sharing a moment of the Mass that can be most prayerful and precious.

A free brochure answering questions Catholics ask about the sacrament of penance is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 5515, Peoria, IL 61612.

Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address, or e-mail: jjdietzen@aol.com.

Supreme decisions

Court to consider constitutionality of partial-birth abortion ban

BY JERRY FILTEAU
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. Supreme Court said Feb. 21 that it will consider the constitutionality of the federal Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act.

The court agreed to hear a Bush administration appeal of a U.S. appeals court ruling that the 2003 law is unconstitutional because it does not include an exception for the health of a pregnant woman.

Deirdre A. McQuade, spokeswoman for the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, welcomed the court's decision to take up the case.

"Partial-birth abortion is not necessary for women's physical or emotional health," she said. "Extensive testimony reveals that there is no maternal health reason why such a gruesome and inhumane procedure must be performed."

The appeal is the first abortion case the high court has agreed to hear since Justice Samuel Alito Jr. replaced Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, who retired. O'Connor was often a swing vote on abortion cases and many observers regard Alito as more likely than her to favor legal restrictions on abortion.

Three federal appeals courts have found the 2003 law unconstitutional. The first such ruling came last July from the St. Louis-based 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which said that "a health exception is constitutionally required" in any law restricting abortion.

In separate rulings Jan. 31 two other appellate courts, the 9th Circuit in San Francisco and the 2nd Circuit in New York, also found the law's lack of a health exception unconstitutional.

The 9th Circuit added that the law imposes "an undue burden" on women's



CNS PHOTO BY PAUL HARING

Justice Samuel Alito Jr., (left) and Chief Justice John Roberts walk down the steps of the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington Feb. 16. The two justices, both Catholic, will likely play key roles in deciding abortion cases before the high court, such as the constitutionality of the federal Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act.

access to abortion and called the language of the law too vague for consistent enforcement.

In 2000 the Supreme Court ruled 5-4 that a state law in Nebraska banning partial-birth abortion was unconstitutional because it did not include a health exception.

O'Connor was part of the court majority in that ruling, which not only nullified the Nebraska statute but also made similar laws in a number of other states unenforceable.

The Supreme Court is to hear arguments on the federal law during its next term, which begins in October.

'Cruel and dangerous practice'

Douglas Johnson, legislative director

for the National Right to Life Committee, said, "Unless the Supreme Court now reverses the extreme position that five justices took in 2000, partly born premature infants will continue to die by having their skulls punctured by seven-inch scissors."

In the abortion procedure banned by the federal law, after the body of the live human fetus is delivered through the mother's birth canal, the doctor pierces its skull and suctions out the brain, causing death and collapsing the head so that it may be drawn through the birth

canal more easily.

When President George W. Bush signed the Partial-Birth Ban Act in November 2003, he called the procedure "a terrible form of violence ... directed against children who are inches from birth."

Abortion opponents have opposed a health exception in partial-birth abortion laws because the Supreme Court's 1973 companion abortion decision *Doe v. Bolton*, issued in conjunction with *Roe v. Wade*, defined the health rationale for an abortion to include any factor that related to a woman's well-being — a definition so broad as to cover virtually any perceived benefit to the woman.

When the appellate court in St. Louis ruled last July that the absence of a health clause made the federal law unconstitutional, Gail Quinn, executive director of the bishops' pro-life secretariat, urged that the Supreme Court overturn that decision.

"It makes no sense to say one must kill a child who is more than half born to advance the mother's health instead of simply completing a live delivery," she said.

"There is no place in a civilized society for this cruel and dangerous practice," she said.

After the high court agreed to take up the case, McQuade commented, "Abortion advocates once said the (partial-birth abortion) procedure was rare and used only on women whose lives were in danger or whose unborn children were dying or severely disabled.

"But Ron Fitzsimmons, then executive director of the National Coalition of Abortion Providers, admitted in 1997 that partial-birth abortions are 'primarily done on healthy women and healthy fetuses,'" she said in her Feb. 21 statement.

"The Alan Guttmacher Institute estimates that 2,200 abortions were performed in 2000 using this grotesque method," she said.

WALK WHERE JESUS WALKED ON A DIOCESAN-SPONSORED PILGRIMAGE TO



THE HOLY LAND September 5 - 14

with Fr. James Hawker, Diocesan Vicar
of Education and Pastor, St. Luke Church

Deepen your understanding of our Catholic faith and watch the pages of the Bible come alive as you experience daily Mass at many of the historical sites of our faith.

Highlights include:

- Tiberias, Mt. Carmel, Sea of Galilee area
- Mt. Tabor, Cana, Nazareth — Jesus' boyhood area
- Capernaum, Mount of Beatitudes, River Jordan
- Jerusalem area: Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Via Dolorosa, Lord's Tomb at Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Mount Zion, Upper Room, Dormition Abbey, Walling Wall
- Dead Sea (excavations and scrolls), Masada, Holocaust memorial
- Bethlehem's historic sites — PLUS much more!

Price: \$2,499 from Charlotte (\$2,599 after June 22) includes airfare, most meals, first-class hotels and all tours. Airport taxes/fees, tips and insurance are extra.

Call Cindi Feerick at 704/370-3332 for a brochure with complete details or Pentecost Tours 800/713-9800 for registration.

Only 7 spaces left! Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise —

"The Footsteps of Paul" Greece and Turkey — May 11-21, 2006

Space is limited—register now!



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,949 for inside cabin — includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

Istanbul — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace

Mykonos — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels

Patmos — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation

Kusadasi & Ephesus — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites

Rhodes — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith

Crete — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion

Santorini — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.

Roman Catholic
Diocese of Charlotte



Established Jan. 12, 1972
by Pope Paul VI

MARCH 3, 2006

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 15 N° 21

Raising awareness

Students hear dangers of
drinking and driving;
youths fast to fight hunger

| PAGES 4-5

Unexpected blessings

Young woman
chooses life,
adoption for child

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

OAK RIDGE, N.C. — At 22 years old, Mary Shaw found herself faced with the most important decision she had ever made.

In October 2004, she was at a party "drinking quite heavily."

"The last thing I remember was being on the front porch with my friends," she said. "The next thing I knew, I woke up in bed next to a guy I hardly knew."

See ADOPT, page 7

From womb to tomb

POPE SAYS GOD LOVES HUMANS IN ALL STAGES OF LIFE, EMBRYO TO OLD AGE

BY JOHN THAVIS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Pope Benedict XVI said God's love for humans does not differentiate between the stages of embryo, adult or old age.

That is one reason why the church proclaims the sacred and inviolable character of all human life, even in the form of a pre-implanted embryo, the pope told participants at a Vatican conference Feb. 27.

The conference, sponsored by the Pontifical Academy for Life, was examining the theme "The Human

See EMBRYO, page 6

Marking the journey



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Bishop Peter J. Jugis distributes ashes to a St. Michael School student during the Ash Wednesday Mass at St. Michael Church in Gastonia March 1. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent.

Ashes exterior sign of
interior repentance,
says bishop

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

GASTONIA — Lent is a "beautiful, sacred season" during which we should expect a "very profound encounter with God," said Bishop Peter J. Jugis.

Bishop Jugis distributed ashes during the Ash Wednesday Mass at St. Michael Church in Gastonia March 1.

Ash Wednesday marks the start of Lent, the period that runs through Holy Thursday and is considered a period of penance.

"The Lord is summoning us to a change of heart. It is a journey of the heart of a child of God into the heart of God, where we will find mercy, forgiveness and love," he said.

Receiving ashes is an external sign of interior repentance, said Bishop Jugis.

"It is an interior conversion — a change of heart, renewing our life, and that is something marvelous," he said.

RELATED STORIES

Page 4 | Bishop Jugis assumes pastorate of St. Michael Church.

For the community

Facility brings new life to Our Lady of Consolation Church

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — With the dedication of the Community Life Center, parishioners of Our Lady of Consolation Church in Charlotte, and their neighbors, have a facility worthy of its name.

Bishop Peter J. Jugis dedicated the 15,000-square-foot

facility Feb. 26, fulfilling a journey five years in the making. Also in attendance were Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin; Msgr. Mauricio W. West, vicar general and chancellor of the Diocese of Charlotte; and Capuchin Fathers Jude Duffy, Martin Schratz and Ignatius Zampino.

See CENTER, page 8



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

The Perpetual Hope Gospel Choir from Our Lady of Consolation Church in Charlotte sings during the dedication Mass of the church's new Community Life Center Feb. 26.

CHapel Hill NC 27599-0001
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
UNC
NC COLLECTION
#420836#
#BXNPDVQ.....3-DIGIT 275
S36 P1

Inside the Curia

Portuguese cardinal
'objective fan' of
sainthood causes

| PAGE 9

Culture Watch

Priest uses podcast to
preach; Catholic competes
on 'Apprentice'

| PAGES 10-11

Perspectives

Arsenal of prayer
outbursts; making
real differences

| PAGES 14-15

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

A TASTE OF MOTHERHOOD



CNS PHOTO BY DAVID V. KAMBA, CATHOLIC NEW WORLD

Junior Jazleen Rosado (left) and senior Marilin Torres tend to their "babies" at Notre Dame High School for Girls in Chicago in January. The "Baby Think It Over" program aims to teach students parenting skills while showing them just how much caring for an infant would affect their everyday lives.

'Baby Think It Over' program teaches girls motherhood is no easy task

CHICAGO (CNS) — For Sandra Avorywoskie, it was the way her baby would cry every time she rolled over and tried to go back to sleep.

That was when her school project — caring for a computerized baby doll for the weekend — suddenly seemed like a lot more than she had signed up for.

"I thought it was going to be easy," said Avorywoskie, a senior at Notre Dame High School for Girls in Chicago. "I knew it would be challenging, but it was more work than I thought."

Avorywoskie took the doll home as part of Marcia Berke's family development class, an elective offered to juniors and seniors.

Each student takes a baby home one weekend, and the doll records how well they handle the task. Did they let it cry too long without responding? Let it go too long between feedings or diaper changes? Handle it roughly?

All of that comes out on the report Berke generates when the dolls are returned.

Each student gets an electronic tag on a wristband that cannot be removed without being cut. The baby only responds when the person wearing the tag cares for it.

This is all part of a program called "Baby Think It Over," which uses dolls made by a Wisconsin company. The baby program is intended to teach students parenting skills while showing

them just how much taking care of an infant would affect their everyday lives.

Most of the Notre Dame students who take the class can't wait to take a baby home on Friday, said Berke. By the time they return Monday, most can't wait to turn the dolls in.

Except for the ones who don't show up at school on Monday.

"They're too tired," said Berke. "But when they come back, I remind them that when you really have a baby and a job, you can't take every Monday off."

The babies are meant to look real, and each gets sent home with a diaper bag full of supplies — including diapers and bottles that set off the doll's electronic sensors — and an infant car seat.

Since the girls must keep the babies with them all weekend, they also get a taste of how people regard teenage mothers.

Some people were nice, others were not, said Avorywoskie. Junior Jazleen Rosado and senior Marilin Torres both got some dirty looks, and even unsolicited advice.

The babies follow their own schedules — they are programmed after real infants and can be fussy, medium or easygoing.

Even easygoing babies are difficult to care for, said Rosado, who acknowledged the project made her want to postpone parenthood.

"I thought about it more thoroughly. It stops you from so many things," she said.

Theft of figurine, cemetery vandalism bring hate crime charges

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. (CNS) — Three New Jersey teenagers face hate crime charges in connection with the theft of a baby Jesus figurine from St. Stanislaus Kostka Church in the Metuchen Diocese and damage to the parish's cemetery.

A Middlesex County grand jury returned an indictment charging Christopher Olson, 18; Nicholas Hess, also 18; and Michael Payne, 19, with bias intimidation and conspiracy to commit bias intimidation, prosecutor Bruce J. Kaplan announced Feb. 16.

The suspects also were charged with criminal mischief and two counts of theft and conspiracy to commit criminal mischief. Olson also was charged with receiving stolen property.

Hess and Payne face a total of 40 years in prison and \$370,000 in fines if convicted on all charges. Olson faces 45 years in prison and \$385,000 in fines.

Two 15-year-olds from Old Bridge,

N.J., also faced charges of bias intimidation, theft, criminal mischief, harassment, desecration of venerated objects and tampering with a witness. Their names were not made public because they are minors.

According to the indictment, Olson, Hess and Payne committed or conspired with each other to commit third-degree criminal mischief against the property of St. Stanislaus Kostka Church in Sayreville with "a purpose to intimidate an individual or group of individuals because of religion, or under circumstances that caused any victim of the criminal mischief to be intimidated."

Ralph Cretella, assistant prosecutor, said Feb. 21 that evidence presented to the grand jury showed a "specific group was targeted and the grand jury accepted it."

None of the defendants has had a court arraignment, when a plea of guilty or not guilty to the charges is made, Cretella said. Their trials were not expected to begin for several weeks.

Diocesan planner

BOONE VICARIATE

SPRUCE PINE — A *Rosary of Intercession for Priests* is recited each Friday at St. Lucien Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., March 4-5. The parish mission and renewal, "Toward the Heart of God, the Journey of Faith" will take place March 6-8, 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the church. Monday and Tuesday evenings there will be a family dinner at 6:30 p.m. Child care will also be available each evening. For Mass time and reservations, call (704) 543-7677, ext. 1008.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — Passionist Father Vincent J. Segotta will preach at all Masses as St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., March 4-5. The parish mission and renewal, "Toward the Heart of God, the Journey of Faith" will take place March 6-8, 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the church. Monday and Tuesday evenings there will be a family dinner at 6:30 p.m. Child care will also be available each evening. For Mass time and reservations, call (704) 543-7677, ext. 1008.

CHARLOTTE — Father Ed Sheridan will be the celebrant at a *Mass celebrating the gifts of those with mental retardation* March 5 at 5 p.m. at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. Parishioners and visitors with varying degrees of mental retardation will serve as musicians, lectors, greeters and ushers. For more information, contact Mary Kennedy, St. Gabriel disability Ministry, at (704) 364-6964.

CHARLOTTE — Dr. Alveda C. King, daughter of slain civil rights activist Rev. A. D. King and niece of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., will speak at "Life is Sweet," a free dessert-and-coffee social at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., March 11, 1-3 p.m. King calls abortion oppressive to women and a violation of the civil rights of unborn

Americans. For more information, e-mail Debbie Capen, director of Charlotte Right to Life, Capenfamily@earthlink.net, or go online at www.charlottelife.org.

CHARLOTTE — An inquiry class for the St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order will meet the second Saturday of each month, 12-2 p.m. Classes take place at Our Lady of Consolation Church, 2301 Statesville Ave. Those interested in learning more about the SFO and the Franciscan way of life are invited to attend. The order also gathers the first Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. at Our Lady of Consolation Church. For more information, call Kathleen Zuckerman at (704) 455-7954.

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., will host a *Christian Coffeehouse* March 11 at 7:30 p.m. Single and married adults are invited for an evening of contemporary Christian music, food and fellowship. For more information, call Kathy Bartlett at (704) 400-2213.

CHARLOTTE — *Healing Hearts*, a support group for people coping with the death of a spouse, meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall of St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Rd. For more information, contact Sister Therese Galligan, facilitator, at (704) 362-5047, ext. 216.

CHARLOTTE — The *Vietnamese Cursillo* of Charlotte School of Leaders meets the second Sunday of each month at 2:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1400 Suther Rd. For more information, contact Nam Le at (704) 549-1525.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

STONEVILLE — The Greensboro Council of Catholic Women will host its annual *Lenten Retreat Day*, led by Father Louis Canino, March 9 at the St. Francis Springs Prayer Center. Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m., followed by lunch. For more information, please call Carmen Wood at (336) 545-9266.

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-mail: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

MARCH 3, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 21

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Pope says Lenten practices like fasting express faith, not burden

Time of Lent should be faced with 'new spirit,' says Pope Benedict XVI

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Lenten practices like fasting should be experienced as an expression of faith, not as a difficult burden, Pope Benedict XVI said.

The pope made his remarks at the Vatican Feb. 26, three days before he was to open the Lenten season with an Ash Wednesday liturgy in Rome.

"During this period, one abstains from singing 'Alleluia,' and people are invited to practice appropriate forms of penitential sacrifice," he said.

"The time of Lent should not be faced with an old spirit, as if it were a heavy and bothersome burden, but with the new spirit of one who has found in Jesus and in his mystery the meaning of life and understands that everything now

refers to him," he said.

The pope was preparing for his own Lenten retreat March 5-11. During that time, papal appointments are canceled and the pontiff joins Roman Curia officials twice a day to pray and listen to Lenten sermons.

Preaching the pope's retreat this year will be Cardinal Marco Ce, a theologian and biblicist and the retired patriarch of Venice, Italy. Cardinal Ce has used his free time in recent years to conduct many spiritual retreats for bishops, priests, religious orders and lay groups.

The theme of this year's papal retreat is "Walking With Jesus Toward Easter, Guided by the Evangelist Mark."

HIGH POINT — Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 4145 Johnson St., will offer a *free Spanish course*, Thursdays, 7-8:30 p.m., through March 23. For more information or to register, please call Nancy Skee at (336) 884-0522.

GREENSBORO — All Irish-Catholic women are invited to participate in the *Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians*, a social, cultural and charitable group for an ongoing series of fun and informative activities. LAOH meets the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Kloster Center of St. Pius X Church, 2210 N. Elm St. Please join us for refreshments and to learn more about our group. Any questions can be directed to Mary Giff at (336) 855-7014.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

MOORESVILLE — Bishop Emeritus William Curlin present a parish mission, "*The Presence of Jesus Within Us*" at St. Therese Catholic Church, 217 Brawley School Rd., March 13, 14 and 15 at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call the church office at (704) 664-3992.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

MURPHY — Rev. Patrick Garrett, pastor of Murphy Church of God, will preach the first in a series of *Community Lenten Worship Services* March 8, 12:05-12:30 p.m. at St. William Church, 765 Andrews Rd. The series is designed to strengthen ecumenical bonds within the community. For more information, call Joan Kennedy at (828) 837-8519.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

WINSTON-SALEM — The Portiuncula Franciscan Center, 221 W. Third St., will host a book discussion on "*Humility of God: A Franciscan Perspective*" by Ilia Delio, O.S.F. This book deals with the theology of divine humility and God's relationship to the world, while at the same time tackling some tough questions. The group will meet March 6, 13, 20 and 27; April 3 and 24; and May 1, 8 and 15, 6-7:30 p.m. For more

information, call (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

WINSTON-SALEM — The Portiuncula Franciscan Center, 221 W. Third St., will host *Lenten Faith Sharing* "brown-bag" gatherings March 8, 15, 22, 29 and April 5, 12-12:45 p.m. We will spend time looking ahead to the weekend Lenten readings to prepare our hearts for the Word of God to take root. Bring your own lunch. Coffee and tea will be provided. For more information, call (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

KERNERSVILLE — A *Catholic College Night* will take place in the Krispy Kreme Activity Center of Bishop McGuinness High School, 1725 N.C. Hwy. 66 South, March 13, 7-9 p.m. Dr. William K. Thierfelder, president of Belmont Abbey College, will be the keynote speaker. Parents and students can visit with representatives from several Catholic colleges and universities. For more information, please call Anton Vorozhko at (336) 564-1246 or e-mail avorozhko@bmhs.us.

WINSTON-SALEM — Take time to explore the need for personal reflection and prayer. Franciscan Father Jude DeAngelo will present *An Out of the Way Place*, a program for professional caregivers, clergy and counselors. The program will take place March 16 and 23, 7:15-8:15 p.m., at The Portiuncula Franciscan Center, 221 W. Third St. For more information, call (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Pope says Bible helps youths through dark times, deceit, false ideas

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Bible should be the constant companion of young people so that it can help them navigate through life's dark moments and past the deceit and erroneous ideas present in today's world, Pope Benedict XVI said in his message for World Youth Day.

Reading, studying and meditating on the word of God would help young people get to know Jesus and help them live "a life of consistent fidelity to Christ and his teachings," the pope said.

"I urge you to become familiar with the Bible and to have it at hand so that it can be your compass pointing out the road to follow," the pope said Feb. 27.

The theme of the XXI World Youth Day message is "Your Word Is a Lamp to My Feet and a Light to My Path," a passage chosen by Pope Benedict from the psalms. Celebrations this year will be held April 9, Palm Sunday, on the diocesan level.

The pope urged young people to love and be faithful to the word of God and the church.

Just as a jewelry box keeps a

precious gem safe for successive generations, the church has been the depository safeguarding Jesus' word of salvation, he said.

"Without the church, this pearl runs the risk of being lost or destroyed," the pope said.

He urged young people to "love the word of God and love the church, and this will give you access to a treasure of very great value and will teach you how to appreciate its richness."

The church's mission is to show people the way to true happiness in a world "where people are often held captive by the current ways of thinking," he said.

While some people may think they are free by being rid of God and his laws, "they are being led astray and become lost amid the errors or illusions of aberrant ideologies," he said.

"The darkness in which humankind is groping needs to be illuminated," he said, and "the lamp that dispels the darkness of fear and lights up the path even when times are most difficult" is God's loving presence through his word.

Supreme Court again finds for clinic protest rights

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Supreme Court's 8-0 decision rejecting attempts to use racketeering laws against abortion clinic protesters was hailed by one of the successful petitioners as a victory for free speech.

It was the third time the high court had ruled in the case, which dates back to 1986 when the National Organization for Women attempted to use racketeering laws in class-action lawsuits against abortion clinic protesters.

The Feb. 28 ruling reversed the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals' interpretation of the Supreme Court's 2003 ruling in the case.

The lower court had found that the Supreme Court's decision for Joseph Scheidler and Operation Rescue neglected to deal with four out of 121 instances in which a jury had found abortion protesters violated laws that

prohibit acts or threats of violence to person or property.

Scheidler, head of the Pro-Life Action League, said the "court was right when they ruled in 2003, but the National Organization for Women refused to acknowledge defeat."

In the latest decision, Justice Stephen Breyer wrote that to violate the Hobbs Act — a 55-year-old law prohibiting extortion — physical violence or threats of violence must be related to extortion.

In the 2003 ruling, the Supreme Court had found that the protests did not constitute extortion under the Hobbs Act because they did not involve attempts to obtain property. The court also said there was no basis for claims under the 1970 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act.

Scheidler said, "The Supreme Court seems to take the First Amendment more seriously than the (circuit courts) do."

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

March 4 — 10 a.m.
Deacons' Annual Commitment Mass
St. Patrick Cathedral, Charlotte

March 4 — 2 p.m.
Rite of Election
Holy Cross Church, Kernersville

March 5 — 3 p.m.
Rite of Election
St. Michael Church, Gastonia

March 11 — 12 p.m.
Rite of Election
St. Eugene Church, Asheville



**The Catholic
Conference
Center**

www.catholicconference.org

1551 Trinity Lane, Hickory, NC 28602
(828) 327-7441 or Toll-free (888) 536-7441
info@catholicconference.org

Raising awareness

Speaker, recent accident shed light on dangers of drinking and driving

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Some people think it isn't possible for one decision to change countless lives forever. Brandon Silveria, unfortunately, knows better.

Silveria told the juniors and seniors of Charlotte Catholic High School Feb. 27 how two beers and one bad decision destroyed his hopes and plans for his future.

In 1987, Silveria was a popular, athletic junior at Los Gatos High School in Los Gatos, Calif. Just a few weeks before his junior prom, Silveria drank two beers at a party and decided to drive home.

During the four-mile drive, Silveria fell asleep at the wheel, crashing into a tree. He was driving 45 mph in a 50-mph zone.

Silveria spent the next two-and-a-half months in a coma. When he awoke, he was unable to walk, talk or eat. What followed were three years of intensive therapy, relearning the most basic functions.

Silveria suffers from brain damage, affecting his memory and his abilities to speak clearly and walk. He has suffered seizures that nearly killed him.

In the nine years since his accident, Silveria has dedicated his life to making sure young people learn from his mistakes instead of repeating them.

He and his father, Tony Silveria, travel throughout the United States talking to teenagers about the dangers of alcohol. Their work is sponsored by the Century Council, a group that fights drunken driving and underage drinking and is funded by leading U.S. distillers.

In slow, distorted speech, Silveria encouraged the students to make responsible decisions about alcohol, including resisting peer pressure to drink.

"You can disagree with each other and still be friends," said Brandon Silveria. "The test of your friendship is when you know your friend has made the wrong choice and you take responsibility for him."

His address was followed by a 1992 segment of the television show "Rescue 911." The video re-creates Silveria's accident, detailing his recovery as he relearned how to use his hands and walk.

"When I go to college, this will remind me to be responsible for everything I do," said Mario Acitelli, a senior who will be playing football at Appalachian State University in the fall.

Tony Silveria, Silveria's father, also spoke to the students, sharing a parent's viewpoint, as well as facts about alcohol-related fatalities and injuries.

"Seven out of 10 families come apart at a time like this," he said. "Imagine going to a party Saturday night, having a couple of beers ... and never seeing your family again."

Tony Silveria said his son's medical expenses have exceeded \$3 million. His anti-seizure medication, which he will take



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Tony Silveria (right) addresses students at Charlotte Catholic High School about drunk driving Feb. 27. His son, Brandon Silveria (left), suffered permanent brain damage after a drunk driving accident in 1987.

for the rest of his life, costs \$394 a month.

"We have paid the price for you — you don't have to pay this price," said Tony Silveria. "You still have an opportunity to make decisions that keep you away from this."

"I know now that one bad decision can take away everything I want — friends, a boyfriend, college," said Addie Shapack, a senior at Charlotte Catholic.

The Silverias' message wasn't just for the students. Tony Silveria said he wants parents to take responsibility for their kids.

"If I had the chance to go back and do something different, I would make sure Brandon knew he could always call (home for a ride), no matter what the circumstances."

Unfortunately, Silveria's story isn't unique. In 2005, there were 553 alcohol-related traffic fatalities in North Carolina, and 75 of those drivers were underage.

Less than two weeks ago, 18-year-old Brock Franklin drove the wrong way down Charlotte's I-485 and collided with another car, killing its driver and passenger.

State troopers found empty beer cans in Franklin's car. A "MySpace" Web page under the name Brock Franklin shows the teen against a backdrop of whiskey bottles. The site also says he enjoys "getting drunk and getting high."

"(Teenagers) are going to drink — I wish we could stand up here and tell them not to drink, and they would listen," said Tony Silveria. "But reality says they're going to, so let's prevent a result like Brandon's."

"The bummer of all this is that I created this mess for myself, because of making stupid choices," Brandon Silveria said. "First, the choice of thinking I was cool enough to drive. After all, I was invincible — nothing was going to happen to me."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

Bishop Jugis makes unique pastoral appointment

BISHOP TO SERVE AS INTERIM PASTOR OF ST. MICHAEL CHURCH

BY DAVID HAINS
SPECIAL TO
THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

GASTONIA — It isn't often that parishioners of any one church can claim the bishop as their pastor, but that is exactly what members of St. Michael the Archangel Church in Gastonia will be doing for the next few months.

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will serve as interim pastor of the 735-family parish.

The unusual move became necessary when Father James Solari retired for health reasons in February. Father Solari came out of retirement to serve as interim administrator of St. Michael Church in June 2005.

The appointment of a bishop to a pastoral assignment is atypical. Bishops are responsible for a long list of administrative duties that are combined with sacramental calls at the parishes and missions of the diocese.

The Diocese of Charlotte has 92 churches.

"We don't always have extra priests that we can call upon when a situation like this arises," said Msgr. Maurico W. West, vicar general and chancellor of the Diocese of Charlotte.

For Bishop Jugis, the assignment is a return to familiar routines. He served as a parochial vicar, administrator or pastor of 10 churches in the diocese in the 19 years prior to his ordination as bishop in October 2003.

"I am looking forward to spending time with the families of St. Michael Church," said the bishop between Masses on Ash Wednesday.

"My schedule won't permit me to be present here as much as another pastor might be, but I will be celebrating the sacraments here as often as I can," he said.

Father Christopher Gober, director of vocations for the Diocese of Charlotte, said there are 16 men currently in formation for the priesthood in six seminaries.

"I am excited that Bishop Jugis is taking the opportunity to shed light on the importance of priestly vocations in our rapidly growing diocese," said Father Gober. "Personally, as a brother priest, I am inspired by his pastoral zeal."

Although the bishop's decision to serve as pastor of the church has no definitive end date, the appointment is expected to last for several months.

David Hains is director of communications for the Diocese of Charlotte. Contact him at dwhains@charlottediocese.org.

Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Charlotte 704-334-6421

Pineville 704-544-1412

Mint Hill 704-545-4864

Derita 704-596-3291

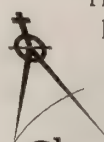
Charting the Future in Challenging Times

National Catholic Educational Association
103rd Annual NCEA Convention & Exposition
Atlanta, GA
April 18-21, 2006

Over 400 educational sessions, 700 exhibit booths, daily liturgies, and special events

For information contact:

NCEA Convention Office
1077 30th Street, NW, Suite 100
Washington, DC 20007-3852
Phone (202) 337-6232
Fax (202) 333-6706
www.ncea.org



Charting the Future in Challenging Times

Sharing stories



COURTESY PHOTO BY FRANK RYDER

Megan McKenna, an author, Catholic theologian and former Maryknoll Sister, speaks about the "Resurrection Stories of the Gospels" at St. Luke Church in Mint Hill Feb. 18. McKenna, who leads retreats, workshops and parish missions, talked about the Gospel's resurrection stories and Catholics' call to unity. The event was sponsored by St. Luke Church's education commission, worship and life commission, and St. Luke Pax Christi.



Join our Oratorian Congregation to SERVE GOD AS PRIEST OR BROTHER

As priests and lay men, our community lives without
vows and serves God's people numerous ways, including:

Parishes	Youth Camps	Nursing
Retreats	Campus Ministry	Hospital Chaplains

Find out more about serving God with us:

Fr. Ed McDevitt, CO The Oratory
P O Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586

Many Annuity Owners Lose Money. Will YOU?

Some annuity owners lose money because they didn't know what questions to ask when they bought, and their salesperson did not volunteer any information.

If you own an annuity or are considering taking advantage of their many benefits, my **FREE** report, "Using Guaranteed Annuities to Help You Survive Your Retirement," will tell you what questions to ask.

The report is **FREE** and shows you how to get more benefits from your existing assets and help preserve your annuity value.

Call 800-800-4960, ext. 7405 (24 hours)

for your **FREE** report!

Dr. Richard Pucciarelli

Certified Senior Advisor

Member of Asset Protectors and Advisors Group



HUNGRY TO HELP



PHOTO BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY

Catholic youths from Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in High Point and St. Paul the Apostle Church in Greensboro join other Christian youths in a prayer service during the 30 Hour Famine in High Point Feb. 25-26.

Youths experience hunger to help world's poor

BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY
CORRESPONDENT

HIGH POINT — Going hungry can be a good thing.

Youth groups from seven churches, including 89 youths from Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in High Point and 41 youths from St. Paul the Apostle Church in Greensboro, participated in World Vision's 30 Hour Famine at Christ United Methodist Church in High Point Feb. 25-26.

The 30 Hour Famine is an international youth movement to fight hunger around the world. Last year's project raised \$11.6 million for World Vision, a Christian relief and development organization, and utilized in areas such as Africa, Asia, Central and South America and the United States.

According to World Vision's Web site, groups raise money through donors and sponsors to help millions of starving and hurting children in some of the world's poorest countries.

Youths from Immaculate Heart of Mary Church have participated in the famine for the past 10 years, contributing \$20,000 during the last seven years.

St. Paul the Apostle Church's

youths joined the successful project last year, which raised more than \$13,000, making it the top North Carolina fundraising group.

"This worldwide event not only brings in money to feed the poor, but it helps our youth experience what it is to be hungry so they might have more compassion for those who are living in extreme poverty," said Terry Aiken, youth minister at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.

At the same time, they get the opportunity to "grow in their faith as they share time with their friends and meet new friends," said Aiken.

During the 30 hours, the youths learned about hunger and homelessness throughout the world. They also worked in groups to perform community service projects, such as helping at the Evergreen Nursing Home and making 128 bag lunches for a soup kitchen in High Point.

"This is my first time (in the project). It has been a good experience while enabling me to get another view of life and to understand what is going on in other places," said Joe Risi of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.

Samantha Bonham from St. Paul the Apostle Church returned for her second famine.

"I came back this year because I had so much fun last year. We meet a lot of new people. Most importantly, I learned that I can do without," she said.

The famine ended with a potluck supper for the participants, their parents and friends, and the youth group leaders and helpers from churches involved with the weekend event.

"The fasting helps me to realize what it means to be hungry. Joining in with the different denominations helps to make this an incredible experience," said Risi. "It's been hard, but it is well worth it."

Contact Correspondent Deacon Gerald Potkay by calling (336) 427-8218 or e-mail gpotkay@triad.rr.com.



AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles
Licensed & Insured
FREE ESTIMATES

www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185

Pope says God loves humans in all stages of life, even embryos

EMBRYO, from page 1

Embryo Before Implantation: Scientific Update and Bioethical Considerations."

The pope said the topic was fascinating but very difficult, one that science alone cannot fully fathom.

From the church's point of view, neither Scripture nor ancient Christian tradition offers explicit treatments of the subject of embryos, he said, but the Bible does reflect an awareness of and respect for human life at its earliest stages.

He quoted God's words as recounted in the Book of Jeremiah: "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you. Before you were born I dedicated you."

The meaning of that passage becomes clear, the pope said, when one considers that "God intervenes directly in the creation of the soul of every new human being."

"The love of God does not distinguish between the newly conceived still in the womb of his mother, and the child, or the youth, or the man or elderly person," he said, adding that in each one is God's image.

The connection between man and his Creator gives the human being a unique dignity at every stage of his life and is the reason the church proclaims such life sacred, he said.

"This moral judgment is valid already at the beginning of the life of an embryo, even before it is implanted in the maternal womb, which protects and nurtures it for nine months until the moment of birth," he said.

The pope said that while scientific advances have shed great light on aspects of nascent life science alone could never decipher the mystery of human life.

"In fact, as soon as reason succeeds in overcoming one limit that was thought insuperable, other limits, until then unknown, challenge it. Man will always

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you. Before you were born I dedicated you."

— Pope Benedict XVI, quoting God's words

remain a profound and impenetrable enigma," he said.

At the beginning of the third millennium, he said, humanity has greatly increased knowledge on many fronts, but "it seems too difficult for human intelligence to recognize that, when looking on the created world, one encounters the imprint of the Creator."

To grasp the true significance of man and creation, people have to move beyond the limits of the scientific method and begin "the adventure of transcendence," he said.

"As we advance with scientific technology, we are humbled as we realize that it is the touch of our Creator who gives us life," said Maggi Nadol, Respect Life director in the Diocese of Charlotte.

The diocesan Respect Life program educates and raises awareness of life issues, such as abortion.

"It is the breath of God, visited upon each person, that calls us into being," said Nadol.

Contributing to this story was Editor Kevin E. Murray.



Respect Life is one of the ministries supported by contributions to the Diocesan Support Appeal, an annual campaign in the Diocese of Charlotte that helps support 30 ministries providing 50 programs. The 2006 DSA runs Feb. 4 to March 12.

South Dakota Legislature bans nearly all abortions

If signed into law, bill would be most sweeping ban on abortion since 1973

BY CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

PIERRE, S.D. — By adopting legislation that would prohibit all intentional abortions except those to save a mother's life, the South Dakota Legislature moved toward a direct challenge of the U.S. Supreme Court's 1973 Roe v. Wade decision.

If signed into law it would become the most sweeping ban on abortion adopted in any state since 1973.

The South Dakota House of Representatives passed the bill Feb. 24 by a vote of 50-18. The Senate had approved it Feb. 22, by a vote of 23-12, after slightly amending an earlier version adopted by the House.

The House vote Feb. 24 incorporated the Senate's amendment.

The amendment, an addition to the introductory legislative findings of the bill, said the Legislature finds that "the guarantee of due process of law under the constitution of South Dakota applies equally to born and unborn human beings" and that the mother and her unborn child "each possess a natural and inalienable right to life."

The bill, called the Women's Health and Human Life Protection Act, specifically exempts women from any criminal conviction or penalty for obtaining an abortion. But it says that anyone who performs an abortion except to save a mother's life commits a Class 5 felony, which is punishable by a fine up to \$5,000 and up to five years in prison.

The legislation says the law does not

apply to medical treatment "that results in the accidental or unintentional injury or death to the unborn child."

In 2004 Gov. Mike Rounds vetoed, on technical grounds, an anti-abortion bill that also contained an exception for the health of the mother. But he recently said at a news conference that he would "look favorably" on any bill that meets the concerns he raised about the 2004 legislation.

He said it was his understanding that the new legislation sought to address those concerns.

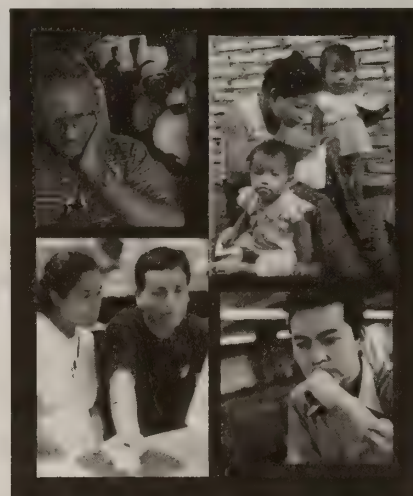
The new legislation strikes some current South Dakota abortion restrictions that would no longer be relevant in light of the broader ban, but it also provides that if implementation of the new statute is enjoined, suspended or delayed by a court order, or if the new law is found unconstitutional, the laws it replaces will automatically be reinstated.

Planned Parenthood, which runs the only abortion facility in South Dakota, said it would file suit to block the legislation if the governor signs it.

According to LifeNews.com, legislators in at least four other states — Georgia, Indiana, Ohio and Tennessee — have proposed legislation that would prohibit most or all abortions.

In the 1990s Utah, Louisiana and Guam, a U.S. territory, passed laws prohibiting most abortions. They were struck down in lower courts and the Supreme Court refused to review the cases, letting the lower-court rulings stand.

The Sisters of Mercy invite you to



*Welcome the Stranger Among Us
Unity in Diversity*

March 11, 2006

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Speaker: Mark Franken

Executive Director of Immigration & Refugee Services

U. S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

Location: Curtin Hall, Mercy Administration Center, 101 Mercy Drive, Belmont, NC

Registration: \$10, due by March 8, must be sent to Sister Jeanne-Margaret

McNally, RSM, 101 Mercy Drive, Belmont, NC 28012. Seating limited.

BOY SCOUTS AND CUBS
OF CHARLOTTE DIOCESE
All Catholic Troops/Packs,
Individual Catholic Scouts
Any interested Scouts or troops

Catholic Camporee 2006!

March 31, APRIL 1 AND 2

CAMP GRIMES - Nebo, NC

Make plans NOW to attend!

Call Kevin Butterfield - 919-741-0981

Young woman chooses life, adoption for child

ADOPT, from page 1

A month later, Shaw took a pregnancy test, which came back positive.

"My parents took the news better than I did," she said. "My father said, 'Mary, this isn't the end, this is just the beginning. From now on, you make the decisions for your unborn child.'"

After telling her family about her pregnancy, Shaw went to visit Msgr. Anthony Marcaccio, her pastor at St. Pius X Church in Greensboro.

"My biggest concern was that I would bring shame and embarrassment to my family," said Shaw.

Shaw's father is Deacon Bill Shaw, permanent deacon at St. Pius X Church.

"Msgr. Marcaccio told me, 'We are a right-to-life parish. If we cannot walk where we talk, we shouldn't be talking at all,'" she said.

After her meeting with Msgr. Marcaccio, Shaw said she knew "everything was in God's hands."

A choice to make

The birthfather wanted Shaw to have an abortion, an option she didn't even consider. She has only spoken to the birthfather twice since the night their child was conceived.

Shaw also didn't consider raising the child herself.

"I knew that I could not provide the life that I desired for my child," she said. "I wanted my child to be raised in a home with a mother and a father who love him."

Shaw turned to Catholic Social Services (CSS) to help her make the best decision for her and her child.

"We strongly believe we are here to help each woman to make her own decision about her pregnancy, not tell her what to do," said Becky DuBois, adoption and pregnancy support counselor for the Piedmont-Triad CSS office in Winston-Salem.

"The mother has to decide what is best for her and for her baby," she said.

After meeting with DuBois, Shaw opted for an open adoption.

And open, or identified, adoption allows the birthparents to select the adoptive family. After the adoption, the birthparents and adoptive parents have as much interaction as they choose.

Shaw and the adoptive parents have a verbal contract that allows Shaw to see her child on his birthday, at Christmas and on special occasions, such as his baptism. She also communicates with her child's adoptive parents regularly.

"Some people thought I placed my child up for adoption so that I wouldn't have to take care of him," Shaw said. "Placing my child up for adoption was the hardest decision and action of my life."



COURTESY PHOTO

Mary Shaw holds her son on the day of his baptism. Shaw placed her child up for adoption through Catholic Social Services rather than having an abortion or raising him without a father. She chose an open adoption, which allows her to maintain contact with her son.

"Anyone who says 'You took the easy way out' has no idea how many days I cried my eyes out," she said.

A promising future

Shaw hopes that as her child grows up, they will have a relationship like that of a loving aunt and nephew. She also hopes he will want her to be a part of his life.

"I want my child to know that I love him, and that the reason I made this decision was because I loved him," said Shaw. "He will know he has an entire birthfamily who loves him with all their hearts and who thinks about him all the time."

Shaw said DuBois, and CSS, provided a lifeline throughout her pregnancy. In the final weeks of her pregnancy, Shaw's belly became too large for her to drive her car. So DuBois drove to Shaw's home for their weekly counseling sessions.

When Shaw's pregnancy became high-risk and she had to cut her work schedule to 20 hours a week, CSS helped pay her bills.

"I don't know what I would have done without Catholic Social Services," Shaw said. "Becky told me from the beginning that this was my choice, and if I decided not to put my child up for adoption ... that they would support me in any decision I made."

The right choice

Shaw wanted her child's transition to his adoptive parents to be as easy as possible. She slept with a receiving blanket, so that her child could have something in his crib with her scent on it.

Shaw also had the adoptive family record themselves talking and going about their daily lives. She played that tape every night, with the tape player on her belly.

Immediately after the baby was born, the adoptive father stood next to his bassinet and said, "Hey there, little guy."

"(The baby) turned his head and looked at him," Shaw said. "There was a connection already. I knew that I had done the right thing for my child."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.



Catholic Social Services is one of the ministries supported by contributions to the Diocesan Support Appeal, an annual campaign in the Diocese of Charlotte that helps support 30 ministries that provide 50 programs. The 2006 DSA runs Feb. 4 to March 12.

Groce
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

1401 Patton Ave. 72 Long Shoals Road
Asheville, NC Arden, NC
(828) 252-3535 (828) 687-3530

Pre-arrangements and obituaries on-line at www.grocefuneralhome.com

**Assuring
Absolute
Integrity**

Asheville's Catholic Funeral Directors
Dale Groce • John Prock

Toll-free (888) 874-3535

Providing Help. Creating Hope. Changing Lives.

Catholic Social Services The Diocese of Charlotte

Executive Director: Elizabeth Thurbee (704) 370-3227

Refugee Office: Cira Ponce (704) 370-6930

Justice & Peace: Joe Purello (704) 370-3225

Family Life: Gerard Carter (704) 370-3228

Charlotte Region: 1123 South Church Street, Charlotte, NC 28203
Area Director: Geri King (704) 370-6155

Western Region: 50 Orange Street, Asheville, NC 28801
Area Director: Debra Braese (828) 255-0146

Piedmont-Triad: 621 W. Second Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27108
Area Director: David Harold (336) 727-0705
Greensboro Satellite Office (336) 274-5577
High Point Satellite Office (336) 884-5858

For information on specific programs,
please call your local office.

1123 South Church Street, Charlotte, NC 28203
www.cssnc.org



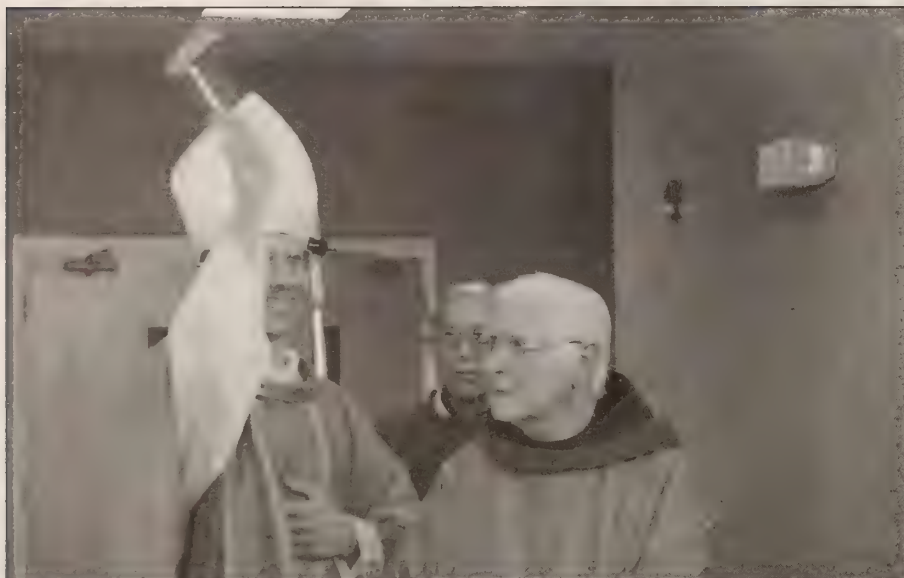
OCRS
CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

Making your will?

Request a free Wills Kit from
Catholic Relief Services.

It will help you practice good stewardship
and create a lasting legacy to help
the poor overseas.

1-800-235-2772 ext.7318



PHOTOS BY KAREN A. EVANS

Above: Bishop Peter J. Jugis blesses the new Community Life Center at Our Lady of Consolation Church in Charlotte. He is assisted by Capuchin Father Jude Duffy, pastor. Below: Parishioners leave the 15,000-square-foot center following its dedication Mass.

Facility brings new life to parish, community

CENTER, from page 1

Father Duffy serves as the church's pastor, while Father Schratz serves as parochial vicar at both Our Lady of Consolation Church and St. Thomas Aquinas Church. Father Zampino is the pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas Church.

Also in attendance were former pastors of Our Lady of Consolation Church; diocesan representatives; city and county government officials; and members of the Capuchin Franciscan Friars Province of the Stigmata of St. Francis, who staff the parish.

"This has been a long journey," said Sporty Gerald, chairman of the building committee. Gerald said fundraising began in 2001 and ground was broken in August 2004.

"This is the fulfillment of a dream," said Father Duffy. "We have a place for our diverse community to learn about each other and to share their lives."

The \$1.9 million Community Life Center consists of a multipurpose room that is also a full-size basketball court, five classrooms and a youth lounge. The facility will be used for community outreach programs including computer education, English as a Second Language classes, Boy and Girl Scouts, senior citizens' events, Bible study and a variety of educational and cultural enrichment activities.

"The love of Christ cannot stop at the church doors," said Bishop Jugis in his homily. "It must be carried with us out into the community."

Our Lady of Consolation Church is located in an area with a rapidly growing Hispanic population.

"We want to reach out and embrace all the members of our community," said Gerald.

The dedication of the Community Life Center is not the end of expansions at Our Lady of Consolation. With more

than 600 families worshipping at Our Lady of Consolation Church each weekend, Father Duffy said the parish will soon begin plans for building a new church, replacing the existing 50-year-old structure.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.



Many enjoy Mardi Gras

Adults, children partake in 'Fat Tuesday' education, celebration at basilica

BY CAROLE MCGROTTY
CORRESPONDENT

ASHEVILLE — An early Mardi Gras celebration helped catechesis participants focus on the Christian roots of the event.

Adults and children meet separately for catechesis, formerly known as religious education, at the Basilica of St. Lawrence in Asheville on the first Sunday of each month.

The two groups came together last month to study the religious aspects of Mardi Gras, or "Fat Tuesday," which traditionally provides an opportunity for festivity and merrymaking the day before Ash Wednesday and the penitential season of Lent.

Like many Catholic holidays and seasonal celebrations, Mardi Gras likely has its roots in pre-Christian traditions based on the seasons. As early as the middle of the second century, the Romans observed a fast of 40 days, which was preceded by a brief season of feasting, costumes and merrymaking.

In his Sunday homily, Father C. Morris Boyd, parochial vicar of the basilica, said the Catholic Church's rules on fasting during Lent used to be stricter; also, that people ate all the meats and sweets they had before Lent, hence the term "Fat Tuesday."

Mardi Gras came to the Americas in the late 17th century. Eventually the



PHOTO BY CAROLE MCGROTTY

An adult and children enjoy the cakewalk during the Mardi Gras celebration at the Basilica of St. Lawrence in Asheville.

French in New Orleans celebrated Mardi Gras with masked balls and parties.

The official colors of Mardi Gras, with their roots in Catholicism, were chosen years later: purple, a symbol of justice; green, representing faith; and gold, to signify power.

The colors adorned the hall at the basilica for the catechesis celebration. Children decorated masks and wore beads. Both children and adults participated in a cakewalk and other games.

The event ended with the cutting of a king cake, whose round shape symbolizes unity of faith. A small, plastic baby (representing the baby Jesus) was baked in the cake; the person who finds it is said to have good luck for a year.

In the spirit of the season



COURTESY PHOTO

Second-graders at St. Matthew School in Charlotte celebrate Fat Tuesday with king cupcakes and Mardi Gras masks Feb. 28. Student Connor Geoghagan became "king" for the day when he found the baby doll in his cupcake.

Mardi Gras, or "Fat Tuesday," traditionally provides an opportunity for festivity and merrymaking the day before Ash Wednesday and the penitential season of Lent.

BINGO
it's here!!!

St. Matthew K of C
BINGO at the new
South Charlotte Banquet Center
every Monday evening

Doors open: 6 pm
BINGO starts: 7 pm sharp!

Food and refreshments available
NON-SMOKING FACILITY
CASH ONLY - ATM AVAILABLE



9009 Bryant Farms Rd.

Directions: from 485- exit Rea Road (south). Right on Ballantyne. Past St. Matthew, turn left on Elm Lane (which turns into Bryant Farms Road). K of C Banquet Center is approximately 2 miles on the left.



Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center

Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma

Owner/Director

Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

Mindful of miracles

Portuguese cardinal is 'objective fan' of soccer, sainthood causes

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Editor's note: This is the second of an occasional series based on interviews with heads of Vatican offices. The articles describe the work of the agencies and the main challenges they face and briefly profile the people who head them.

VATICAN CITY — The Portuguese cardinal who heads the Congregation for Saints' Causes has been given extra duties by Pope Benedict XVI.

The pope, having decided not to preside personally over most beatification ceremonies, usually delegates the responsibility to Cardinal Jose Saraiva Martins, the 74-year-old congregation prefect.

While no one expects Pope Benedict to match the super record-setting pace of canonizations and beatifications set by Pope John Paul II, Cardinal Saraiva Martins said the amount of work done by his office is not expected to slow any time soon.

"I foresee the rhythm continuing as it has been," he said. "With 2,200 causes open here, it is clear things will continue."

"Even if no other causes were submitted, we would have enough causes to study to keep us busy for years and years, but new causes always are arriving," the cardinal said.

During his first 10 months, Pope Benedict has personally presided over the canonization of five people and proclaimed another 31 candidates blessed.

None of the causes were introduced or speeded up by Pope Benedict, who is letting them follow their normal path from introduction in a diocese through the often years of study at the Vatican.

One notable exception, however, was Pope Benedict's decision to set aside the five-year waiting period and allow the sainthood cause of Pope John Paul to begin.

Cardinal Saraiva Martins said Pope Benedict "has not decided the outcome — absolutely not. He has just said the study and research can begin."

"The process for Pope John Paul is the same as the process for anyone," he said.

Although some may find the very idea shocking, the cardinal said, the process is serious and not just a matter of formality.

"It is possible, as has happened in other cases, that there could be a negative out-



come," he said. "Nothing is guaranteed."

Asked about the impact of public reaction to the causes of Pope Pius XII and Pope John Paul, the cardinal said, "Just because some people are very much in favor or very much opposed to a cause cannot influence our decisions. We want the historical facts, reality and that alone."

An 'objective fan'

The Portuguese cardinal describes himself as an "objective fan," both when it comes to soccer and when it comes to evaluating material submitted in sainthood causes.

A well-known supporter of Lazio, one of Rome's two premier-league soccer teams, he said he is sad when Lazio loses, "but I know it will help them learn to play better."

The cardinal said his job as prefect of the congregation handling sainthood causes is a role that requires even more objectivity.

"For us, the process for a pope or for a cloistered nun is the same," he said. "Holiness is a very personal thing. What matters is that the individual lived his or her life in a holy way, whether the person was a prince or a chimney sweep."

Extraordinary efforts

Like the other Vatican congregations, Cardinal Saraiva Martins' office has about 30 full-time employees.

They handle requests for Vatican approval to begin the local phase of sainthood causes, ensure that causes follow the procedures outlined in church law and coordinate the historical and theological review of materials submitted in support of a claim that an individual lived a saintly life.

Separate studies are conducted on miracles alleged to have occurred through the candidate's intercession.

Cardinal Saraiva Martins said his congregation actually has substantially



CNS PHOTO BY NANCY WIECHEC

Portuguese Cardinal Jose Saraiva Martins, head of the Congregation for Saints' Causes, talks with reporters in Rome May 2, 2005. He was part of a panel discussing Pope John Paul II and the saints.

more people working with it than any other Vatican office.

"We have 62 consultants," including theologians and historians who review all the written material submitted for each cause, and 70 physicians prepared to examine the clinical data submitted in support of miracles, he said.

In addition, about 200 postulators — the official promoters of sainthood causes — are in regular contact with the congregation, he said.

Rules and procedures

The Catholic Church's process for recognizing saints is marked only by the rarest of exceptions; for the vast majority of causes, the process is very methodical and very orderly.

For the cardinal, a fan and former ice hockey player, the rules are the rules.

While the congregation does not have a penalty box, it does have nine tall, doublewide cupboards filled with material belonging to causes that have officially stalled and are unlikely to proceed.

The cupboards line the hallway leading to what the cardinal describes as "one of the greatest treasures of the Catholic Church" — the congregation archives.

The huge rooms contain not only information on every sainthood cause submitted to the Vatican since 1588 but also Vatican records dealing with every

aspect of the Latin-rite liturgy from 1588 to 1969.

For 381 years, the former Congregation of Rites handled both the causes of saints to be added eventually to the church's liturgical calendar and the liturgy itself.

When the Congregation for Saints' Causes and the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments were separated, Cardinal Saraiva Martins' office was given responsibility for the historic archives.

Even without looking in the archives, the cardinal can tell visitors that the five-year waiting period the church usually requires before opening a sainthood cause is nothing compared to what it used to be.

"At first, it was 50 years, then it was reduced to 30 and now it is five," he said. "Why? For scrupulousness and objectivity."

"The 50-year period was instituted because it was unlikely that anyone who knew the person would still be alive and, therefore, the process would be much more objective. Certain passions generated when someone dies cool off and the remaining impressions are more objective," he said.

The cardinal said the current five-year period allows the excessive emotional response to slacken, but still gives the church access to the invaluable testimony of people who actually knew the candidate.

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



BIG BOOK SALE NOW
at the Monroe Road location!

- Unique gifts & cards
- Books, rosaries, medals
- Previously read book section (at Lake Norman)
- Video rentals
- Artwork

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

Earthbound ANGELS...

POSITIONS AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY
HOME HELPERS, COMPANIONS & CNA'S



Join our team of people who make a real difference in the lives of seniors —

Home Instead Senior Care is seeking friendly and dependable people in the Mecklenburg County area to provide home care assistance and companionship to seniors.

Call 704-344-9739

8 AND 12 HOUR SHIFTS AVAILABLE
Part Time, Full Time, AM/PM and Weekend Hours
Position requires a vehicle.

Home Instead
SENIOR CARE

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

'On the wired side'

Delaware priest uses podcast to spread God's word

BY GARY MORTON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

DOVER, Del. — "Greetings, everybody, this is Father Stanislao, and I welcome you to another issue of 'The Daily Walk Heavenwards.'"

That's how the soothing, Italian-accented voice of Father Stanislao Esposito welcomed listeners to one recent episode of his spiritual "podcast."

The associate pastor of Holy Cross Church in Dover, Father Esposito — who goes by "Father Stanislao" on the podcast — uses the Internet medium to preach God's message of love.

That has been the priest's mission since young Stanislao — inspired by a book given to him by the pastor of his parish near Naples, Italy — would read parables from the Gospels to his fourth-grade classmates during recess.

Father Esposito, 37, entered the digital world in 1994, developing a Web site to expand on a Bible study group he had formed. Last summer a seminarian friend suggested he try a podcast.

Early one morning in mid-November, in his bedroom in the rectory at Holy Cross, he produced his first podcast.

"It was recorded at 5 o'clock; I had the 6 o'clock Mass," he said. "I was whispering into the microphone so I did not wake up the other priests."

Since then, each of the approximately 50 episodes of "The Daily Walk Heavenwards" has begun with an invitation to join Father Esposito on a walk toward heaven. He reads the day's Gospel, provides a short reflection and offers a prayer.

Some days he will talk about items of current interest. Sometimes he will answer questions from listeners or play some recorded music.

Weekday podcasts run about 10 minutes and are produced and posted on Web sites Monday through Thursday most weeks. Sunday podcasts are longer but rarely exceed 30 minutes.

Once on the Web, the podcasts can be downloaded to iPods or MP3 players around the world.

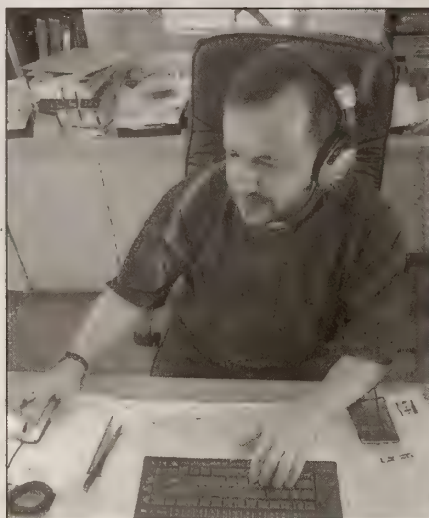
Father Esposito said he has heard from listeners across the United States and from Europe.

"I feel like my parish is way larger than Holy Cross, and Holy Cross is a large parish" with more than 3,200 families, he said.

Marty O'Toole of Cleveland listens to "The Daily Walk Heavenwards" while driving to work.

"It's like being able to dial up Father Stanislao at my convenience for a bit of theological teaching with a personal touch," O'Toole said.

Closer to home, Lisa Smith of Clayton, Del., checks for a new episode every morning.



CNS PHOTO BY DON BLAKE, THE DIALOG

Father Stanislao Esposito of Holy Cross Church in Dover, Del., wears headphones with a built-in microphone as he records his podcast, "The Daily Walk Heavenwards," in late January. Father Esposito said he has heard from listeners across the United States and from Europe.

"It is wonderful to be able to start the day with prayer and the Liturgy of the Word," she said.

Podcasts are just the latest way Father Esposito has found to communicate the Gospel message.

In Italy, before he came to the United States in 1992 as a novice of the Holy Cross brothers, "I used to do voiceovers. I used to do theater, musicals, play the guitar, whatever it took to bring out the fact that God loves you," he said.

"There are so many ways to minister," said Father Esposito, who left the Brothers of the Holy Cross in 1998, then taught at St. Peter the Apostle School in New Castle before entering the seminary. He was ordained in 2003.

He would like to start a book club and a program called Words of Life, which each month takes a sentence from Scripture and asks members to make it a part of their lives.

Words of Life is part of Focolare, a Catholic lay spirituality movement.

The priest hopes to have several podcasts on "The DaVinci Code" ready before May, when the movie based on the novel is released. He also envisions a commentary on the "Our Father" and programs to help people learn ways to pray.

Editor's Note: "The Daily Walk Heavenwards" is available at heavenwards.mypodcasts.net. It is also available for iPod and MP3 feeds through iTunes (www.apple.com/itunes; go to the Music Store and type in "Father Stanislao") or Podcast Alley (www.podcastalley.com; type "Heavenwards Walk" in the box titled Search for a Podcast).

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: MAR. 12, 2006

March 12, Second Sunday of Lent Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18
Psalm 116:10, 15-19
- 2) Romans 8:31b-34
- 3) Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

It's a blessing to be in God's hands

BY SHARON K. PERKINS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

About this time last year, our family was looking death in the face, and death wasn't pretty. In fact, it was rather a shock.

Of course we had experienced the deaths of loved ones before. All my grandparents had died in their old age, but it was to be expected. They lived full lives and succumbed, like most of the very elderly do, to the ravages of diseases that take their course.

My husband's parents recently had died, but they too had suffered with lingering illnesses, and so their deaths, while painful for us, brought some measure of peace.

But this time it was different. This time it was my dad, the quintessential "Energizer Bunny," who slowed down for nothing and was hardly ever sick, who went to see his family doctor (reluctantly, at my mother's insistence) about a sinus infection and came back with the diagnosis of the dreaded "c" word: pancreatic cancer.

We all knew that people died of this stuff, relatively quickly. I was numb. What followed over the ensuing weeks was surreal, since I live 1,000 miles away and didn't see him or what he and my mom went through on a daily basis.

I only knew I was scared and didn't want to be. And when his surgeon confirmed the malignancy, I knew that he was in real danger.

It was also then that my faith told me even while I prayed earnestly for his recovery that I had to start the process of "letting go" whether I was ready or not. His life was truly "in God's hands," and the phrase took on a significance that was frighteningly immediate and oddly comforting at the same time.

Abraham, when asked to give up a son whom he loved and wasn't ready to lose, must have gone through an even more intense test of faith.

My dad's story had a happy ending: After the tumor's timely surgical removal and a successful round of chemotherapy, he is as active and energetic as ever, albeit a little thinner. He'll probably be around for a while longer, and I'll get a second chance to be his daughter.

But I wouldn't trade the realization that our lives are truly not ours to hold or the blessing of closeness it brought to our extended family.

We are all in the hands of God, and being reminded of that fact is indeed a blessing.

Questions:

What is God asking you to "let go of" right now? How can this letting go make a new space in your heart for God's blessing?

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 5-11

Sunday (First Sunday of Lent), Genesis 9:8-15, 1 Peter 3:18-22, Mark 1:12-15; **Monday (First Week of Lent)**, Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18, Matthew 25:31-46; **Tuesday (Sts. Felicity and Perpetua)**, Isaiah 55:10-11, Matthew 6:7-15; **Wednesday (Lenten Weekday)**, Jonah 3:1-10, Luke 11:29-32; **Thursday (St. Francis of Rome)**, Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25 or 4:17 (Esther's Prayer), Matthew 7:12; **Friday (Lenten Weekday)**, Ezekiel 18:21-28, Matthew 5:20-26; **Saturday (Lenten Weekday)**, Deuteronomy 26:16-19, Matthew 5:43-48.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 12-18

Sunday (Second Sunday of Lent), Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18, Romans 8:31-34, Mark 9:2-10; **Monday (Lenten Weekday)**, Daniel 9:4-10, Luke 6:36-38; **Tuesday (Lenten Weekday)**, Isaiah 1:10, 16-20, Matthew 23:1-12; **Wednesday (Lenten Weekday)**, Jeremiah 18:18-20, Matthew 20:17-28; **Thursday (Lenten Weekday)**, Jeremiah 17:5-10, Luke 16:19-31; **Friday (St. Patrick)**, Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13, 17-28, Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46; **Saturday (St. Cyril of Alexandria)**, Micah 7:14-15, 18-20, Luke 15:1-3, 11-32.

The Catholic Company™

Just in!

First Communion Gifts

Catholic Shop @ St. Matthew Catholic Church • New Life Center, Rm. 104
Corner of Rea Rd. and Ballantyne Commons Parkway - Charlotte, NC

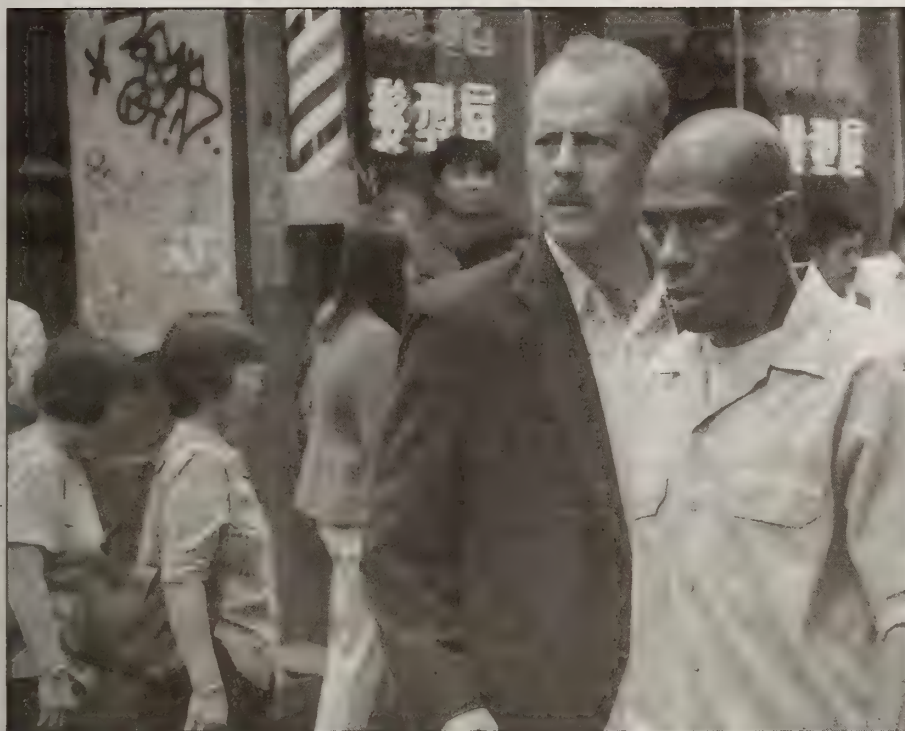
Hours:
Monday-Friday 9-3
Sunday 10-2
704-927-4313
(Call for info or directions)

Bring in this ad for 15% off
your purchase.

(Not valid on "sale" items.)

Exp. 3/31/06

'16 Blocks' a good trip



CNS PHOTO BY WARNER BROS.

Bruce Willis and Mos Def star in "16 Blocks," a far-fetched but surprisingly diverting New York story about a world-weary alcoholic cop (Willis) assigned to drive a jailed trial witness (Def) to the courtroom 16 blocks away. They quickly find corrupt cops are out to kill the witness before he exposes them, prompting an unlikely alliance between detective and criminal.

Willis and Def are so believable, one readily overlooks the loopholes in the formulaic thriller, while the corny but inspiring themes of breaking with the past, embracing new beginnings, and sacrificing for others resonate.

Violence and language quotients are refreshingly low for this sort of film, and allow recommendation for older adolescents and up. Scattered rough and crude words, mild action violence, a couple of murders, shooting, alcoholic character, brief crime scene gore.

The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

Living the dream

Catholic college graduate to compete on 'The Apprentice'

BY MARY FRANCES MCCARTHY
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ARLINGTON, Va. — Tarek Saab does not even own a television, but the Catholic college graduate is appearing on television screens across the nation in the fifth season of NBC's "The Apprentice," where he competes with 17 other men and women for a chance to work for Donald Trump.

The fifth season premiered Feb. 27 on NBC.

Saab, a 27-year-old Maronite Catholic, lived in war-torn Lebanon as a child before he and his family moved into public housing projects in New Bedford, Mass.

He earned a scholarship to a boarding school in Massachusetts and later earned a bachelor's degree from The Catholic University of America in Washington in 2001. Saab now works as a global marketing manager for Texas Instruments in Dallas.

In an interview for "The Apprentice," Saab said he has lived the American dream because he achieved a successful business career "with little guidance and without a dime" in his pocket.

At the Manchester college, he worked with campus ministry and participated in an alternative spring break in Maine building a home in a poor community.

Benedictine Father Jonathan DeFelice, president of St. Anselm's, still keeps in touch with Saab and described him as "a young man of great ability and great values."

"I certainly hope he is successful on the show, but I know that Tarek will make a positive difference in the world wherever he works," he said.

Saab was also involved in campus ministry at Catholic University, where he led a spiritual retreat for athletes and helped organize a spring break trip to build a meeting room for cloistered nuns in Connecticut.

Therese Bermphohl, former associate campus minister for community outreach at Catholic University,



CNS PHOTO BY VIRGINIA SHERWOOD, NBC

Tarek Saab, a Maronite Catholic, appears on NBC's "The Apprentice."

described Saab as "a bit of a schmoozer," but added, "Tarek wants to do the right thing and wants to live his faith out. He really embraced his faith in a more profound way at Catholic."

Saab attends daily Mass and is godfather to nine children. He mentors youths and speaks at high schools on how faith can influence success. During his college years he also gave chastity talks to high school students.

"He has enough confidence in himself to say, 'I believe in this message and I will try to live it out,'" Bermphohl said.

When asked how she thinks he will fare on reality TV, Bermphohl said, "I'm hopeful that his faith life will help him, and the fact that he's a charmer."

Joe Camm, one of Saab's friends from Catholic University, is worried that his friend's confidence might come across as cockiness on the reality TV show, and his honesty could also help or hurt him.

On the show, he said there is "a tendency to point a finger at other people." Camm does not think Saab will fall prey to that behavior.


"He's not like that," Camm said. "If he makes a mistake, he'll own up to it."

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels. 

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065



THE ORATORY

434 Charlotte Avenue, P.O. Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586
(803) 327-2097

HOLY WEEK AT THE ORATORY
TRIDUUM RETREATS

April 9 - 16

Individuals and small groups are welcome to join in the prayer and silence, the liturgies and hospitality of this Sacred Week. Private and silent retreats can be scheduled with flexible days from Passion (Palm) Sunday through Easter Week. Spiritual directors are available on a limited basis and with advanced scheduling. A variety of Holy Week liturgies will be available at the Oratory and at nearby Oratory parishes.

Cost: \$45 - no direction
\$65 - with direction

Blessed Sacrament Academy is
Honored to Welcome...



Fr. Mark S. Lawlor
Pastor
St. Vincent de Paul
Board of Directors



Mrs. Virginia
Stuhrenberg, M.Ed.
25 years experience K-12 CMS,
CPCC, St Vincent ESL
Principal



Mrs. Tamara Del Grosso
Current Interim Principal
Teaching Assistant
Principal

Matthews, NC * Grades K-8 * Member of NACIS
Independent of Charlotte diocesan schools.

Call us at 704-841-2292 or visit us on the
web: www.blessedsacramentacademy.org

Classifieds

SERVICES

COUNSELING SERVICES: Individuals. Couples. Family. Lucille Moses, BSN, M.Ed.

North Carolina Licensed Professional Counselor. 1801 East 5th Street, 108-B, Charlotte. 704-366-6507 or 704-942-4334.

COUNSELING SERVICES: With a faith perspective. Elizabeth Pantas, MA-Ed., LPC. Individual - Group - Marriage Counseling. (828) 628-4621. Basilica of St. Lawrence parishioner.

Classified ads bring results! Over 135,000 readers! Over 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckleerick@charlottediocese.org

Cindi Kleerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

PRINCIPAL

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Principal of St. Thomas More School, a practicing Catholic, is the administrator and educational leader of St. Thomas More of the Archdiocese of Atlanta with approximately 500 students and approximately 40 faculty and staff. Appointed by the Archbishop and reporting to the Chancellor, the Principal is accountable to the Archbishop through the Chancellor, for implementation of the mission of Catholic education in St. Thomas More School. The Principal is also responsible for providing leadership and managing the School staff; mentoring and providing mediation and conflict resolution among staff, students, and external sources; developing long and short range plans for the grade School; providing communication and support for teachers, students, chaplains, pastors, and boards; representing the Archdiocese in matters related to St. Thomas More School; and assuring compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws and codes. Some travel required. Send resume, credentials, references and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht,
140 West Myrtle Street,
Duluth, MN 55811-5018
Telephone 218-727-5150
E-mail mruprcht@cpinternet.com

Principal - Holy Redeemer Catholic School

The Archdiocese of Atlanta seeks a principal for Holy Redeemer Catholic School. The principal is the administrator and educational leader of this elementary School, including students, faculty, and staff; and is accountable for implementation of the mission of Catholic education in the School. MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES: provide leadership and manage School staff; develop long- and short-range plans for the School; provide communication and support for teachers, students, chaplains, pastors, and boards; mentor and provide mediation and conflict resolution among staff, students, and external sources; represent the Archdiocese in matters related to the School; and assure compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws and codes. REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE: Active membership in a Catholic parish; degree in education or a related field; state endorsement in teaching and school administration or eligibility for endorsement; central educational office experience preferred; teaching, administrative and supervisory experience; participative management style; excellent interpersonal, written, and verbal communication skills; strong supervisory and managerial skills; some travel required.

TO APPLY: Send resume, transcripts, licenses and other credentials, references, and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811-5018
Email: mruprcht@cpinternet.com
Telephone: 218-727-5150



HOLY ANGELS

THE HARDEST JOB YOU'LL EVER LOVE!

POSITIONS NOW AVAILABLE!

FOR NEW & EXPANDING SERVICES

WANTED

CARING... ENERGETIC... FUN... HARD WORKERS...

DIRECT CARE PROFESSIONALS -

Full-time 2nd Shift including every other weekend.

Weekend Relief (every other weekend)

Required: High School/GED

Prefer individuals with 2-3 years work experience, preferably in healthcare and/or working with children/or adults with developmental disabilities. Responsible for physical care, goal implementation, and associated duties for assigned residents. Training provided for all positions.

Be sure to bring your resume with job history and references.

APPLY AT: Holy Angels, 6600 Wilkinson Blvd., Belmont, NC

Phone: 704-825-4161 www.holyangelsnc.org



The Catholic Shoppe AT BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

Part Time Position Available

Catholic bookstore seeking part time employee, 10-15 hours per week. Must be available to work on Saturdays. Prior bookstore experience a plus. Ideal candidate will have a strong intellectual knowledge of and personal commitment to the Catholic faith. Send cover letter, resume & three professional references (including names & contact information) to Human Resources, Belmont Abbey College, 100 Belmont-Mt. Holy Rd, Belmont, NC 28012.

Superintendent - Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta seeks a superintendent of schools. In cooperation with Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory, the superintendent is the chief administrator and educational leader of 18 Catholic schools, being responsible for their overall spiritual and academic quality, in keeping with the Archbishop's vision and the Church's mission. MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES: managing the Office of Catholic Schools and its staff; developing long- and short-range plans for schools; providing direction and support for local school leadership, pastors, religious congregations, principals, and boards; recruiting, hiring, supervising, and supporting principals; representing the Archdiocese in matters of education; creating, monitoring, updating, and enforcing archdiocesan policies; and ensuring compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws and codes. REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE: Active membership in a Catholic parish; doctorate degree in education or a related field; state endorsement in teaching and school administration or eligibility for endorsement; five to ten years' recent experience in Catholic schools or at the diocesan level; participative management style; excellent interpersonal, written, and verbal communication skills; excellent managerial skills with attention to detail. Some travel required.

TO APPLY: Send resume, transcripts, licenses and other credentials, references, and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811-5018
Email: mruprcht@cpinternet.com
Telephone: 218-727-5150



IN OUR SCHOOLS

Buzzing about geography

Sixth-grader wins Geography Bee at St. Pius X School

BY KAREN GRAVES
SPECIAL TO
THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

GREENSBORO — Andrew Scheppegegrell, a sixth-grader at St. Pius X School in Greensboro, recently won the school-level competition of the National Geographic Bee in January.

The school-level geography bees, held by participating schools Nov. 14,

2005-Jan. 13, 2006, determine school winners to compete in the state-level bees in March and the national bee in Washington, D.C. in May.

The nationwide geography competition is designed to encourage fourth-through-eighth-grade teachers to include geography in their classrooms, spark student interest in the subject and increase public awareness about geography.

As the school winner, Andrew took a written test to qualify for the state bee. The National Geographic Society will provide all-expense-paid trips for the state winners and teacher escorts to the national bee in Washington.

The first-place winner of that competition will receive a \$25,000 college scholarship and a lifetime membership in the National Geographic Society.

The following students won in their homerooms and participated in the final-round competition: Fourth-graders: Connor Cooke and William Johnson; fifth-graders: Alex Errington and Connor Speetjens; sixth-grader: Brian Jordan; seventh-graders: John Perry and Nicholas Cook; and eighth-graders: Ethan Miele and Ellis Murray.



COURTESY PHOTO

Sixth-grader Andrew Scheppegegrell recently won the school-level National Geographic Bee at St. Pius X School in Greensboro.

Karen Graves is a middle school social studies teacher at St. Pius X School.

Licensed Clinical Social Worker

Licensed Clinical Social Worker needed for small, non-denominational Christian non-profit agency operating programs for homeless, single, pregnant women and single mothers with children. Job responsibilities include: providing case management and counseling services for clients; supervising residential staff; and rotating on-call duties.

Minimum requirements: To be considered for the position, applicant must be a licensed clinical social worker, have a MSW and 5 years of human service experience. Must possess mature judgment, be able to work independently and be detail oriented.

Preferred: Experience working with pregnant women, homeless clients and knowledge of Guilford County resources. Fluency in Spanish, experience with Medicaid billing issues and HIPAA requirements are helpful.

The job is full-time on Monday through Friday with rotating on-call duties. Competitive salary is negotiable and based on experience. Health, dental and life insurance benefits as well as generous vacation and sick time are offered. Position to begin on March 31st. Interested parties should send resume and salary requirements to Room At The Inn of the Triad, Post Office Box 29584, Greensboro, NC 27429 or fax to (336) 275-9522. No phone calls, please.

Chief Financial Officer

for the Diocese of Charleston, SC.

CFO serves as principal advisor to the Bishop in matters of finance. Oversees management and services provided by Finance Office, Human Resources, Computer Services, and Facilities Maintenance. Minimum Bachelor's degree in accounting or related field plus 10 years experience in a responsible financial management role required, preferably in a non-profit environment. Master's and/or CPA preferred. Catholic in good standing. For consideration please send resume and cover letter with salary requirements to:

Attn: Human Resources

1662 Ingram Rd.

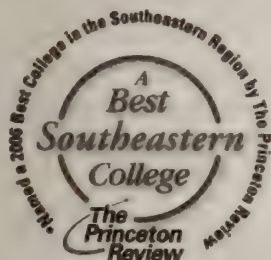
Charleston, SC 29407

fax 843-402-9071; or apply online at www.catholic-doc.org/hr.



BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED



Conveniently located on campus
I-85 exit 26

Join us Friday, March 24th from 2pm to 6pm
for our Abbey Experience open house event!

RSVP by calling 1.888.222.0110, emailing admissions@bac.edu or logging onto

www.BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Move over, 'American Idol'

Those who make real differences are real celebrities

I knew celebrity had reached a strange new status in America when William Hung hit the stage in 2004. The tone-deaf college student was rejected by "American Idol" and then embraced by a cult following of Americans.

It was never quite clear whether fans were mocking Hung's lack of talent or saluting his abundance of energy, and it didn't really matter. Across the globe, people bought his album and attended his concerts.

Regardless of what creates stardom, one thing's for sure: Americans adore the stars.

As a reporter, I've had the opportunity to interview a few better known folks. I bragged to everyone in earshot about interviewing Joe Mauer, a catcher playing for his hometown team, the Minnesota Twins. I kept his number in my cell just to show off.

I recently interviewed Omarosa, the villain of NBC's 2004 "The Apprentice," and Matt Hoover, the winner of NBC's 2005 "The Biggest Loser," for a magazine feature. My reality-TV-viewing friends (and most are) wanted to hear all the juicy details afterward.

It got me thinking about the range of people I've interviewed in my young career. But when I'm honest with myself, the most admirable ones are working quietly in their corners — outside the headlines.

An engineering professor devising hunger fighters for women in Africa. Two sixth-graders asking their classmates to donate to youth victims of Hurricane Katrina. A busy mom making time to teach catechism every Wednesday night.

People making a difference.

It makes me wonder about the criteria by which we choose our celebrities. Why do we picture someone's face on a magazine cover or drop her name in a headline?

Some reasons seem just plain bad. Take Paris Hilton. The laudable feat she accomplished? Inheriting money.

Now, week after week, magazines

Coming of Age

CHRISTINA CAPECCHI
CNS COLUMNIST

illustrate her spending it frivolously, wearing those oversized sunglasses and miniskirts.

The good news is that Catholics have a well-cloaked celebrity who is also well qualified to stand on a pedestal: the pope. Unlike Paris Hilton, the 78-year-old Pope Benedict XVI earned his position through decades of dedication to the church.

I joined 1 million other Catholics to participate in Mass with the new pope at World Youth Day in Cologne, Germany, last August. It was awesome to see so many teens gather for a real star.

I even spotted a celebrity magazine on a Cologne newsstand that had printed a picture of Pope Benedict on its cover with the headline "The Star of World Youth Day." It featured a two-page foldout of the pope on the inside.

Of course, that's not what Pope Benedict is seeking. The day he was elected pope he told a packed St. Peter's Square: "I am a humble worker in the vineyard of the Lord." Pretty different from a vain star in the Hollywood spotlight.

And as opposed to the 15 minutes they score, workers for the Lord land an eternity in paradise. Way better than a Prada purse, Paris.

Recently I took a trip to Rome, where I attended the pope's Wednesday general assembly. Again, he spoke of humility, this time reflecting on Mary's response to bearing Jesus.

But since I still haven't mastered that virtue, I will indulge in my moment of glory: I got to shake hands with Pope Benedict. I looked directly into his smiling eyes and I said "Papa!" in awe.

When he continued down the aisle, tears spilled down my cheeks. How good it feels to find a worthy celebrity.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

Pope says Bible meditation leads to conversion, charity during Lent

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Lent should be a time for deeper meditation on the word of God, which will lead to conversion and to concrete acts of charity, said Pope Benedict XVI.

"Lent stimulates us to allow our lives to be penetrated by the word of God and in that way to know the fundamental truth about who we are, where we come from, where we are going and what is the path we must follow in our lives," the pope said March 1, Ash Wednesday.

Speaking at his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square, the pope urged Catholics to allow themselves to be "nourished with the abundance of the word of God" during Lent.

The pope looked at the two phrases used when distributing ashes: "Remember that you are dust and to dust you will return" and "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel."

The first, he said, is a reminder that people have fallen and have limits, and it "is meant to urge us to place all our hope in God alone."

Lent is a time of "fasting, penance and vigilance over ourselves, knowing that the struggle against sin never ends because temptation is an everyday reality, and fragility and disillusionment are experienced by everyone," the pope said.

The admonition to "convert and believe in the Gospel," he said, "places firm and faithful adherence to the Gospel at the foundation of personal and communal renewal."

The Pope Speaks

POPE BENEDICT XVI



"The Christian life is a life of faith founded and nourished on the word of God," he said. "In the trials of life and before every temptation, the secret of victory consists in listening to the word of truth and decisively refusing falsehood and evil."

"This is the real program of the Lenten period: to listen to the word of truth, to live, speak and act in truth and to refuse falsehood, which poisons humanity and is at the root of all evil," the pope said.

One who follows the truth, meditates on the Gospel and draws closer and closer to God, he said, also "sees others with new eyes. He discovers his brothers and sisters and their needs."

"Because the truth of God is love, conversion to God is conversion to love," Pope Benedict said.

The "climate of Lent," he said, "is precisely the climate of love for our brothers and sisters" because it is a time for learning to see others with Christ's eyes.

Pope Benedict said because conversion includes a growing realization of the obligation to demonstrate love for one's neighbors charity and almsgiving are central to the Lenten practice.

Letters to the Editor

Altar server article a worthy story

I was pleased and moved to read the article in The Catholic News & Herald about the three altar servers with Down syndrome at St. Paul the Apostle Church in Greensboro ("Serving at the Lord's Table," Feb. 10). As my sister was born with Down syndrome, stories such as this really touch my heart.

My younger sister, Leslie, died before having such an opportunity, but I know, had she had the chance, that she would have been as fine a server as those featured in the article. I am not only pleased that this is happening here in the Diocese of Charlotte, but that it is also considered worthy of a front-page article in the diocesan newspaper.

My prayers are with these servers, their families and the pastoral staff of St. Paul the Apostle Church.

— Father Mark Lawlor, pastor
St. Vincent de Paul Church, Charlotte

Confusion over B.C.E., C.E.

I have come across the terms B.C.E. (Before Common Era) and C.E. (Common Era). This terminology appeared in

secular publications so I dismissed their use as a manifestation of political correctness. Still to me, as a Christian, the terms were a bit annoying.

But I was taken aback to see these terms appear several times in the articles about the Dead Sea Scrolls ("Hidden treasures uncovered," Feb. 24). Have I missed something? When did B.C.E. and C.E. become the accepted term for B.C. (Before Christ) and A.D. (Anno Domini, the Year of our Lord)?

— Joseph Gerardi, Brevard

Editor's response: When it comes to grammar and language usage, we defer to two sources: the Associated Press Stylebook and the Catholic News Service Stylebook.

The AP Stylebook does not mention C.E./B.C.E. However, the CNS Stylebook reads as thus:

"C.E., B.C.E. — The Jewish equivalents respectively of A.D. and B.C. ... Use with dates only in quoted matter or in stories dealing with Judaism or Jewish-Christian relations in which the term has significance."

Although the scrolls and the Old Testament are central to our Christian faith, they are not exclusively Christian documents. Since the scrolls were written by Jews before the time when Jesus lived, using C.E./B.C.E. was appropriate.

To note, the scrolls exhibit at Discovery Place in Charlotte uses C.E./B.C.E.

'O Dio mio'

The happiness in an arsenal of prayer outbursts

Looking back on my life, I often wonder what it was that made my grandparents happy people — people you enjoyed being around.

During my childhood, we lived downstairs from my Italian grandparents. Grandpa would rise at 5:30 a.m. and take the streetcar to work. He was a sewer contractor. He would dig the ditches between the street sewers and new homes, and fit them with sewer tiles.

Even though it was tough manual labor, he always came home with a smile on his face.

My grandmother was the same. Even though she and my grandfather watched one of their sons die in their home of tuberculosis, she never lost her sense of humor.

I used to think that their secret to happiness came from being Italian and coming from sunny Italy. As we know, the sun does wonders for the disposition.

Recently I came across a book on various methods of prayer that revealed my grandparents' real secret.

It was common to hear my grandparents periodically cry out in Italian, "O Dio mio," meaning, "Oh my God." Although this could be interpreted as alarm

The Human Side

FATHER
EUGENE HEMRICK
CNS COLUMNIST



over something, it was also said in praise of an unexpected wonderful happening.

This short prayer is relatively common today. How many times have we seen an athlete perform an awesome feat, or come upon exquisite beauty and blurted out, "O my God!" meaning: This reflects God's power and beauty?

The secret to my grandparents' happiness was that their day was dotted with prayers of aspiration.

What is a prayer of aspiration? It is a fervent elevation of the mind to God composed of a few words that in a moment are hurled toward heaven to make known to God the good affection and holy desires of our heart. It springs from a heart of love, just as a flame

springs from a burning furnace.

It is a short prayer, composed of only a few words that may be mental or oral.

Spiritual writers remind us that those who love little and those who are negligent will think this practice is impossible. Indeed it is, until we give ourselves seriously to mental prayer and fill our minds with good thoughts and affections that build up an arsenal of prayer outbursts.

The secret of my grandparents' happiness was the gift of experiencing something beautiful, awesome and divine, and being able to throw their heart into it. They could let their love fly. They celebrated life when the moment presented itself.

This method of prayer speaks worlds to an age that is making us uptight because of terrorism and the fears it spawns. This prayer method asks us: "When did you last see something beautiful and let go with a short prayer of wonder? When did you last release your affections and feel them shoot out like a flame from a burning furnace?"

"When last did you see God's awesomeness in something you experienced and feel compelled to blurt out, 'O Dio mio!'"

Lenten abstinence from television

Uncle Dan

DAN MORRIS
CNS COLUMNIST



We at the Roadkill Theological Roundtable do not want to take total credit for this, but we are very confident that a groundswell of support is building for something we began advocating more than eight years ago.

But, we would love some of the credit; 72 percent sounds like a good number.

I know it is on the tip of your tongue: CATSCAN, which stands for Catholics Abstaining From Television: a Spiritual Campaign for a Nation. It was born in 1998 in the wake of the U.S. bishops' vote not to reinstate abstinence from meat on Fridays at the same time they issued a pastoral letter on the media.

We RTR members took their leadership to the next logical step: Let's abstain from TV on Fridays.

This was met with much confusion and many questions.

For example, would it be licit to tape one's favorite Friday programs and watch them later? Would it be fudging to watch videos on TV instead or to watch TV on one's laptop? Would Eternal Word Television Network apply for an exemption?

Why single out TV? Why not also abstain from radio, movies, streaming-screaming videos, cell phones, etc.?

There are a couple of answers to the last question. First, TV is the only medium that has been accepted as a legal drug. Second, it would screw up the acronym — although we could change the campaign from CATSCAN to MRI (Media Reflection and Insight). That said, CAMSCAN does kind of roll off the tongue.

At least two Catholic columnists in recent weeks suggested that Catholics take a hard look at their TV consumption.

—Father Peter Daly hinted that others might want to follow his lead in cutting way back on television (and radio) news, admitting it tends to have just about the in-depth content of product labels, only with less accuracy.

—Media writer Mark Pattison floated the notion of giving up television for Lent. It would certainly unmask any TV addictions we might have — like having it on for background noise or building one's entire week around the next episode of "American Idol" or "Survivor."

Whether one decides to abstain from TV on a Friday, for Lent or just for a while, it certainly seems like a healthy exercise.

And if you happen to use the time to visit a friend, a library or a shut-in, tell them RTR sent you. Well, about 72 percent of the way anyhow.

Comments are welcome. E-mail Uncle Dan at cnsuncle01@yahoo.com.

The three kings

Q. What can you tell us about the three kings who came to worship Christ after he was born? Do we know their names? Are they considered saints? If so, when is their feast? Where did they die? (Pennsylvania)

A. We know very little about these men, except that the Gospel of Matthew presents them as the first gentiles to believe in Christ (Mt 2:1-12). In the New Testament they are called sages (in Greek "magoi") who came apparently from the East to offer gifts to the Christ child.

The third-century theologian Tertullian was the first to raise the idea that they were kings; he called them "almost kings."

Some centuries later they were commonly honored as kings, probably based on the passage in Psalm 72, which says of the Messiah, "The kings of Tarshish and the Isles (the far west) will offer gifts; the kings of Arabia and Seba (the far south) shall bring tribute. All kings shall pay him homage."

Many passages in the Gospels and other parts of the New Testament find their roots in prophetic writings of the Old Testament.

The Bible says nothing about how many there were. The numbers fluctuated greatly, but eventually there were said to be three, probably because of the three gifts offered in Bethlehem.

The names Melchior, Gaspar and

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN
DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



Balthasar are first mentioned in the sixth century.

By the Middle Ages devotion to the Magi was popular all over Europe. They were venerated as saints, and their images appeared widely in all forms of art. Much later, in the 15th century, artists started depicting one of them as a black African nobleman.

A feast in honor of the "Three Wise Men" is listed in Butler's Lives of the Saints for July 23. It is not widely observed, however, and is not on the Catholic liturgical calendar.

No one has a clue, of course, about where or when they might have died. Catholic authorities in Milan claimed to have their bones after these were brought to Italy from Constantinople around the year 500.

In 1162, the Holy Roman Emperor Frederick Barbarossa took them to Germany and gave them to the archbishop of Cologne. They are still enshrined in the Cologne Cathedral.

Are they genuine? For a variety of



reasons, no one can know. That the relics in Cologne are those brought from Milan in the 12th century seems certain. Where they originated, however, and what happened to them during the thousand years before that, no one can say.

A free brochure describing basic Catholic prayers, beliefs and moral precepts is available by sending a stamped self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 5515, Peoria, IL 61612.

Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address, or e-mail: jjdietzen@aol.com.

Popular pastry

Albertines prepare for Lent in culinary fashion — making paczki

BY STEVE EUVINO
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

HAMMOND, Ind. — Things are heating up in the kitchen at the Albertine Home in Hammond where the sisters are preparing for Lent in Polish culinary fashion.

In a word, that's paczki.

A pastry associated with pre-Lenten activities, paczki are very popular with the Albertines, and Sister Patrycja Bryniarska is the unofficial "pro" at making them.

She came to this country several years ago from Poland. Having learned cooking from other sisters, Sister Bryniarska is now in charge when it comes to paczki.

Working with Sister Donata Stachowiak as her interpreter, Sister Bryniarska said that paczki are not just for "fat Tuesday," the day before Ash Wednesday. That, the sisters said, is more of an American tradition.

In their native Poland, paczki are prepared on the previous Thursday.

So, in keeping with the traditions of two paczki-loving countries,



CNS PHOTO BY KAREN CALLAWAY, NORTHWEST INDIANA CATHOLIC

Father Matthew Kish sneaks a paczki as Albertine Sister Patrycja Bryniarska forms dough for the Polish pastries at the Albertine Home in Hammond, Ind., Feb. 23. The traditional doughnutlike pastries are said to have come about as a way to use rich ingredients that could not be consumed during Lent.

Sister Bryniarska may make up to 200 in two days.

"No one knows how this tradition got started," said Sister Stachowiak, noting that paczki may go back to the 17th century.

According to one account, religious

Poles, knowing that they had to give up all their favorite foods for Lent but not wanting to let anything go to waste, took all the rich ingredients, mixed them in a batter, and came up with paczki.

That story makes some sense to Sister Stachowiak. She recalled that people in her native country would eat all they could just before Lent, because once Lent arrived, "they

stopped celebrating."

Back in the kitchen, Sister Bryniarska had the batter ready and was waiting for it to rise to three times its original size. She starts with flour, sugar and eggs; mixes them; and then covers the batter to allow it to rise on its own — with the help of a well-heated kitchen. The entire process takes about two hours.

"The most important part is to take time to prepare the dough," Sister Bryniarska said.

Sister stresses the need to make the dough "poofy." Otherwise, she said, the batter becomes "doughy."

After the batter rises, Sister Bryniarska then kneads the dough. About 40-50 minutes later she starts forming dough balls that become paczki.

She will then add rose marmalade for filling. After adding a little vodka — to the batter, not the cook — she places the balls in oil for frying.

The alcohol, Sister Bryniarska explained, keeps the grease in the cooking oil from saturating the paczki dough.

Sister Bryniarska fries the paczki until they are a light brown color. As to the filling, some people use chocolate, pudding, or jelly, and they have a specific means of getting the filling into the center.

Sister Bryniarska recalled that while growing up in Poland, paczki were a real treat — something the children looked forward to every year.

"Everyone (in Poland) has to eat at least one," Sister Stachowiak said of paczki.

That was not a problem at the Albertine Home, where residents were treated to two days of paczki — the Thursday and Tuesday prior to Lent — and where the sisters wouldn't think of selling their popular pastries.

"It's a big treat here," said Sister Stachowiak. "Sometimes the people ask for more than one."

"No one knows how this tradition got started ... everyone (in Poland) has to eat at least one."

— Sister Donata Stachowiak

Only 4 spaces left!

Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise —

"The Footsteps of Paul"

Greece and Turkey — May 11-21, 2006

Space is limited—register now!



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,949 for inside cabin — includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

Istanbul — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace

Mykonos — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels

Patmos — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation

Kusadasi & Ephesus — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites

Rhodes — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith

Crete — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion

Santorini — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?

**WALK WHERE JESUS WALKED ON A
DIOCESAN-SPONSORED PILGRIMAGE TO**

THE HOLY LAND

September 5 – 14

with Fr. James Hawker, Diocesan Vicar of Education and Pastor, St. Luke Church

Deepen your understanding of our Catholic faith and watch the pages of the Bible come alive as you experience daily Mass at many of the historical sites of our faith.

Highlights include:

- Tiberias, Mt. Carmel, Sea of Galilee area
- Mt. Tabor, Cana, Nazareth — Jesus' boyhood area
- Capernaum, Mount of Beatitudes, River Jordan
- Jerusalem area: Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Via Dolorosa, Lord's Tomb at Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Mount Zion, Upper Room, Dormition Abbey, Wailing Wall
- Dead Sea (excavations and scrolls), Masada, Holocaust memorial
- Bethlehem's historic sites — PLUS much more!



Price: \$2,499 from Charlotte (\$2,599 after June 22) includes airfare, most meals, first-class hotels and all tours. Airport taxes/fees, tips and insurance are extra.

Call Cindi Feerick at 704/370-3332 for a brochure with complete details or Pentecost Tours 800/713-9800 for registration.

Roman Catholic
Diocese of Charlotte



Established Jan. 12, 1972
by Pope Paul VI

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

Parish Profile:

Holy Redeemer parish
small in number,
large in spirit

| PAGE 16

MARCH 10, 2006

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 15 No 22

Approaching a new life in Christ

Bishop Jugis
celebrates Rite of
Election

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — For Chris Palmer, the walk to the altar of Holy Cross Church in Kernersville has taken his whole life.

Palmer, the son of a Jewish mother and Presbyterian father, discovered the Catholic Church through his wife.

But the decision to be baptized in the Catholic Church was all his own.

"It just fits," said Palmer. "I love the sense of community, and the stability of the faith."

On March 4, Palmer joined hundreds of fellow

See RITE, page 5



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Bishop Peter J. Jugis watches as catechumens and their sponsors gather on the altar during the Rite of Election at St. Michael Church in Gastonia March 5. The Rite of Election, celebrated annually in churches around the world on the first Sunday of Lent, formally acknowledges the readiness of those preparing to receive the sacraments of initiation — baptism, confirmation and the Eucharist — at the Easter Vigil.

Returning home

Standing-room-only
Masses a sign of
shifting New Orleans
population

BY PETER FINNEY JR.
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW ORLEANS — In a post-Katrina world marked by massive population shifts in the New Orleans area, the term "television Mass" has a new meaning.

Unlike the TV ministry provided to shut-ins who cannot attend Mass, St. Luke the Evangelist Church in Slidell

See HOME, page 6

Exodus from the Holy Land

Financial, social hardships prompt
Christians to abandon homes in Holy Land

FRANCISCAN FRIARS WORK
TO HELP PALESTINIAN
CHRISTIANS

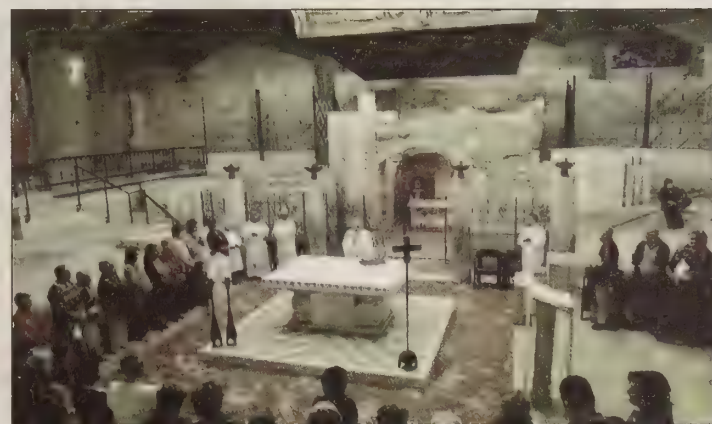
BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — If the severe political and economic hardships experienced by Christians living in the Holy Land are not alleviated soon,

the Christian church could cease to exist in this part of the world within the next 60 years, said Franciscan Father Peter Vasko.

Father Vasko is president of the Franciscan Foundation for the Holy Land, whose purpose is to safeguard the basic human rights of the

See LAND, page 8



CNS PHOTO BY RONEN ZVULUN, REUTERS

Catholics attend Mass in the Basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth, Israel, March 4. Tradition maintains that the grotto is where the angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she would bear the Savior.

See DEACONS, page 13

#BXNPDVQ.....3-DIGIT 275
#420836#
NC COLLECTION
UNC
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001

S36 P1

Around the Diocese

Knights assist Holy
Angels; new facility to
help many

| PAGE 4

Inside the Curia

Vatican official: Spiritual
reform begins with religious
orders

| PAGE 7

Perspectives

Forgiveness for
'abortionists';
technology aid s faith

| PAGES 14-15

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

EMBRACING FAITH



CNS PHOTO BY JOE KOHN, MICHIGAN CATHOLIC

Dr. Daniel Greene holds infant MacKenzie Grace Couch at Crittenton Hospital in Rochester Hills, Mich., in early January. Greene, a gynecologist and parishioner of St. Mary of the Hills Church, said his faith led him to a decision that he will no longer prescribe birth control. He joins a minority of doctors who have a natural family planning-only practice.

Gynecologist employs natural family planning principles in practice

ROCHESTER HILLS, Mich. (CNS) — For Dr. Daniel Greene, there's no more debating the point: God made the human body and he knows what's best for it.

As a result, Greene, a gynecologist and member of St. Mary of the Hills Church in Rochester Hills, decided that natural family planning is the only form of birth control he will prescribe.

"It's crystal clear to me," said Greene, who has practiced obstetrics and gynecology for 11 years. "It makes perfect sense as to why one would choose to live the culture of life or practice natural family planning or embrace the church's teaching on human sexuality."

"I think a lot of people just haven't looked at it," he said.

Natural family planning (NFP) refers to forms of birth regulation, which, in conformity with Catholic teaching, do not involve the use of any artificial means of contraception. Different natural methods all share two basic elements: monitoring of the woman's monthly fertility cycle and abstinence during her fertile period except when the couple wants to have a baby.

When used properly, modern NFP methods have greater success rates than the most effective contraceptive, have no side effects and never lead to abortion. Some birth control methods are considered abortifacients by the church.

Greene spent his early medical career as most gynecologists do, examining patients, delivering babies

and presenting women with a wide array of artificial birth control methods.

But as he grew more deeply in his faith, he began to have questions. He listened to lectures, read books and examined both the medical and religious sides of the debate.

In medicine, he knew that artificial birth control had side effects and potentially could cause physical harm to his patients. The risks and societal harms of contraception, he said, were glossed over in his traditional medical training, and NFP was given only a passing mention.

"Everything was saying, 'This is the right thing to do and it's what God wants and it's going to honor God.'"

Finally, he received the consent of his colleagues at Contemporary Obstetrics and Gynecology and became a doctor who prescribes only NFP.

"I've had some Catholic patients who have been like, 'Yes!' — they can see it's God's work," said Greene. "And other patients kind of gave me a deer-in-the-headlights kind of stare and I got a transfer-of-records form within a week."

Though he has lost some patients, Dorothy Staple, NFP coordinator for the Archdiocese of Detroit, could see him being flooded with more.

"I constantly get calls from women who are using natural family planning and ask whether we have natural family planning-only doctors," Staple said. "These women are tired of going to doctors and not being heard."

Bishops hail abortion ban, urge more efforts to build culture of life

PIERRE, S.D. (CNS) — Two Catholic bishops hailed South Dakota's new law banning nearly all abortions, but they also urged efforts to transform people's hearts and minds to reject abortion and build a culture that respects all life from conception to natural death.

On March 6, Gov. Mike Rounds signed into law a bill prohibiting all intentional abortions except those to save a mother's life.

Bishop Blase J. Cupich of Rapid City said South Dakota citizens and their elected officials "can be justifiably proud of their efforts to restore the rights of the unborn child," but said "a change in law and structures is not sufficient."

Society must build a culture of life that "begins with the unborn" and also ensures livable wages, education, health care, help for single mothers and "an end to the death penalty," he said.

Bishop Samuel J. Aquila, apostolic administrator of the Sioux Falls Diocese, said:

"None of us can claim the right directly to destroy an innocent human being."

"Regardless of court rulings and laws, we must be ardent in our efforts to transform the hearts and minds of our fellow citizens," he said.

South Dakota's new law is the most sweeping ban on abortion adopted in any state since 1973, the year the U.S. Supreme Court legalized abortion virtually on demand in its *Roe v. Wade* decision.

The law specifically exempts women from any criminal conviction or penalty for obtaining an abortion. But it says that anyone who performs an abortion except to save a mother's life commits a Class 5 felony, which is punishable by a fine up to \$5,000 and up to five years in prison.

The South Dakota House of Representatives passed the bill Feb. 24. The Senate had approved it Feb. 22, after slightly amending an earlier version adopted by the House.

Diocesan planner

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., will have a *Polish-language Mass* on Palm Sunday, April 9 at 3:30 p.m. in the Daily Mass Chapel. Confessions will be available in Polish beginning at 2 p.m. For more information, please call Elizabeth Spytkowski at (704) 948-1678.

CHARLOTTE — The *Divine Mercy Novena* will be recited at St. Gabriel Church's Daily Chapel, 3016 Providence Rd., beginning on Good Friday, April 14, at 6:30 p.m. and Holy Saturday, April 15, at 6:30 p.m. All following days the novena will be recited at 7:30 p.m. Our Lord said to St. Faustina, "By this novena, I will grant every possible grace to souls" (Diary, 796). If you are not familiar with this devotion, please come and pray. We will have brochures available with the intentions our Lord has asked us to bring to him during this novena. For more information, call Tina Witt (704) 846-7361.

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., will host a *Christian Coffeehouse* March 11 at 7:30 p.m. Single and married adults are invited for an evening of contemporary Christian music, food and fellowship. For more information, call Kathy Bartlett at (704) 400-2213.

CHARLOTTE — *Pathfinders*, a peer-led support group for separated and divorced adults, offers education, support and fellowship through the divorce process. The group meets Tuesdays, 7:30-9 p.m., in St. Gabriel Church's Ministry Building, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, call Nancy at (704) 752-0318.

CHARLOTTE — Jack Perry, former

ambassador to Bulgaria and retired Dean Rusk Professor for International Studies at Davidson University, will present "*Global Threats and Opportunities*," March 15 at 7 p.m. His presentation will take place in Biss Hall at St. Peter Church, 507 S. Tryon St. All are cordially invited to attend. Sandwiches will be served at 6:30 p.m., prior to the talk. For further information, please call either Barbara Dellinger at (704) 519-0970 or Barney Offerman at (704) 375-5398.

GASTONIA VICARIATE

GASTONIA — An *Interfaith Prayer Vigil for Peace* will take place at St. Michael Church, 708 St. Michael Lane, March 20 at 7 p.m. For more information, call the church office at (704) 867-6212, or Dennis Teall-Fleming, director of faith formation at Queen of the Apostles Church, at (704) 825-9600, ext. 26.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — A Lenten mission, "*Hope Against Despair*" led by Oblate Father Jim Greenfield will be held at St. Paul the Apostle Church, 2715 Horse Pen Creek Road, March 19-21 at 7 p.m. The sessions will also be repeated the following morning after the 9 a.m. Mass. There will be time for fellowship and light refreshments after each evening's session. For more information, call the church office at (336) 294-4696.

HICKORY VICARIATE

LENOIR — The youth group of St. Francis of Assisi Church, 328-B Woodsway Lane NW, will present *Stations of the Cross in Shadow Drama* March 17 at 7 p.m. This is a spiritually moving depiction of the Stations of the Cross including quiet meditative songs. For more information, call Linda Cowart at (828) 754-2093.

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

MARCH 10, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 22

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Pope says business owners must avoid worker exploitation

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Business owners must avoid every form of worker exploitation, and they must recognize the importance of family life for their workers, Pope Benedict XVI told a group of Italian entrepreneurs and business leaders.

Upholding the importance of people in the workplace and in the world of business and respecting their needs and talents are values that "often risk not being pursued by business owners who lack solid moral inspiration," especially in the current climate of "economic difficulties," he said.

Pope Benedict made his comments during a March 4 audience at the Vatican with some 8,000 members of Italy's Union of Christian Entrepreneurs and Business Executives.

Citing his first encyclical, "Deus Caritas Est" ("God Is Love"), the pope reminded his audience that justice and

charity were "two inseparable facets of a Christian's social duty" and that the lay faithful must work for a just ordering of society.

He said the Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church is a useful and educational tool for all people who "intend to let themselves be guided by the Gospel in their professional and work-related activities."

He praised a "charter of values" that had been drawn up by the union's youth association. Of the six points outlined, the pope said he most admired placing value on each person and praised the recognition of the "importance of the family and of personal responsibility."

So as to better adhere to what the church teaches about social justice in the workplace, the pope said it was crucial that business owners "nurture and renew" their Christian formation and education.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

MOORESVILLE — Bishop Emeritus William Curtin present a parish mission, "The Presence of Jesus Within Us" at St. Therese Catholic Church, 217 Brawley School Rd., March 13, 14 and 15 at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call the church office at (704) 664-3992.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

CANTON — A workshop on comprehensive immigration reform will take place at Immaculate Conception Church, 42 Newfound Rd., March 16. Leo Anchondo, director of the Justice for Immigrants campaign of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, will speak on "Justice for Immigrants: A Journey of Hope." Anchondo will give his presentation in English, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., and in Spanish, 1-3 p.m. The program is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Eduardo Bernal at (828) 399-0912.

SYLVA — The Lay Carmelite Community of St. Mary Church will begin a new series of inquiry classes on the fourth Saturday of each month following the 9 a.m. Mass. The first class, on March 25, will cover the lay orders in general, the particular call of a Lay Carmelite, and the process of formation. The meeting will be from 9:30-11:30 a.m. For more information, call Linda Knauer at (828) 586-9496.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

KERNERSVILLE — A Catholic College Night will take place in the Krispy Kreme Activity Center of Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School, 1725 N.C. Hwy. 66 South, March 13, 7-9 p.m. Dr. William Thierfelder, president of Belmont Abbey College, will be the keynote speaker. Parents and students can visit with representatives from several Catholic colleges and universities. For more information please call Anton Vorozhko at (336) 564-1246 or e-mail avorozhko@bmhs.us.

WINSTON-SALEM — The Portiuncula Franciscan Center, 221 W. Third St., will host Lenten Faith Sharing "brown-bag" gatherings March 15, 22, 29 and April 5, 12-12:45 p.m. We will spend time looking ahead to the week-end Lenten readings to prepare our hearts for the Word of God to take root. Bring your own lunch. Coffee and tea will be provided. For more information, call (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

WINSTON-SALEM — The Portiuncula Franciscan Center, 221 W. Third St., will host a book discussion on "Humility of God: A Franciscan Perspective" by Ilia Delio, O.S.F. This book deals with the theology of divine humility and God's relationship to the world, while at the same time tackling some tough questions. The group will meet March 13, 20 and 27; April 3 and 24; and May 1, 8 and 15, 6-7:30 p.m. For more information, call (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

WINSTON-SALEM — Take time to explore the need for personal reflection and prayer. Franciscan Father Jude DeAngelo will present *An Out of the Way Place*, a program for professional caregivers, clergy and counselors. The program will take place March 16 and 23, 7:15-8:15 p.m., at The Portiuncula Franciscan Center, 221 W. Third St. For more information, call (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

March 11 — 12 p.m.
Rite of Election
St. Eugene Church, Asheville

March 14 — 11 a.m.
Presbyteral Council meeting
Pastoral Center, Charlotte

March 12-13
USCCB Priestly Life and Ministry Meeting
Baltimore, Md.

Vatican removes title 'patriarch of the West' after pope's name

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In the 2006 edition of the Vatican's official yearbook, the pope is no longer referred to with the title "patriarch of the West," a change with potential ecumenical implications.

The Vatican press office confirmed the deletion of the title March 1, but offered no explanation for the change.

In the 2006 book, the pope is described as "bishop of Rome, vicar of Jesus Christ, successor of the prince of the apostles, supreme pontiff of the universal church, primate of Italy, archbishop and metropolitan of the province of Rome, sovereign of Vatican City State and servant of the servants of God."

The 2006 edition, which was presented to Pope Benedict XVI Feb. 18 and was to be on sale to the public by March 10, is the first edition printed since Pope Benedict's April 19 election.

In previous editions, the title "patriarch of the West" had been listed after "supreme pontiff of the universal church."

The last time the list of titles was changed was with Pope Paul VI's

publication of the 1969 edition of the yearbook, the *Annuario Pontificio*. Pope Paul added the title "servant of the servants of God" and deleted the phrase "gloriously reigning."

Theologians and ecumenists contacted by Catholic News Service in Rome said the ecumenical impact of the removal of the "patriarch of the West" title would depend on the Vatican's reason for deleting it.

Cardinal Achille Silvestrini, retired prefect of the Congregation for Eastern Churches, said the deletion was a "sign of ecumenical sensitivity" on the part of Pope Benedict.

The cardinal said that in the past some people used the title to provoke negative comparisons between the claims of universal jurisdiction by the worldwide "Patriarchate of the West" and the more restricted size and jurisdiction of the traditional Orthodox patriarchates.

Other experts, however, warned that the deletion could provoke concern if it is seen as the Vatican saying patriarchal authority is meaningless when the pope has universal authority over the church.

Fun on 'Fat Tuesday'



PHOTO BY CAROLE MCGROTTY

Father John Schneider, pastor of St. Eugene Church in Asheville; Zoe Howard, a student at Asheville Catholic School; and Pete Hutchens, fourth-grade teacher, show off their costumes for the school's Mardi Gras parade March 1.

The fourth-grade class, dressed in costumes and pulling floats they made, marched behind a local jazz band around the school playground. Father Schneider, dressed as the Mardi Gras king, rode on a float pulled by Hutchens and tossed beads to the crowd.

The parent-faculty association sponsored the celebration.

Mardi Gras ("Fat Tuesday") traditionally provides an opportunity for festivity and merrymaking the day before Ash Wednesday and the penitential season of Lent.

HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?

Is your church or organization holding a special event? Is there someone in your parish who truly represents the faith and the teachings of Jesus? Do you have photographs from a recent newsworthy event?

If you would like to share your story or photographs with the readers of *The Catholic News & Herald*, let us know! Please contact us at (704) 370-3333 or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

Knights' quest assists Holy Angels

Council leads fundraising in NC

BELMONT — As part of their annual Operation LAMB campaign, Knights of Columbus St. Matthew Council 10852 presented Holy Angels with a check for \$20,000.

The presentation was made at the Holy Angels campus Feb. 25.

"The Knights of Columbus feel blessed to be able to contribute to such a wonderful organization as Holy Angels, a place that strives on a daily basis to make a difference in the lives of those who are not able to totally help themselves," said Richard White, the council's deputy grand knight and Operation LAMB director.

Council 10852 raised more than \$56,000 for the LAMB Foundation in 2005. It is the second year in a row the council has led the state councils in fundraising.

"Our organization is founded on charity, with the LAMB campaign comprising our primary labor of love," said White.

"This year alone, more than 200 knights and family members from our council contributed more than 1,300 man hours to raising the \$56,000 for developmentally disabled individuals in our community," he said. "We are

humbled and grateful to be able to help."

The Knights of Columbus raise funds for their LAMB (Least Among My Brethren) drive through corporate and private donations and their famous Tootsie Roll campaigns at area retailers and churches. The LAMB Foundation of NC is an IRS non-profit public charity benefiting the developmentally disabled with 100 percent of the monies raised going to local and statewide organizations like Holy Angels, the Allegro Foundation, Special Olympics, Lifespan and others.

Founded in 1882, the Knights of Columbus is a Catholic fraternal and service organization with more than 1.7 million members. Knights are found in every state as well as Canada, Mexico, the Philippines and many other parts of the world.

Holy Angels is a private, nonprofit corporation that provides programs and services for children and adults with varying degrees of mental retardation, some of whom have physical disabilities and are medically fragile.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on Council 10852, visit www.kofc-stmatthew.org.



COURTESY PHOTO

Knights of Columbus Council 10852 presents a \$20,000 check to Holy Angels in Belmont Feb. 25. Pictured (in front, from left): Father Eugene Schellberg, council chaplain and senior priest at St. Matthew Church in Charlotte; Dennis Kuhn, Holy Angels executive vice president; Grand Knight Greg Argenas; Deputy Grand Knight Richard White; and other council members and their families.

Unlocking the future



COURTESY PHOTO

Holy Angels recently celebrated a ribbon-cutting ceremony of its new intermediate care facility in Belmont Feb. 21. Pictured: Holy Angels residents Monty (left) and Edwin (right) are joined by (from left) Dennis Kuhn, Holy Angels executive vice president; Maria Morrow, Holy Angels' first resident; Regina Moody, Holy Angels president; Teresa Rankin, Gaston County Chamber of Commerce vice president; Hans Lengers, Holy Angels board of directors vice chair; Monte Monteleone, Gaston Chamber ambassador; Lynn Leonard, Holy Angels board member; and Robin and Tammy Froneberger with their son, Zachary.

Holy Angels unveils newest children's home

BELMONT — There is now room for more holy angels in Belmont.

Holy Angels' residents, staff and supporters joined Gaston County Chamber of Commerce members for a ribbon cutting ceremony at Holy Angels' newest intermediate care facility Feb. 21.

Moody Place, named in honor of Holy Angels' president and CEO, Regina Moody, is a 20,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility that will provide home to 15 children, ages 6 to 21, with mental retardation.

Assisting with the ribbon cutting was Moody; Maria Morrow, Holy Angels' first resident; and Kevin Loftin, Holy Angels' board of directors' chair; and two Holy Angels community group home residents.

"We are so thrilled with our new home," said Moody. "It is truly beautiful and fills such a vital need here at Holy Angels. This new facility ensures that our children can continue to call Holy Angels' their home as they age."

The new home features recreational space, nursing and therapy areas and a sensory stimulation room. The building was made possible with financial

support from various foundations and individual donors.

Moody Place is one of seven homes that make up McAuley Residences on McAuley Circle, named for Catherine McAuley, founder of the Sisters of Mercy in Dublin, Ireland.

Holy Angels, a nonprofit corporation, was founded in 1956 by the Sisters of Mercy to provide specialized service for children and adults with varying degrees of mental retardation and physical disabilities, some of whom are medically fragile.

Programs include intermediate care facilities, group homes, Little Angels Child Development Center and Cherubs Café & Candy Bouquets in downtown Belmont.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on Holy Angels, visit www.holyangelsnc.org.

NEW COVENANT BOOKSTORE

- Books
- Cards
- Videos
- Jewelry
-and more!

336-760-1673

304 Upton St.,
Winston-Salem, NC
www.newcovenantbookstore.com

AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles
Licensed & Insured
FREE ESTIMATES
www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185



Let stairs be our problem... not yours!

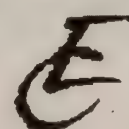
Ask about our Stairway lifts.

- Easily attached to steps (not walls)
- Folds out of the way
- Fits most stairways (straight & curved)
- Very affordable (rent or buy)
- We install

Chair & Equipment Rentals & Sales, Inc.

800 Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC • (800) 333-8431

Member of St. Thomas Aquinas



FROM THE COVER

Bishop Jugis celebrates Rite of Election

RITE, from page 1

catechumens and candidates to be introduced to Bishop Peter J. Jugis during the Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion at Holy Cross Church.

Each year, the Catholic Church welcomes tens of thousands of adults into full communion through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). Nearly 800 of these neophytes, or new Catholics, join the church in the Diocese of Charlotte annually.

RCIA is the rite in which adults undergo an intensive period of preparation to be baptized, confirmed and receive the Eucharist. RCIA was restored by the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s as the suitable way adults prepare to receive these sacraments.

Bishop Jugis has welcomed several hundred of these soon-to-be Catholics from the diocese at three rites taking place in the diocese this month.

During his homily at the rite at St. Michael Church in Gastonia March 5, the bishop addressed the catechumens and candidates, saying, "Lent is a season of repentance and conversion, and you, the elect and candidates, bring the whole church along with you through this season."

"God speaks to our hearts, calling us to come back to him, and he draws our hearts into his own heart, where we find mercy, forgiveness and love," Bishop Jugis said.

The rite of election consists of the official enrollment of the names of those unbaptized adults, or catechumens, who seek baptism at the Easter Vigil Mass. Adults who were baptized in other Christian faiths, or candidates, are also introduced to the bishop at this time.

On March 4, catechumens and

candidates from the eastern counties of the diocese participated in the rite at Holy Cross Church in Kernersville. Parishes from the western counties will gather March 11 at St. Eugene Church in Asheville.

The diocesan commission on the RCIA designed the liturgical celebrations for the Diocese of Charlotte.

A journey of faith

The rite of election and call to continuing conversion is one of several steps along the journey, following a period of discernment and study of the Catholic faith.

Before formally beginning the RCIA process, an inquirer considers his or her relationship with Jesus Christ and interest in joining the Catholic Church. This period is known as the period of evangelization and pre-catechumenate.

After discerning their desire to join the Catholic Church, the inquirers may decide to continue the process and enter the period of the catechumenate, when they study the history and practice of Catholicism. This stage can last for a few months or for as long as several years.

The third formal stage is the celebration of the sacraments of initiation, which occurs during the Easter Vigil Mass on Holy Saturday.

During the Mass, catechumens receive the sacraments of baptism, confirmation and Eucharist, and candidates are confirmed and receive the Eucharist. At this time, they become fully initiated members of the Catholic Church.

Following initiation at the Vigil Mass, a final period of formation and education continues in the stage known as mystagogy. During this period, which lasts until Pentecost or later, the neophytes reflect on the events of the Easter Vigil Mass and continue to learn more about the Scriptures, the sacraments and the teachings of the Catholic Church.



PHOTO BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY

Candidate Kirsten Cook; her husband, Alan; and their two children, Ethan and Lilli, from St. Leo the Great Church in Winston-Salem meet Bishop Peter J. Jugis after the Rite of Election at Holy Cross Church in Kernersville March 4.

Celebrating the call

In a continuing effort to reach out to the increasing number of Hispanics in the diocese, the Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion was celebrated in both English and Spanish.

The readings alternated between the two languages, and hymns were sung in both as well. Bishop Jugis completed his homily with a special welcome to the Hispanic participants in Spanish.

Bishop Jugis said the Rite of Election was a joyful celebration and the joy of all the participants was apparent.

"I was delighted as bishop to see such evidence of the work of the Holy Spirit throughout the diocese," said Bishop Jugis. "It was inspiring to see so many individuals wanting to celebrate the sacraments of initiation."

"The conversion and transformation of neophytes is essentially the work of the Holy Spirit and our first response to this increase is one of gratitude to God," said Cris Villapando, director of programs for diocesan faith formation.

"This is not to undercut the value of the works of the more than 1,200

presenters and sponsors in the diocese who assisted in stoking the embers of faith in these 'converts,'" he said.

In the Diocese of Charlotte, the RCIA ministry is currently undertaken by the Office of Faith Formation and is supported by funding from the annual Diocesan Support Appeal.

"I've spent most of my life trying to find the right 'spiritual path,'" said Palmer, who will be baptized, confirmed and receive first Communion at St. Paul the Apostle Church in Greensboro this Easter.

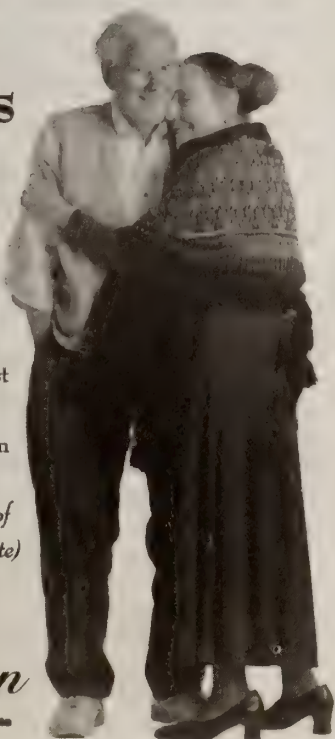
"I have finally found that in the Catholic Church," he said.



The Office of Faith Formation is one of the ministries supported by contributions to the Diocesan Support Appeal, an annual campaign in the Diocese of Charlotte that helps support 30 ministries that provide 50 programs. The 2006 DSA runs Feb. 4 to March 12.

Remember God's Will In Yours

You can take care of your family and your church through your will. You can express your commitment to your Church by making a bequest to the Diocese of Charlotte or to your parish. Simply have the following statement included in your will: "I leave to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte (or _____ parish, city) the sum of \$ _____ (or _____ percent of the residue of my estate) for its religious, educational and charitable works."



To receive the free booklet "Better Estate Planning" contact Judy Smith, Director of Planned Giving, 704-370-3320; 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203. jmsmith@charlottediocese.org.

Blessed Sacrament Academy is Honored to Welcome...



Fr. Mark S. Lawlor
Pastor
St. Vincent de Paul
Board of Directors



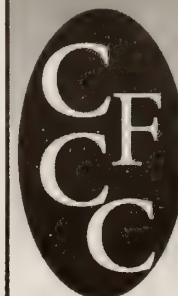
Mrs. Virginia
Stuhrenberg, M.Ed.
25 years experience K-12 CMS,
CPCC, St Vincent ESL
Principal



Mrs. Tamara Del Grosso
Current Interim Principal
Teaching Assistant
Principal

Matthews, NC * Grades K-8 * Member of NAPCIS
Independent of Charlotte diocesan schools.

Call us at 704-841-2292 or visit us on the web: www.blessedsacramentacademy.org



Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center

Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212

704-568-0023

www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma

Owner/Director

Privately, Locally Owned

Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus



CNS PHOTO BY FRANK J. METHE, CLARION HERALD

Parishioners at Mary Queen of Peace Church in Mandeville, La., sit in the crowded cry room during a Feb. 19 Mass.

Standing-room only Masses a sign of shifting New Orleans population

HOME, from page 1

offers a closed-circuit video feed to bring Mass to about 100 people in a community room adjacent to the main church who cannot fit inside its 550-seat worship space.

The community room is set up with folding chairs and has glass doors that people can use to enter to receive Communion. A sound system and

television set provide the liturgy live "so that the people are participating in the Mass and hearing and seeing everything that goes on," said Father Rodney Bourg, St. Luke Church pastor.

Slidell is north of New Orleans and near the north shore of Lake Pontchartrain. And like most other north shore parishes, St. Luke Church has experienced a 22 percent increase in Mass attendance in the last several months as displaced residents from various parts of New Orleans have migrated north to find

temporary or permanent homes.

St. Luke Church currently offers five weekend Masses, and Father Bourg said three of the four Sunday Masses are standing room only.

At Mary Queen of Peace Church in Mandeville, Father Ronald Calkins said while the parish officially had registered 150 new families in the four months after Katrina he knows there are many new churchgoers who have not yet registered.

"We are definitely seeing a lot more people in church," he said.

A common experience among north shore pastors, Father Calkins said, is that each week the congregation seems to be dotted with different people.

"I think that's maybe a sign of uncertainty in people's lives," he said. "They're moving around a lot and haven't really decided where they are going to settle in."

"One of our biggest challenges is to minister to the evacuees, and I have to say our parishioners have really stepped up to the plate," he said.

Mary Queen of Peace Church launched a Faith in Action Committee that handles a special outreach to evacuee families. The parish asked evacuees what their needs were, and they held job fairs and helped them find housing.

Mary Queen of Peace School, with a relatively small enrollment of 235 students before Katrina, took in 80 new students. Father Calkins said parishioners have opened their homes not only to relatives but also to strangers.

Msgr. Frank Giroir, pastor at St. Anselm Church in Madisonville, said his small, 300-seat church is packed for all

five weekend Masses. Even the benches that have been placed along the side aisles fill up.

The parish is planning for the construction of a new 850-seat church.

St. Peter Church in Covington officially has received 80 new evacuee families since Katrina, but coordinator of ministries Ruth Prats suspects many more have yet to register. The parish put together a task force of parishioners who keep in regular contact with the new families.

"Every two weeks we send them a letter or make a telephone call to let them know of some special events in the parish and to see how they're doing," said Prats, whose own home was destroyed in the storm.

"We've put chairs up and down the side aisles and in the back, and still people are standing," she said.

The north shore may get some relief from its crowded conditions with the planned establishment of a new church parish in the Mandeville area in June. Father Bourg will become pastor of the new Holy Trinity Church, which will take territory from St. Peter Church in Covington and three other area parishes.

"Holy Trinity is probably going to become a megaparish," Father Bourg said. "If it's not divided (in the future), it should easily be home to about 4,000 to 5,000 families."

As for the current elbow-to-elbow conditions, Father Bourg urges his parishioners to take it in stride.

"We understand why it's crowded," he said. "They know if they want to sit down, they've got to come early."

St. Thomas Aquinas Academy



Opening August 2006
in Asheville, N.C.

(Convenient to the Basilica of St. Lawrence,
the Pack Library, the YMCA and I-240)

The first mountain high school for Catholics in 30 years!

How can a small high school offer Catholics a better education?

- ✓ Moral formation of students our priority!
- ✓ Master's-prepared, experienced Catholic teachers!
- ✓ Small classes, individual attention!
- ✓ Classical curriculum: the *best* method for training young minds for great things!
- ✓ Students read the great books and original historical sources!
- ✓ Science, great art, classical music!
- ✓ Founding students have active roles in school formation!

Plus: field trips, fun activities, Shakespeare Olympics, athletics, socialization with like-minded peers, and much, much more!

We have already enrolled students and hired full-time faculty!
Accepting applications for the ninth, tenth and eleventh grades!

Scholarships available!

Join us! 828-687-7714

www.stthomasaquinasacademy.org

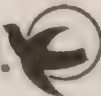
Member - National Association of Private Catholic Independent Schools
St. Thomas Aquinas Academy is a private school, independent of the Charlotte diocesan school system.

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels. 

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooreville
704-663-1065

INSIDE THE CURIA

Concerned with consecration

Vatican official: Spiritual reform must begin with religious orders

BY JOHN THAVIS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE



VATICAN CITY — Pope Benedict XVI is seeking to revitalize the faith life of the church, a “spiritual reform” that must begin with the world’s men and women religious, said Archbishop Franc Rode, head of the Vatican office that oversees religious orders.

That means religious congregations must take stock, recover their “apostolic dynamism” and shed the excessive secularism of the post-Second Vatican Council period, Archbishop Rode said.

Archbishop Rode, prefect of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, spoke with Catholic News Service about the challenges facing religious life and the directions being set under Pope Benedict.

After the CNS interview, Pope Benedict named Archbishop Rode a cardinal Feb. 22; he is to be elevated March 24.

The 71-year-old Slovenian, a member of the Vincentian order, said the vitality of religious orders has always been essential for spiritual reform in the church.

“Throughout the history of the church, religious orders and congregations were always the ones pushing forward, bringing dynamism and a call for holiness. They were always on the front lines,” he said.

For that reason, the “in-depth reform of consecrated life” is one of Pope Benedict’s goals, as it was for Pope John Paul II, he said.

Fresh energy

For some congregations, such a reform will include the recovery of their original charism and the refocusing of apostolic energy, the archbishop said.

Since the Second Vatican Council, he said, some orders have abandoned their traditional fields of apostolate, only to lose themselves in uselessness or unproductive activities. The result is

Editor’s note: This is the third of an occasional series based on interviews with heads of Vatican offices. The articles describe the work of the agencies and the main challenges they face and briefly profile the people who head them.

stagnation, he said.

Archbishop Rode said he’s already seeing signs that the church is responding to the challenge with fresh energy and new forms of religious life.

He said he met with the pope in January to present a list of 25 requests for pontifical approval from new religious congregations and secular institutes. They shared some key characteristics, including the wearing of a religious habit as a visible sign of identity, significant time reserved for daily prayer, and an emphasis on fraternal and community life.

“Far from the kind of dispersion that was widespread after the council, they are taking great care to promote cohesion of the religious community,” he said.

“The pendulum is swinging from, shall we say, a secularist euphoria back toward a certain severity. But note that this is not an imposed severity — these young people want it and demand it,” he said.

Expanding horizons

Another positive sign that’s receiving considerable Vatican attention is the growth of lay movements, many of which are tied to religious orders for their spiritual formation.

For example, the Legionaries of Christ, with about 600 priests, has a companion lay movement of more than 60,000 men, women and families.

This type of lay-religious cooperation is not entirely new in the church, but there’s been a significant flowering in recent years, Archbishop Rode said.

“They are attracting a lot of people. They are really mass movements that grow through spontaneous communication and the enthusiasm of their members,” he said.

An associated phenomenon is the birth of new forms of religious life, institutes whose various branches may include men who are ordained, men who take vows, women who take vows and families. So far, six of these institutes have received pontifical approval, Archbishop Rode said.

The form is so new that the Vatican is not sure which department should oversee them — Archbishop Rode’s congregation or the Pontifical Council for the Laity; most likely, an interdepartmental commission will have to be created.

“All this demonstrates the great vitality of the Catholic Church. New things



CNS PHOTO BY ALES SIA GIULIANI, CATHOLIC PRESS PHOTO

Archbishop Franc Rode, prefect of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, speaks Sept. 27 during a symposium on consecrated life at the Vatican. Archbishop Rode said that Pope Benedict XVI is seeking to revitalize the faith life of the church and that this must begin with the world’s religious orders taking stock and recovering their “apostolic dynamism.”

are continually springing forth,” he said.

Global picture

Archbishop Rode was named prefect of the congregation in 2004. He heads a staff of 40 people, most of them men and women religious, who closely follow the life and work of religious institutes on every continent.

The archbishop said the global picture of religious life is quite diverse. In Western Europe, the United States and Canada, the statistics are frankly depressing, he said.

In Canada, for example, he said it is “mathematically certain” that, if things do not change, by the year 2040 the majority of existing religious congregations will disappear. He said that would be a shame, considering the important role of religious orders in Canada’s history.

To illustrate the situation in the United States, the archbishop pointed to the two conferences of women’s major superiors — the Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious, considered more traditional, and the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, which he said “goes more in the direction of secularization.”

The archbishop said that, according to the information reaching him, the more traditional council accounts for the vast majority of new vocations, although their membership comprises only 10 percent of the women religious in the United States.

He said the real increases in religious vocations are coming in the Third World, as “Catholicism moves toward the South and toward the East.”

Asia has enjoyed a boom in vocations, up about 40 percent in recent years, he said.

If China loosens restrictions on church activity, that number could skyrocket, he said.

Among religious orders, he said, “everyone is more or less preparing for this, either in neighboring countries or already inside China.”

“Certainly the church is aware that it wants to be ready for the day China opens up. The church is awaiting this

moment and preparing for it,” he said.

Archbishop Rode said Africa has witnessed a tremendous increase in religious vocations, but with the higher numbers have come “huge problems.” At present, the Vatican is carefully studying the situation there.

“The error, if one can speak of error, is that we simply transported our structures of formation and programs of study to Africa. But they are not appropriate to the situation in Africa, to the African person,” he said.

He said it was not that Africans were less suitable for religious vocations, but that formation needs to be tailored to the cultural, economic and psychological situation of Africans.

Ongoing challenges

Across the globe, Archbishop Rode said, the challenge facing religious orders is to move away from relativist and secularist currents toward greater “evangelical authenticity.”

He said this means rejecting misinterpretations of Vatican II, as Pope Benedict said in his talk to Roman Curia officials in December.

Above all, religious must not understand the council as “an invitation to go uncritically toward the world,” the archbishop said.

He said education remains an important field for religious. The shrinking of some religious orders and the loss of their teaching apostolate has had severe repercussions, he said.

In France, for example, for centuries the country’s leaders typically passed through church-run schools and thus had familiarity and at least cultural appreciation of the faith.

“Today we see the emergence of a generation of politicians or cultural leaders who are completely ignorant of the Christian tradition,” Archbishop Rode said.

He said that while it is unlikely that older religious orders can return to teaching on a large scale, he thinks some of the new congregations and institutes will recognize the importance of education and make it their primary field of activity.

MARY KAY®

give
the girls
a call.

Looking for a fun way to enjoy a little girl time? Plan a Mary Kay party! Invite your girlfriends. Enjoy free makeovers. Exchange beauty tips. It’s a beautiful way to bond! Call me to schedule the fun.

Mention this ad for
15% off web site orders!

Meredith Magyar

Independent Beauty Consultant
www.marykay.com/meredith126
704-236-4839

Israel-Palestine peace still possible, U.S. religious leaders say

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Clergy representing different branches of Christianity, Judaism and Islam at a Feb. 28 press conference reiterated a message they have delivered before: They believe peace can be achieved between Israel and Palestine, even now with the victory of the militant Islamic group Hamas in January's Palestinian parliamentary elections.

In a Feb. 13 letter to President George W. Bush, the clergy, who are members of the National Interreligious Leadership Initiative for Peace in the Middle East, urged Bush to "let Palestinians and Israelis know now that, following the formation of their new governments, you and your administration will work with determination and urgency to achieve peace."

Following the press conference, some members of the clergy group, including Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick of Washington, met with Karen Hughes, undersecretary of state for public diplomacy and public affairs, to press their case.

Cardinal McCarrick told Catholic News Service the next day that the interfaith group "made our point" in a brief, cordial meeting with Hughes. "We asked them to stay with the 'road map,'" he said. "Now is not the time to let go."

The road map, supported by the religious leaders, calls for a "permanent, two-state solution" to reach an Israeli-Palestinian peace. The road map, developed in 2002, was to be monitored by the United States, the United Nations, the European Community and Russia.

Its phases include: ending terror and violence and normalizing Palestinian life; making the transition to an independent Palestinian state; and reaching an agree-



Israel and the Palestinian territories.

ment on permanent status for Palestine and ending Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The original timeline had all of the phases completed by 2005.

"Things have changed in the Holy Land, but that's all the more reason to stay with the road map," Cardinal McCarrick told CNS March 1.

The group also sent letters to each member of Congress Feb. 15, noting that the clergy had urged the Bush administration, among other things, to "press for an immediate, comprehensive and lasting cease-fire" and "appoint an on-the-ground special envoy to manage and monitor negotiations."

They added the religious leaders were "committed to work with their congregations across the country to urge bipartisan congressional support" for "active, fair and firm U.S. leadership for Israeli-Palestinian peace."

POPULATION OF THE HOLY LAND

The total population in the Holy Land, including the West Bank and Gaza, is approximately 8.6 million.

- 4.7 million are Israeli
- 3.9 million are Muslim
- 150,000-160,000 are Christian

In the 1950s, Christians represented 25 percent of the population. Today, Christians account for less than 2 percent.

Christians in Jerusalem:

- In 1944: 29,000 Christians.
- In 1967: 13,000 Christians.
- In 2003: fewer than 10,000 Christians among a population of 600,000 people

Bethlehem: In the late 1960s, 80 percent of the population was Christian and 20 percent was Muslim. Today, it is 91 percent

Muslim and 9 percent Christian.

Ramallah: In the 1970s, the Christian population was 60,000. Today it is fewer than 5,000.

Church leaders predict that if the current exodus continues, Christianity could easily cease to exist in the Holy Land within 60 years.

FOREIGN IMMIGRANTS:

In 2002, 200,000 foreign workers replaced Palestinians who were kept from their places of employment by strict city and border "closures."

Palestinian workers average 8-9 dependents. The loss of employment for Palestinians because of foreign immigrant workers, thereby affects approximately 1 million people.

Source: FFHL

'They have no major resources or organizations helping them, and Hardships prompting Christians

LAND, from page 1

Palestinian Christian minority living in the Holy Land. He spoke to congregations at St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte Feb. 18-19.

Approximately 150,000 Christians currently live in the Holy Land. Only 11,000 Christians live in Jerusalem, a city of more than 600,000 citizens.

"Holy Land" is a religious term for the region east of the Mediterranean Sea that is sacred, in varying degrees, to Christianity, Judaism and Islam. Geographically, it corresponds to the modern state of Israel, and the Palestinian and occupied territories.

Christians living in the area that was known in biblical times as Palestine are known as Palestinian Christians.

"In 1900, 13.2 percent of the population in the Holy Land was Christian," Father Vasko said. "Today it's less than two percent in Israel, including the West Bank and Gaza."

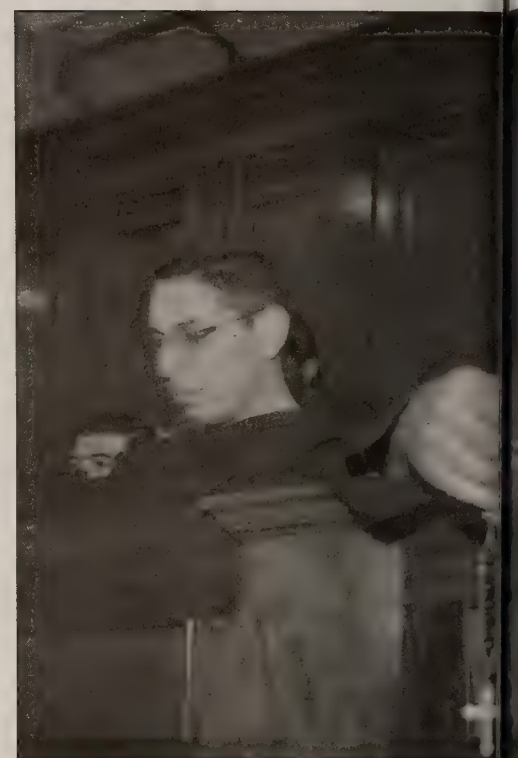
Thirty-five years ago, the population of Bethlehem was 80 percent Christian and 20 percent Muslim. Today, the city of Christ's birth is 91 percent Muslim and nine percent Christian.

For these Christians trapped in a hostile environment of ethnic distrust, the Franciscan foundation is the only organized voice for justice and positive change, said Father Vasko.

No reason to stay

According to the foundation's Web site, inadequate housing, high unemployment and greatly reduced educational opportunities are causing widespread suffering and a mass exodus of the Christian population from the Holy Land.

The goal of the foundation is to raise \$30 million to create job opportunities for Christians by providing training for



Franciscan Father Peter Vasko (left) of New York's St. Savior Church in Jerusalem's Old City Market Square. He is with the Franciscan Foundation for the Holy Land, which serves the needs of the Palestinian Christian minority living in the Holy Land.

positions in schools, churches, parish centers and medical facilities; and by providing academic scholarships for talented but underprivileged Christian students.

As of December 2002, the foundation has given more than 60 scholarships and four educational grants amounting to \$1 million.

The foundation is also building 500 subsidized housing units for Christian families and restoring the tomb of Jesus in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem.

GET A LOW RATE BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

30-Year Fixed:

5.75%

As mortgage brokers, we work with a variety of lenders to find the best loan and rates for your needs & goals!

Jayne McGonnell
Parishioner of St. Thomas Aquinas
704.549.4600 x1028
877.402.4600 (tollfree)
704.516.9682 (cell)

NEW WORLD MORTGAGE
A Lender For Life
1989 Lender Since 2010
Charlotte, NC 28203

Debra Young
Parishioner of St. Matthew
704.549.4600 x1027
877.402.4600 (tollfree)
704.771.8251 (cell)

Rates subject to change. Certain restrictions on loan size apply. APR varies on loan placement.

Start the New Semester at the Top of the Class

CAMDEN LEARNING CENTER™
is a personalized educational center offering specialized tutoring for all ages in:

Reading • Phonics
Written Language • Math
Study Skills
SAT/ACT Preparation

Let Camden help.

Felicia Susi, Owner/Director
Parishioner, St. Matthew Catholic Church
& Parent, St. Matthew Catholic School student

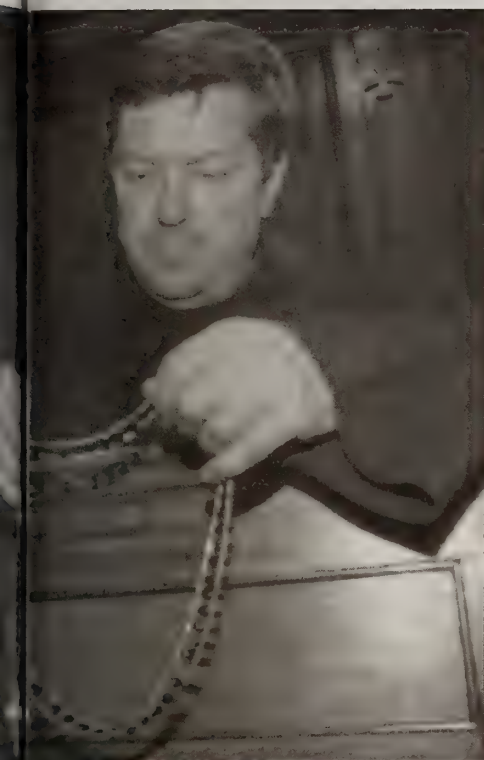
South Charlotte
(704) 752-4234
www.camdenlearningcenter.com

CAMDEN LEARNING CENTER™
The Academic Edge™

HOLY LAND

are the ones who are leaving.'

ists to abandon Holy Land



CNS PHOTO BY DEBBIE HILL

the rosary for peace in the Middle East at 2003. Father Vasko is the president of the whose is to safeguard the basic human rights of the Holy Land.

Caught in the middle

For the last 40 years, Palestinian Christians have been caught in the middle of an intense religious and ethnic power struggle.

"The Israeli government looks upon them as Palestinians, therefore the enemy," Father Vasko said. "To Muslims, they're traitors and pro-West."

The United States provides aid money to the Israeli government and to the Palestinian Authority, but none of this money goes to Palestinian Christians, Father Vasko said.

"They have no major resources or organizations helping them, and they are the ones who are leaving," he said. "We're trying to provide motivations and incentives for our young Christians to stay."

More hardships were inflicted on all

Palestinians with the construction of the 480-mile barrier across Israel. Although it was built to keep both Israelis and Palestinians safe, 320,000 people lost their jobs because they can no longer cross the border to their jobs into major cities. A great many of those affected are Christian, said Father Vasko.

A relative peace

Despite persistent violence throughout much of the Middle East, Father Vasko said members of the three faiths — Judaism, Christianity and Islam — live in relative peace in the Holy Land.

"There really is no persecution of one religion against the other," Father Vasko said.

Rather, the violence is politically based.

"The political situation has polarized the people against one another," he said. "If we don't do something soon, we could have no one visiting our religious monuments and museums or worshipping at our churches."

Father Vasko said that, despite what people might read and see in the news, it is quite safe to visit the Holy Land.

"All the holy sites of Christendom are in East Jerusalem," he said. The attacks that do take place occur in the Jewish section of West Jerusalem.

"When you go on pilgrimage, you're coming to seek the Lord," said Father Vasko. "I've led pilgrimages in the Holy Land for 21 years, and there's never been even one pilgrim who has been the victim of an attack."

Father Vasko said the Catholics of North Carolina can help Palestinian Christians by praying for peace among the three religions of the Holy Land.

Christians in the Holy Land need to know that their western counterparts care about what happens to them, Father Vasko said.

"Palestinian Christians feel invisible to the West," said Father Vasko. "By coming to the Holy Land, you're giving them economic and moral support."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

Working together to enlighten faith



CNS PHOTO BY DEBBIE HILL

Franciscan Brother Matheis Lopez watches a Palestinian man pour oil into a lantern in the grotto of the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, West Bank, Dec. 19, 2004 near the spot traditionally held to be the birthplace of Jesus.

THE HOLY LAND

ECONOMICS:

- The politically motivated "closures" of the West Bank and Gaza to the remainder of Israel have a strong negative impact on the Palestinian economy. Millions of dollars in revenue are lost every day within the West Bank and Gaza because Israel controls all the borders and prevents imports or exports from coming into or going out of these regions.
- In 2002, unemployment among Palestinians, largely due to forced closures and travel restrictions enacted by the Israeli government, reached 60 percent in Gaza and 50 percent in the West Bank.
- The average income for Israelis in the Holy Land is \$25,000-\$26,000 per year.
- The average income for Palestinians in the Holy Land is \$4,000-\$6,000 per year.
- The majority of Palestinians live in the West Bank and East Jerusalem.
- Most of the Christians living in the Holy Land are of Palestinian descent. Though they are blameless bystanders to the Muslim-Israeli conflict, Palestinian Christians are severely handicapped by the political side effects of aggression on both sides. The fact that there are currently thousands of Christians in the Holy Land whose way of life is threatened is not commonly known in the United States and Western countries.
- 65 percent of Palestinians live below the poverty level, i.e. under \$3,000 per year, affecting two out of three Palestinians, of which three percent are Christian.
- Currently, 50 percent of Palestinian men and 85 percent of Palestinian women are unemployed.

FOREIGN AID:

- Israel received \$6 billion in foreign aid in 2001 (\$3 billion in foreign aid and \$3 billion in additional U.S. government assistance in public and private sectors). This total breaks down into \$15.5 million per day, 365 days a year.
- In 2001-2002 the Palestinian Authority received international aid total in \$2.1 billion. None of this aid reaches the outnumbered and previously unspoken-for Christian minority population.

Source: FFHL



Featuring Blue Diamond Exclusively

Malak Jewelers

At the Arboretum (St. Matthew parishioners)

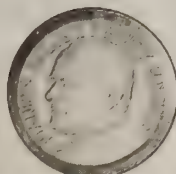
We extend to you the very finest in Jewelry and Service...

Largest Selection - Best Quality & Prices Guaranteed

Certified Loose Diamonds
Platinum, Gold, Fine Jewelry
Sterling silver and watches
Estate Jewelry - Buy & Sell

26 years of Integrity and Experience!

(704) 341-1188 www.malakjewelers.com
8042-800 Providence Rd., Charlotte



Now featuring special
sterling silver medallion
of Pope John Paul II -
complimentary with
purchases over \$50
(one per purchase)

The Catholic Company™

Just in!

First Communion Gifts

Catholic Shop @ St. Matthew Catholic Church • New Life Center, Rm. 104
Corner of Rea Rd. and Ballantyne Commons Parkway - Charlotte, NC

Hours:
Monday-Friday 9-3
Sunday 10-2

704-927-4313
(Call for info or directions)

Bring in this ad for 15% off
your purchase.

(Not valid on "sale" items.)

Exp. 3/31/06

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Uncovering the story

Minnesota teen's book aims to give voice to Muslim women

BY CHRISTINA CAPECCHI
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ST. PAUL, Minn. — In February 2005, when most teen girls were hoping for roses or chocolates, 17-year-old Chiara Kovarik received her dream valentine: the acceptance of her book manuscript by a Minneapolis publishing company.

The teen stands out from her peers in many ways, including the subject she chose to explore in her 174-page book, "Interviews With Muslim Women of Pakistan."

"Most young adult books focus on teen body image or dating tips," Kovarik said.

Her book offers a fresh perspective on a nation that became a partner in the war on terror.

Kovarik, a senior at Convent of the Visitation School in Mendota Heights, spent a month in Pakistan in the summer 2001. The then-13-year-old found herself fascinated by the Muslim women she encountered.

"I'd gone with the typical ideas that the women were oppressed and they're all covered up and they don't have the right to speak, and I was finding that a lot of those previous notions I had were not true, or at least were a bit skewed in the way they had been presented to me," said Kovarik.

Kovarik, a parishioner of St. John Neumann Church in Eagan, wanted to correct misconceptions about the Muslim women and to amplify their voices. Thus began the challenging process of conducting interviews.

Many women declined Kovarik's interview request, and even after some agreed, she still had to obtain an OK from a male relative in each case. More than half of the men said no.

But despite obstacles, Kovarik persisted, eventually setting up 10 interviews.

There was still a language barrier to surmount, as well as some of the men insisting upon being present to answer for the women or dismiss their responses. But with a translator and plenty of patience, Kovarik gathered the information she wanted.

She asked the women 10 questions, including how their lives differed from their mothers' and grandmothers'. Today, Muslim women have significantly better medical and educational access and more jobs, Kovarik learned.

She also asked about the women's priorities, a tough question to raise because it was so personal. Every woman ranked religion as No. 1, with family and friends coming second.

Kovarik also asked the women how they felt about being Muslim, being women and their expected gender roles.

"None expressed regrets," she said. "Many said they didn't feel oppressed, although they did realize that more



CNS PHOTO BY DAVE HRBACEK, THE CATHOLIC SPIRIT

Chiara Kovarik, a high school senior, wears a Muslim outfit called a "shalwar kameez" that she bought in Pakistan. The 17-year-old, who spent a month in Pakistan, has written a book titled "Interviews With Muslim Women of Pakistan."

changes need to occur regarding women's rights. They were very optimistic that things would improve, at least for their children's generation."

The Muslim women in turn asked Kovarik about her Catholic faith and her life as an American teen. The younger ones inquired about American dating norms.

"Some seemed to think that all the women in the United States are like Paris Hilton," Kovarik said. "I tried to convince them that we're not like that at all."

Of course, she understood that the stereotype came from TV, confirming a lesson both she and the Muslim women learned: One must seek sources outside the media for the whole story.

Just weeks after Kovarik returned from Pakistan, the Sept. 11 attacks occurred, heightening the significance of the teen's interviews. She contacted every Muslim woman again, asking about the impact of terrorism on them.

"They were as shocked and horrified as we were," Kovarik said. "They kept stressing that Islam does not in any way condone the terrorists' actions, and they really wanted people to know that."

Though her endeavor began as an intellectual one, it became spiritual in nature, too. "Seeing how these women integrate their faith made me want to stimulate my faith," she said.

Kovarik hopes her book will compel readers to strive for something she has been practicing.

"These women have taught me that you really can't judge a book by the cover. You have to dig deeper," she said.

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: MARCH 19, 2006

March 19, Third
Sunday of Lent

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Exodus 20:1-17
Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11
- 2) 1 Corinthians 1:22-25
- 3) Gospel: John 2:13-25

Sacrilege won't
defeat message,
power of Jesus

BY JEAN DENTON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Some weeks ago the news was rife with incidents of sacrilege — specifically in the Muslim world where Iraq's rival Shiite and Sunni sects traded destructive attacks on one another's mosques. This occurred just days after scores died in rioting over what many considered blasphemous cartoon depictions of the prophet Muhammad.

The Christian world witnessed a string of church burnings in Alabama. At a university near where I live, some students were up in arms over a disrespectful characterization of Jesus-at-college in a comic strip in an online campus magazine.

These aren't new trends. Years ago there was an uproar over a famously unflattering portrayal of the crucifixion in a publicly funded artistic work, and

Jesus was satirized on "Saturday Night Live" and, some thought, cast in a not-so-divine light in the book and movie "The Last Temptation of Christ."

People of faith tend to be offended — and many are moved to action — when their God is profaned or treated with irreverence.

Today's Gospel suggests that Jesus, too, reacted strongly to such shameful treatment of the sacred. He drove the salespeople and money changers out of the temple with an admonition against destroying its holy purpose by making it a marketplace.

Jesus' action tells us how he views the exploitation and misuse of the places where God dwells, which one assumes would include the poor and oppressed as well as other human "temples."

We should share his zeal for these temples by showing respect for God's presence there. But this passage reminds me of a remark I heard a bishop make once in a private conversation.

"I always hate to hear the stories of someone going into a burning church to rescue the Blessed Sacrament," he said. "They're going to save Jesus? From what?"

Destroy the temple, vandalize the holy places and symbols, mock his name and message, even exploit God's beloved people — the damage won't hold. Jesus won't die; he won't stay down.

He always will rise, and the fact that he will rise up for our sake demands respect and awe. But we should remember that Jesus saves us — we don't save him.

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 12-18

Sunday (Second Sunday of Lent), Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18, Romans 8:31-34, Mark 9:2-10; **Monday (Lenten Weekday)**, Daniel 9:4-10, Luke 6:36-38; **Tuesday (Lenten Weekday)**, Isaiah 1:10, 16-20, Matthew 23:1-12; **Wednesday (Lenten Weekday)**, Jeremiah 18:18-20, Matthew 20:17-28; **Thursday (Lenten Weekday)**, Jeremiah 17:5-10, Luke 16:19-31; **Friday (St. Patrick)**, Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13, 17-28, Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46; **Saturday (St. Cyril of Alexandria)**, Micah 7:14-15, 18-20, Luke 15:1-3, 11-32.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 19-25

Sunday (Third Sunday of Lent), Exodus 20:1-17, 1 Corinthians 1:22-25, John 2:13-25; **Monday (St. Joseph)**, 2 Samuel 7:4-5, 12-14, 16, Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22, Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24; **Tuesday (Lenten Weekday)**, Daniel 3:25, 34-43, Matthew 18:21-35; **Wednesday (Lenten Weekday)**, Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9, Matthew 5:17-19; **Thursday (St. Toribio de Mogrovejo)**, Jeremiah 7:23-28, Luke 11:14-23; **Friday (Lenten Weekday)**, Hosea 14:2-10, Mark 12:28-34; **Saturday (The Annunciation of the Lord)**, Isaiah 7:10-14, Hebrews 10:4-10, Luke 1:26-38.

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



BIG BOOK SALE NOW
at the Monroe Road location!

- Unique gifts & cards
- Books, rosaries, medals
- Previously read book section (at Lake Norman)
- Video rentals
- Artwork

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205



Construction has begun and we're on our way!

It's a new year, full of resolution and hope for the future. It's also a new beginning at Pennybryn at Maryfield, for you and your retirement future. Construction has started on what will be the area's most sought-after retirement address. Don't hesitate to inquire about this enriching lifestyle offering unparalleled services and amenities as well as the security of on-site health care. Soon, Pennybryn will be a reality—a new beginning for you and your retirement future—act now!

Call (336) 886-4103 or toll-free (866) 627-9343 to learn more about the exciting developments at Pennybryn at Maryfield.

PENNYBYRN
at MARYFIELD
A Continuing Care Retirement Community

Sponsored by the Sisters of The Poor Servants of The Mother of God

1315 Greensboro Road, High Point, NC 27260
www.maryfieldliving.org



NPC/NH-Groundbreaking

This 'Shaggy' is for the dogs



CNS PHOTO BY DISNEY

Tim Allen stars in "The Shaggy Dog," a lame reworking of the 1959 Disney comedy, incorporating elements of its 1976 follow-up, about a workaholic Los Angeles deputy district attorney (Allen) who, while trying a case involving a sinister scientist (Robert Downey Jr.), is bitten by a mutt and soon finds himself turning into one. This leads to nutty canine complications with his neglected wife (Kristin Davis) and two teenage children.

Even Allen's comic dexterity can't make this dog of a film hunt, resulting in slapstick silliness that is strictly for the pups.

Some mildly crude humor and comic violence. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-I — general patronage.

The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

CCC offers Lenten retreats in English, Spanish on radio

WASHINGTON (CNS) — For people too busy to go on a Lenten retreat, they may want to take their retreat via the radio or the Internet.

Franciscan Radio developed a series of six half-hour programs in English and six in Spanish for the Catholic Communication Campaign, the U.S. bishops' mass-media ministry that develops media programming, projects and resources.

The CCC has made the retreat programs available to radio stations, but for those who cannot find the programs on their local stations, the series is also available on the Web at: www.radioretreat.org.

The programs, hosted by Elia Castillo, feature a bishop as a retreat guide and homilist. Different bishops were lined up for each of the English and Spanish programs, except for the Third Sunday of Lent, when Bishop Gerald R. Barnes of San Bernardino, Calif., is to deliver both the English and Spanish homilies.

Each show features a sung version of the Our Father, a song for meditations and a question-and-answer segment with the bishop on his homily theme, plus a wrap-up from host Castillo and a blessing from the bishop.

The first of the programs was to be available both over the air and on the Web Ash Wednesday, March 1. The Web site will have retreat programs

archived for retreatants to catch up on any individual programs they missed.

The Web site will contain descriptions of each program, background information on the bishops, and links to other Lenten spiritual resources. The programs can be downloaded as MP3 files for podcast or personal use.

Pat Ryan Garcia, executive producer and CCC director of distribution, said the idea for the radio retreats was sparked by U.S. Archbishop John P. Foley, head of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications.

In 2004, in an address to the U.S. bishops' communications committee, "Archbishop Foley suggested ways of outreach and evangelization that might take advantage of the increased interest in using the media for spiritual assistance, including radio retreats," Garcia said in a statement.

John Feister, Franciscan Radio's coordinator of the project, said in a statement, "The English and Spanish versions are culturally tuned for their audience. ... We think this is inspiring programming for any radio station that seeks an uplifting message for the weeks before Easter."

Franciscan Radio is a ministry of the Franciscans and St. Anthony Messenger Press.

Classifieds

SERVICES

COUNSELING SERVICES: Individuals. Couples. Family. Lucille Moses, BSN, M.Ed. North Carolina Licensed Professional Counselor. 1801 East 5th Street, 108-B, Charlotte. 704-366-6507 or 704-942-4334.

COUNSELING SERVICES: With a faith perspective. Elizabeth Pantas, MA-Ed., LPC. Individual - Group - Marriage. (828) 628-4621. Parishioner of Basilica of St. Lawrence, Asheville.

FOR RENT

NEW LAKE LURE CABIN: Stay while touring the HGTV Dream Home! 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished. Off-season rates. 828-299-3714.

Classified ads bring results! Over 135,000 readers! Over 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

Licensed Clinical Social Worker

Licensed Clinical Social Worker needed for small, non-denominational Christian non-profit agency operating programs for homeless, single, pregnant women and single mothers with children. Job responsibilities include: providing case management and counseling services for clients; supervising residential staff; and rotating on-call duties.

Minimum requirements: To be considered for the position, applicant must be a licensed clinical social worker, have a MSW and 5 years of human service experience. Must possess mature judgment, be able to work independently and be detail oriented.

Preferred: Experience working with pregnant women, homeless clients and knowledge of Guilford County resources. Fluency in Spanish, experience with Medicaid billing issues and HIPAA requirements are helpful.

The job is full-time on Monday through Friday with rotating on-call duties. Competitive salary is negotiable and based on experience. Health, dental and life insurance benefits as well as generous vacation and sick time are offered. Position to begin on March 31st. Interested parties should send resume and salary requirements to Room At The Inn of the Triad, Post Office Box 29584, Greensboro, NC 27429 or fax to (336) 275-9522. No phone calls, please.

Principal - Holy Redeemer Catholic School

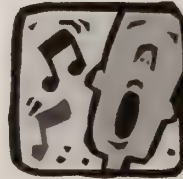
The Archdiocese of Atlanta seeks a principal for Holy Redeemer Catholic School. The principal is the administrator and educational leader of this elementary School, including students, faculty, and staff; and is accountable for implementation of the mission of Catholic education in the School. **MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES:** provide leadership and manage School staff; develop long- and short-range plans for the School; provide communication and support for teachers, students, chaplains, pastors, and boards; mentor and provide mediation and conflict resolution among staff, students, and external sources; represent the Archdiocese in matters related to the School; and assure compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws and codes. **REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE:** Active membership in a Catholic parish; degree in education or a related field; state endorsement in teaching and school administration or eligibility for endorsement; central educational office experience preferred; teaching, administrative and supervisory experience; participative management style; excellent interpersonal, written, and verbal communication skills; strong supervisory and managerial skills; some travel required.

TO APPLY: Send resume, transcripts, licenses and other credentials, references, and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811-5018
Email: mruprecht@cpinternet.com
Telephone: 218-727-5150



You could be singing too after more than 135,000 readers see YOUR company's ad here!



LOW ad rates - easy for small businesses and individuals, too!

Call (704) 370-3332 now!
or ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org

THE CATHOLIC
NEWS & HERALD

PRINCIPAL

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Principal of St. Thomas More School, a practicing Catholic, is the administrator and educational leader of St. Thomas More of the Archdiocese of Atlanta with approximately 500 students and approximately 40 faculty and staff. Appointed by the Archbishop and reporting to the Chancellor, the Principal is accountable to the Archbishop through the Chancellor, for implementation of the mission of Catholic education in St. Thomas More School. The Principal is also responsible for providing leadership and managing the School staff; mentoring and providing mediation and conflict resolution among staff, students, and external sources; developing long and short range plans for the grade School; providing communication and support for teachers, students, chaplains, pastors, and boards; representing the Archdiocese in matters related to St. Thomas More School; and assuring compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws and codes. Some travel required. Send resume, credentials, references and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht,
140 West Myrtle Street,
Duluth, MN 55811-5018
Telephone 218-727-5150
E-mail mruprecht@cpinternet.com



Superintendent - Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta seeks a superintendent of schools. In cooperation with Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory, the superintendent is the chief administrator and educational leader of 18 Catholic schools, being responsible for their overall spiritual and academic quality, in keeping with the Archbishop's vision and the Church's mission. **MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES:** managing the Office of Catholic Schools and its staff; developing long- and short-range plans for schools; providing direction and support for local school leadership, pastors, religious congregations, principals, and boards; recruiting, hiring, supervising, and supporting principals; representing the Archdiocese in matters of education; creating, monitoring, updating, and enforcing archdiocesan policies; and ensuring compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws and codes. **REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE:** Active membership in a Catholic parish; doctorate degree in education or a related field; state endorsement in teaching and school administration or eligibility for endorsement; five to ten years' recent experience in Catholic schools or at the diocesan level; participative management style; excellent interpersonal, written, and verbal communication skills; excellent managerial skills with attention to detail. Some travel required.

TO APPLY: Send resume, transcripts, licenses and other credentials, references, and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811-5018
Email: mruprecht@cpinternet.com
Telephone: 218-727-5150



FROM THE COVER

Deacons recommit to ministry

DEACONS, from page 1

to renew our ordination vows," said Deacon Andrew Cilone, director of deacons for the Hickory region and permanent deacon at Immaculate Conception Church in Forest City.

In the Catholic Church, the diaconate is the first of three ranks in ordained ministry. From about the fifth century until the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s, it was used in the Latin rite almost exclusively to describe the final stage in preparation for ordination to the priesthood.

The council decreed that the

diaconate also could be restored as a permanent and separate rank in the Latin rite and that married men may be ordained to this rank. Pope Paul VI restored the permanent diaconate in 1967.

Like the diocesan priests, who recommit themselves to the bishop at the chrism Mass during Holy Week each year, the permanent deacons gather for a similar recommitment Mass.

"This comes at an appropriate time during the Lenten season, when we are renewing our spiritual life as well," said Deacon Cilone. "At the same time, we are renewing our own profession of faith that we accepted at baptism to reject Satan and all his empty promises."

In his homily, Bishop Jugis likened

the deacons' call to ministry to the call of the first disciples from their positions in the marketplace.

"Follow me' is the summons of Lent ... a command to draw close to him and he will draw close to you ... in order to turn us from sin," said Bishop Jugis. "Follow me' is also spoken to all of us in the ordained ministry. Jesus is the love of our life, the joy of our soul, who must be followed willingly."

"Where the Lord is, there we also will be," said the bishop. "I thank all deacons for being where the Lord is. I thank your families for helping make your ordained ministry shine."

Because Christ chose to identify himself with sinners, said Bishop Jugis, "salvation is the primary mission of the church ... to help our brothers and sisters come to eternal life."

This mission of salvation is helped through the deacons' ministry at the altar, he said, where the "food of salvation, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, is given to hungry souls."

"The Eucharist is the life of the parish ... the life of the church, which animates everything else," said Bishop Jugis. "May the Lord make your ministry shine with the light of the risen Christ."

"For me, Lent is a time for sinners. It is a new beginning, a recommitment to the bishop, and a time for renewal," said Deacon David King, permanent deacon at Our Lady of the Highways Church in Thomasville.

"The Catholic Church gives us this time every year to renew and recommit ourselves," said Deacon King. "For this, I am grateful."



PHOTO BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY

Bishop Peter J. Jugis talks with Deacon James Hamrlik of St. Matthew Church in Charlotte and Deacon Jesus Reyes of Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Monroe after the deacons' annual commitment Mass at St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte March 4.



The permanent diaconate is one of the ministries supported by contributions to the Diocesan Support Appeal, an annual campaign in the Diocese of Charlotte that helps support 30 ministries that provide 50 programs. The 2006 DSA runs Feb. 4 to March 12.

Principal

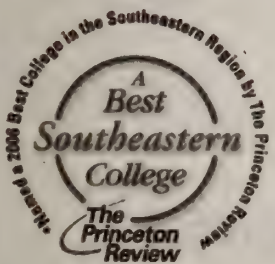
St. Anne Catholic School in Rock Hill, South Carolina seeks candidates for principal, starting date of June 1, 2006. Qualifications -- practicing Catholic with dynamic leadership skills, valid educational certification, master's degree in educational administration or equivalent, and evidence of successful teaching experience. Prior experience in school administration preferred. St. Anne School is PK-8 with 300 students. Visit our web site -- www.stanneschool.com

Send letter of interest, resume and statement of philosophy on education to:

Principal Search Committee
Attention: Ms. Susie Hinton
St. Anne Catholic School
1698 Bird Street
Rock Hill, SC 29730

BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE

THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED



Conveniently located on campus
I-85 exit 26

Join us Friday, March 24th from 2pm to 6pm
for our Abbey Experience open house event!

RSVP by calling 1.888.222.0110, emailing admissions@bac.edu or logging onto

www.BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Our plugged-in pope

Holy Father, and all Catholics, can use technology to enhance faith

A small news item from Catholic News Service caught my eye this week. Pope Benedict XVI has an iPod.

To be precise, it is an iPod nano with two gigabytes of memory. It was presented to him as a gift from Vatican Radio. The pontiff recently visited the broadcasting headquarters of the Vatican for the first time.

If the Holy Father is like most people who purchase these pencil-thin devices, he will soon be a regular listener. Why? Because iPods give you exactly what you want to listen to, when you want to listen to it.

The device makes everyone a radio programmer and, while that may be bad news for real radio programmers, it is liberation for the rest of us.

Originally introduced as a music listening device and marketed primarily to young people, the iPod and MP3 players have branched out to create a new broadcasting domain — podcasting. Podcasting is like Internet blogging, except that instead of the written word published for the entire world to find, podcasting uses the spoken word, delivered regularly to subscribers.

A podcast can be a radio program without the commercials, a talk show, a commentary or anything else the creator cares to record. There are tens of thousands of podcasts to choose from and hundreds that are specifically for Catholics.

Nearly all of them are free. That may change as some programs become very popular, but for now there is a cornucopia of free programs.

Imagine driving to work and, instead of listening to an endless barrage of screaming car dealer commercials, you could choose prayer podcasts, a program that explains our faith or perhaps the latest sacred music.

In the iTunes store, there are currently 24 free programs that can be found when using the search term "Vatican." You can even listen to the podcast version of this column by using the search term "Catholics and the Media." Suddenly, the morning commute could be something you look forward to.

What does the Holy Father listen to? The pope's player was loaded with a sampling of the Vatican radio's programming in English, Italian and German, and musical compositions by Ludwig van Beethoven, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Frederic Chopin, Peter Tchaikovsky and Igor Stravinsky.

Once the pontiff gets the hang of using the click wheel on his iPod, he can

Catholics & the Media

DAVID HAINS
GUEST COLUMNIST



listen to a radio drama of the life of St. Thomas Becket or a perspective program on the transition from Pope John Paul II to Pope Benedict XVI. He doesn't have to tune in at a certain time to hear what he wants; he can pause a program, and replay all or part of it.

Podcasting is a threat to traditional forms of radio programming because of its accessibility. These iPod-type devices are updated by plugging them into a personal computer. Once connected, the device does the rest, updating itself with new music selections and podcasts.

Podcast creators use an Internet protocol named RSS (Really Simple Synchronization) that lets the device automatically find and download programs the user has subscribed to. And although iPods and MP3 players are small in size, they typically hold hundreds of hours of music, podcasts and audio books.

Online articles about podcasting indicate that advertisers are trying to figure out a way to insert ads into podcasts. No doubt some content will eventually carry ads, but since virtually anyone can create a podcast, the majority probably will not.

When he was given the iPod, Pope Benedict is reported to have said, "Computer technology is the future."

The Holy Father, and anyone else, can hear the future now thanks to these personal listening devices.

David Hains is director of communications for the Diocese of Charlotte. Contact him at dwhains@charlottediocese.org.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

An anniversary not worth repeating

Different approach needed for Iraq war

March 19 marks the third anniversary of the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq. Unless there is a monumental shift in American policy toward that suffering nation, there will be a fourth anniversary — and many more beyond.

And such a shift seems highly unlikely now.

The war goes on — with no end in sight. Europe had its 30-years war, and now the United States is on a devastatingly similar track.

The great number of deaths related to the war prove that Pope John Paul II was correct in objecting to the U.S. decision to launch a pre-emptive attack against Iraq. As he wisely said, "War is a defeat for humanity."

The American presence in Iraq seems to fuel the conflict. It's like pouring gasoline on a house fire.

There is a military principle that says, "If you find yourself in a hole, stop digging." As if reflecting on that rule, Lt. Gen. William E. Odom recently wrote that the United States should withdraw rapidly from Iraq.

The retired general and current Yale University professor wrote:

"Iraqis are already fighting Iraqis. Insurgents have killed far more Iraqis than Americans. That's civil war. We created the civil war when we invaded; we can't prevent a civil war by staying."

"For those who really worry about destabilizing the region, the sensible policy is not to stay the course in Iraq."

Dave Robinson, executive director of the Catholic peace movement Pax Christi USA, told me that the Bush administration has not stated clearly that it intends to completely leave Iraq. Robinson explained that we have at least five long-term military bases there.

Making a Difference

TONY
MAGLIANO
CNS COLUMNIST



Robinson said the Bush administration's plan is to "maintain Western control over Iraqi oil production and distribution. Instead, however, the United States needs to declare that it intends to totally leave Iraq — including all military bases."

Robinson added that since the president refuses to make such a declaration, it is up to the American people to pressure Congress.

But a total military departure does not absolve America from its moral obligation to rebuild Iraq.

"The United States needs to commit to a type of Marshall Plan," said Robinson.

However, relatively little cash thus far actually has gone into reconstruction, he added.

Commenting on the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' call for a nationwide "serious and civil dialogue" on Iraq, Robinson said, "Such a dialogue would require every priest in every parish to proclaim the Gospel of peace. And in the light of Catholic social teaching, it would be necessary for them to lead discussions around different approaches to the Iraq war."

Amen to that.

Letter to the Editor

Pro-life articles deliver powerful messages

Two articles from your March 3 edition struck me as delivering powerful messages.

Mary Shaw moves me with her story of love ("Young woman chooses life, adoption for child"). The private details that explain her unplanned pregnancy and her journey through her open adoption show spiritual maturity, authentic love and, above all, humility.

In "Pope says God loves humans in all stages of life, even embryos," Pope Benedict XVI said life is sacred

"... even before it is implanted in the maternal womb." At one time, I did not know the implications of such a statement. I fear many Americans and Catholics don't either.

Life is fundamental — a foundation on which everything else hinges. With renewed respect and love for the Catholic Church, the teacher of these truths, my husband and I tried natural family planning and have never looked backed.

— Marianna de Lachica
North Wilkesboro

The forgotten victim

'Abortionists' need forgiveness, healing

Abortion destroys everyone it touches, killing a child and devastating that child's family. Often overlooked, however, is the one who performed the procedure. The abortionist is wounded, too.

Every year, on March 10, pro-abortion groups observe the "National Day of Appreciation for Abortion Providers." They seek to affirm those who kill babies for pay, and honor them as hero-servants of society.

I am happy to announce that this year, Priests for Life has declared March 9 a National Day of Invitation to Abortion Providers — an invitation to repentance and to the healing grace of the Lord.

We invite people to read the testimonies of abortionists who have converted (see www.priestsforlife.org) and to write letters and make calls to media outlets in order to share these stories. It is precisely because we appreciate these people that we want to free them from the misery of being abortionists.

I'd like to explore in the next several columns the topic of abortionists, why they do what they do, what life is like for them and how we can call them to conversion.

Let me address some preliminary issues.

First of all, the abortion movement chose March 10 for this "Day of

Guest Column

FATHER FRANK PAVONE
GUEST COLUMNIST



Appreciation" because that was the date in 1993 when abortionist David Gunn was shot and killed outside his abortion mill in Pensacola, Fla. Killing abortionists is a course of action we reject.

Secondly, some object to using the word "abortionist," saying such a term is harsh and cruel. That's odd.

Someone who practices psychology is called a "psychologist." Someone who practices therapy is called a "therapist." And one trained in gynecology is a "gynecologist." I fail to see the problem with calling someone who performs abortions an "abortionist."

If people are uncomfortable with the word, maybe their consciences are telling them there's something wrong with the practice — and with that, we heartily agree.

Third, if we call an abortionist a

"victim," we do not mean to say that he or she is helpless or guiltless. We are all responsible for our actions and have to be held accountable. The point here is that abortionists hurt themselves by their actions, throwing their lives into chaos.

Finally, I write about abortionists from the perspective of having conversed with many of them who are still performing abortions, and having guided many of them through spiritual healing after they have stopped performing abortions.

We collaborate and interact with psychiatrists and others who are doing unique research into the lives of abortionists. Moreover, Priests for Life has access to a lot of inside information from the abortion industry, including information gained by infiltration. We rely on original, and often unique, sources.

The more we can understand why someone, especially if he or she is associated with the medical profession, would perform abortions, and the more we can understand what would cause them to stop performing abortions, the closer we will be to understanding how our whole society can reject this violent practice.

Frank Pavone is national director of Priests for Life.

Pope says prayer, repentance, retreat can strengthen faith

The Pope Speaks

POPE BENEDICT XVI



BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Editor's note: Due to the pope's weeklong Lenten retreat, there is no story from his weekly audience.

VATICAN CITY — As he prepared to begin his weeklong Lenten retreat, Pope Benedict XVI said Lent is a time to examine one's life in an atmosphere of prayer and repentance.

Citing the ancient Israelites who wandered in the desert and Jesus who retreated to the desert before beginning his public ministry, the pope said a period of withdrawal and face-to-face confrontation with temptation strengthens one's faith.

Before leading the midday Angelus address March 5, the pope said his March 5-11 Lenten retreat "will help me and my collaborators in the Roman Curia to enter into this characteristic Lenten climate with greater awareness."

Meditating on biblical desert scenes, he said, "We understand that in order to fully realize our lives in freedom, the trial that freedom itself brings, that is, temptation, must be overcome."

"Only freed from the slavery of falsehood and sin thanks to obedience to the faith that opens him to the truth can the human person find the full meaning of his existence and obtain peace, love and joy," the pope said.

He asked Catholics to pray for him and top Vatican officials while they were on retreat, and he promised to keep everyone in his own prayers.

The retreat, which includes formal prayer, spiritual lectures and eucharistic adoration, includes morning and late-afternoon sessions.

Pope Benedict asked 80-year-old retired Cardinal Marco Ce of Venice, Italy, to preach the retreat.

The cardinal chose to use the Gospel of Mark as the basis for his series of talks on "Walking Toward Easter With Jesus."

Cardinal Ce said he chose the Gospel of Mark in part because it is known as "a guide for catechumens preparing for baptism at the Easter Vigil."

The central message of his talks, he said, "is the message of Easter: God loves our world and wants to save it through the death and resurrection of Jesus."

"I want to give everyone a message of hope," the cardinal said.

Cardinal Ce said the Lenten practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving "are three works capable of forming a lifestyle that can change the world."

A bishop's coat of arms

Q. Why do bishops still need a coat of arms? Is it a holdover from the days bishops had temporal, civil power? (Wisconsin)

A. Episcopal coats of arms are, at least in part, a vestige of a custom that began in a militaristic, political context.

Insignia on military dress and equipment became customary in the 12th century. When warriors of all sides wore pretty much the same armor, the king's or leader's emblem served to distinguish one combatant from another.

Soon the blazon design appeared also on seals, for example, as evidence of authenticity of documents.

As you note, Catholic prelates, who often held political and religious as well as military authority, adopted the use of coats of arms and related seals, but not only for their value in battle.

Prelatical coats of arms served to indicate episcopal status and ecclesiastical approval for such things as books, vestments and church buildings. Gradually they also served as designs in architecture and other art forms.

The number and color of tassels on the "shields" denote the prelate's rank as bishop, archbishop or cardinal.

Coats of arms, whether for Catholic or secular use, have a complex history, going through numerous evolutions. As the New Catholic Encyclopedia notes, however, after nine centuries of

existence ecclesiastical heraldry is alive and will continue flourishing.

Whatever its origins, apart from the decorative attractiveness, its function today is primarily juridical.

The white cloth atop caskets

Q. Our family would like to know why a white cloth is placed on top of the casket at a funeral Mass. I told them that when our Lord was taken from the cross and laid in the grave, his body was wrapped with a white cloth. Is this the reason? (Maryland)

A. That may be one interpretation, but the primary reason has to do with baptism. When the deceased Catholic was baptized as an infant or adult, water was poured, of course, and a white cloth or dress was placed on him or her.

The ritual with the cloth is inspired by the words of St. Paul, "For all you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ" (Gal 3:27).

Ceremonies at the beginning of the funeral liturgy are intended to recall that event, which begins our Christian life, to

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



thank God for his goodness and to remind everyone present of our own baptism commitments as we continue our journey.

The words suggested to accompany these rites focus on this meaning.

As the water is sprinkled on the casket, the priest says, "In the waters of baptism (this man or woman) died with Christ and rose with him to new life. May he/she now share with him eternal glory."

As the pall is placed over the body, the ritual has suggested words like this: "On the day of baptism, he/she put on Christ. In the day of Christ's coming, may he/she be clothed with glory."

A free brochure on ecumenism, including questions on intercommunion and other ways of sharing worship, is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 5515, Peoria, IL 61612.

Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address, or e-mail: jjdietzen@aol.com.

Holy Redeemer parish is small in number, large in spirit

ANDREWS — While Holy Redeemer Church in Andrews wasn't built until 1962, Catholic presence in the area dates back decades earlier.

In 1937, Father Howard Lane, a priest from the Diocese of Raleigh, was appointed pastor of St. John the Evangelist Church in Waynesville. At that time the parish boundaries included all of North Carolina west of the town.

Father Lane led a lecture series at the Murphy courthouse feeding the spiritual hunger of area Catholics.

Following Father Lane's brief series of talks, there wasn't another regular pastoral presence in the region until Glenmary Father Joseph Dean arrived in Murphy in December 1954.

There were eight Catholic families living in Murphy in Cherokee County during the time of Father Lane's presence. Just two Catholic families lived in neighboring Clay County, with one Maronite Catholic family living in Andrews. It was in the home of those Maronite Catholics, the El-Khouris, who had no Eastern-rite priest to celebrate Mass for them, that a new Catholic community was born.

Father Lane returned to Andrews in 1955 and celebrated Mass for the first time in Andrews on Christmas Day in the El-Khouris family home. Within a few years, Andrews had officially become a mission of Murphy, although regularly celebrated Masses didn't occur in Andrews until 1958.

In June 1962, the Catholic community of Andrews gathered for the first time in their new church. Called Holy Redeemer Church, the building was the first large project completed by the Glenmary Brothers' Building Crew.

Then-Bishop Michael J. Begley granted Holy Redeemer Church parish



PHOTO BY GEORGE K. COBB

Holy Redeemer Church in Andrews was completed in 1962 and was granted parish status in June 1976.

status in June 1976, and installed Father August Guppenberger as the first pastor.

While the year-round Catholic population in the Andrews area has grown slowly over the past quarter-century, visitors to the North Carolina mountains fill Holy Redeemer Church to capacity during the tourist seasons.

The parish celebrated its silver jubilee in June 1987. Taking part in a diocesan evangelization project, the Legion of Mary came to Andrews to help celebrate by leading a community education program focusing on ecumenism.

In 2002, Glenmary Father Robert Bond retired and diocesan clergy assumed pastoral duties of Holy Redeemer Church. This signaled the end of an era, as there are no longer any parishes in the

diocese staffed by Glenmary priests.

On Oct. 15, 2004, Father Michael Kottar was assigned as the first diocesan pastor of the church.

To accommodate the rapid growth in the local Hispanic population, a Sunday Mass and other sacraments are now offered in Spanish. The celebration of traditional Hispanic customs, such as the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Las Posadas (Christmas novena), have added a new dimension to parish life.

"Growth at the Spanish Mass has increased to the point where at times it exceeds the population of the Mass in English," said Father Kottar.

HOLY REDEEMER CHURCH

214 Aquone Rd.
Andrews, N.C. 28901
(828) 321-4463

Vicariate: Smoky Mountain
Pastor: Father Michael T. Kottar
Number of Households: 100



Father Michael T. Kottar

The clergy and parishioners of Holy Redeemer Church are active in community and ecumenical events and projects, taking leadership roles in founding a food bank for the poor, a shelter for local and migrant persons and an organization to help those people with mental handicaps find employment.

The parish also supports Divine Mercy Outreach, a support group for the sick and homebound of the parish and Institution of Angel Tree, in conjunction with Catholic Social Services Western Regional office in Asheville, to provide for those in financial need at Christmas.

Spiritual life of the parish is enhanced by eucharistic adoration each Friday. Adoration on the first Friday of each month is offered for all active service members, especially those stationed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"Although we are small in number, we are blessed in many other ways," said Father Kottar. "We have a very warm parish where everyone knows each other by name."

Contributing to this story was Staff Writer Karen A. Evans.

WALK WHERE JESUS WALKED ON A DIOCESAN-SPONSORED PILGRIMAGE TO



THE HOLY LAND September 5 - 14

with Fr. James Hawker, Diocesan Vicar
of Education and Pastor, St. Luke Church

Deepen your understanding of our Catholic faith and watch the pages of the Bible come alive as you experience daily Mass at many of the historical sites of our faith.

Highlights include:

- Tiberias, Mt. Carmel, Sea of Galilee area
- Mt. Tabor, Cana, Nazareth - Jesus' boyhood area
- Capernaum, Mount of Beatitudes, River Jordan
- Jerusalem area: Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Via Dolorosa, Lord's Tomb at Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Mount Zion, Upper Room, Dormition Abbey, Wailing Wall
- Dead Sea (excavations and scrolls), Masada, Holocaust memorial
- Bethlehem's historic sites - PLUS much more!

Price: \$2,499 from Charlotte (\$2,599 after June 22) includes airfare, most meals, first-class hotels and all tours. Airport taxes/fees, tips and insurance are extra.

Call Cindi Feerick at 704/370-3332 for a brochure with complete details or Pentecost Tours 800/713-9800 for registration.

Only 4 spaces left! Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise — "The Footsteps of Paul" Greece and Turkey — May 11-21, 2006 Space is limited—register now!



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,949 for inside cabin — includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

Istanbul — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace

Mykonos — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels

Patmos — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation

Kusadasi & Ephesus — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites

Rhodes — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith

Crete — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion

Santorini — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.

**Roman Catholic
Diocese of Charlotte**



Established Jan. 12, 1972
by Pope Paul VI

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

Parish Profile

St. Therese Church
serves thousands in
Iredell County

| PAGE 16

MARCH 17, 2006

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 15 No 23

Eucharistic Conference coming to Asheville

*Event will include
procession,
adoration, speakers*

BY DAVID HAINS
SPECIAL TO
THE CATHOLIC NEWS HERALD

ASHEVILLE — Catholics in the western part of the Diocese of Charlotte will have an opportunity to participate in an important eucharistic event this summer.

A Eucharistic Conference is planned for Asheville June 24. The conference will be a regional preparation for the diocesan Eucharistic Congress in Charlotte in October.

See EUCHARIST, page 12

Pope: It's right to discuss women's role in church decision-making

PONTIFF RESPONDS
ON TOPICS OF WOMEN,
YOUTH, FAMILY LIFE

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — While insisting women cannot be ordained priests, Pope Benedict XVI said it is right to discuss how women can be more involved in church decision-making.

Meeting March 2 with the priests of the Diocese of

See POPE, page 13

Rallying for immigrants' rights



CNS PHOTO BY PAUL HARING

Maritza Santa Cruz holds a child during an immigration rally at the Capitol in Washington March 7. The crowd was protesting a House-passed immigration bill that they contend would allow law enforcement authorities to prosecute social service workers and other professionals who help illegal immigrants.

*System needs
reform, say
Catholic leaders*

**OPPOSING BILLS
RESTRICT, RELAX
IMMIGRATION LAWS**

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — America needs immigrants, and it needs to make it easier for immigrants to come to this country legally, said an official with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

"When the faith community looks at the current state of our immigration system and the effect that current laws have on immigrants and our society at large, we conclude they are woefully inadequate and in need of significant reform," said Mark Franken, executive director of Migration and Refugee Services.

Franken spoke on the

See REFORM, page 8

Katrina's aftermath

*Catholic health care groups to run medical
clinic outside New Orleans*

BY CAROL ZIMMERMANN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

CHALMETTE, La. — Six months after Hurricane Katrina, St. Bernard's Parish, a civil entity just east of New Orleans, looked as if the hurricane just occurred.

There was no longer standing water, but the businesses, homes and shopping centers in the small

towns and neighborhoods were completely in shambles.

Houses, moved by the 20 feet of water that submerged the area after storm surges toppled the levees, sat at odd angles in the streets. What were once yards contained piles of debris or uprooted trees.

Shopping centers with

See KATRINA, page 5



CNS PHOTO BY NANCY WIECHEC

Homes moved off their foundations by flood waters still sit on a sidewalk March 5 east of New Orleans. An area health clinic will be taken over by two Catholic health care systems in the near future.

Youths in Action

Painting refugee
apartment; joining Junior
Catholic Daughters

| PAGE 6-7

Culture Watch

Sacrifice theme of Virginia
Catholic's novel; decoding
Jesus Web site

| PAGES 10-11

Perspectives

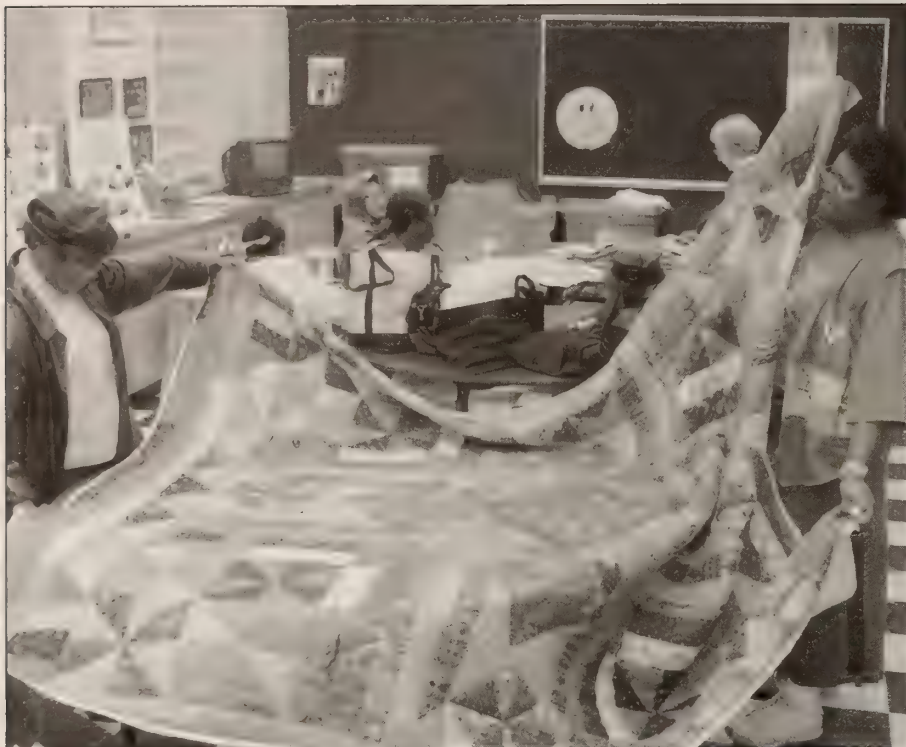
Beatitudes as a part
of Lent; faith alone is
not enough

| PAGES 14-15

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

QUILTING MORE THAN IT SEAMS



CNS PHOTO BY FABRIEN TAYLOR, MISSISSIPPI CATHOLIC

Quilter Virginia Thompson (left) helps Mary Ann Willis look over one of Thompson's quilts before it is tagged for sale at the Tutwiler Community Education Center in Tutwiler, Miss., in February. Thompson is one of 20 women who make up the Tutwiler Quilters, who organized in 1988.

Growing number of fans thinks quilters' work is anything but sew-sew

TUTWILER, Miss. (CNS) — Virginia Thompson, 78, is grateful for the income she makes as one of the Tutwiler Quilters, but a deeper seam runs through her participation in a local quilt-making group.

"It's more than just a job, seems more like family to me," said Thompson as she sat quilting in her home.

Quilter Janice Mitchell, 39, said she lays out pieces of cloth for a special-order quilt, and then waits for the material to "speak to her."

"The fabric pretty much tells you what it wants to be," said Mitchell, who quilts full time. "From these pieces, I can see that red and yellow are going to have to give life to the rest of the fabric."

Thompson and Mitchell are two of the 20 women who make up the Tutwiler Quilters, organized in 1988. It is a program of the local Catholic-run education center.

Currently, the group's work, which gained national attention in 1990 when members appeared on the CBS news program "60 Minutes," was being featured in a special showing at the Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum in Golden, Colo.

The exhibit, "Improvisation: An African-American Tradition," features 20 pieces including quilts, wall hangings and table runners.

"People are thrilled with it," said Paula Pahl, the museum's executive director. "And they have been very supportive of the organization as well."

In the exhibit, Pahl said the African-

American designs in the quilts, passed down from generation to generation, are emphasized.

"They are not traditional and not contemporary art quilts; it is sort of a blending of the two," she said.

Dominican Sister Joann Blomme, who works part time with the quilters, and Mary Ann Willis, assistant to the director of the education center, do quality control for the quilting program.

"I inspect the quilts and other items for the quality of sewing, the size, things like that," said Sister Blomme. "I try never to judge the design because it's that person's own artistry."

Many quilters don't consider themselves artists, said Pahl.

"But quilting is a very artistic, creative expression. They (quilters) don't think about what design elements they are using, what composition elements they are using, like a professionally trained artist does," she said. "Yet, that is exactly what they are doing."

The Colorado exhibit is not the first one for the Tutwiler Quilters, according to Sister Maureen Delaney, a Sister of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, who helped start the quilting group back in 1988. She is the director of the education center.

Getting their work out to people is so important, said Mitchell.

"I can't keep my work. It has to go to a home in order to be really appreciated," she said. "I want someone to love it when they get it home."

Bush urges groups to bid for funding for faith-based initiatives

WASHINGTON (CNS) — President George W. Bush urged faith-based charities to bid competitively for federal funding March 9.

In a speech at a daylong National Conference on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, Bush said progress has been made but much more needs to be done to give faith-based social service programs equal footing with secular nonprofits in federal, state and corporate grant-making.

"It used to be that groups were prohibited from receiving any federal funding whatsoever because they had a cross or a star or a crescent on the wall," Bush said. "And that's changed for the better."

He called faith-based service organizations America's "armies of compassion."

White House figures indicated that last fiscal year 10.9 percent of the federal funding for social services from seven government departments went to faith-based organizations. Grants to such organizations amounted to more than \$2.1 billion out of

nearly \$20 billion in total grants.

Bush highlighted two other areas where his administration is trying to end funding discrimination against faith-based organizations: state and local government, and corporate philanthropy.

The president said his administration has been encouraging state and local governments to rethink their approach to social service funding, and now about 30 governors and more than 100 mayors around the country have offices handling the funding of services provided by faith-based organizations.

Bush also announced that he had just signed an executive order creating a Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives in the Department of Homeland Security. The center is to coordinate the department's efforts to remove regulatory, contracting and other obstacles to the participation of faith-based and community organizations in its provision of social and community services, including disaster relief.

Diocesan planner

ASHEVILLE VICARIATE

ASHEVILLE — *Fostering Justice Worldwide*, sponsored by the diocesan Office of Justice and Peace, will share Catholic Relief Services (CRS) stories. This free event will take place at St. Eugene Church, 72 Culvern St., April 8, 1:15-4:45 p.m. The program will provide an overview of Catholic social teaching, CRS-related work in the Diocese of Charlotte, CRS work in Africa, presentations on effective advocacy and more. This event will be repeated in Charlotte June 24, in Newton Sept. 9 and in Stoneville Nov. 4. For specific details about the Saturday afternoon events please call the Office of Justice and Peace at (704) 370-3234 or (704) 370-3225, or e-mail justicepeace@charlottediocese.org.

ASHEVILLE — The *St. Martin de Porres Dominican Laity Chapter* meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the rectory building at the Basilica of St. Lawrence, 97 Haywood St. Inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Beverly Reid at (423) 638-4744 or bebereid@adelphia.net.

HENDERSONVILLE — The *St. Francis of the Hills Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order* meets the fourth Sunday of each month, 2:30-4:30 p.m., at Immaculate Conception Church, 208 7th Ave. West. Visitors and inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Joanita Nellenbach, SFO, (828) 627-9209 or jnell@dnnet.net.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — A free *Natural Family Planning Refresher Course* will take place April 2, 2-4 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul

Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd. Please register by March 31. Generally, Couple to Couple League encourages class attendance by the couple together. However, since this is simply a refresher class for people already familiar with the method, feel free to come without your spouse. For more information, call Kelly Schiffano at (704)845-1435 or e-mail kbs1299@alltel.net.

CHARLOTTE — A *Support Group for Caregivers of a Family Member with Memory Loss* meet the last Monday of each month, 10-11:30 a.m., at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, contact Suzanne Bach at (704) 376-4135.

GASTONIA VICARIATE

GASTONIA — An *Interfaith Prayer Vigil for Peace* will take place at St. Michael Church, 708 St. Michael Lane, March 20 at 7 p.m. For more information, call the church office at (704) 867-6212, or Dennis Teall-Fleming, director of faith formation at Queen of the Apostles Church, at (704) 825-9600, ext. 26.

BELMONT — Queen of the Apostles Church, 503 N. Main St., offers a ministry for Catholics who are inactive in their own church and wish to find a safe place to return. *Catholics Returning Home* will meet April 26, May 3, 10 and 17, 7-8:30 p.m., in the Kovacic Center. For more information, call Dennis Teall-Fleming at (704) 868-9392 or e-mail teallfleming@yahoo.com.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — A Lenten mission, "*Hope Against Despair*" led by Oblate Father Jim Greenfield will be held at St. Paul the Apostle Church, 2715 Horse Pen Creek Road, March 19-21 at 7 p.m. The sessions will also be repeated the following morning after the 9 a.m. Mass. There will be time for fellowship and light refreshments after each evening's session. For

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

MARCH 17, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 23

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Pope, Egyptian president discuss nuclear arms, religious tolerance

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI met Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak March 13 to discuss the situation in the Middle East, tensions surrounding Iran's nuclear program and religious tolerance in Egypt, the Vatican said.

Mubarak returned to Rome specifically to meet the pope at the end of a March 9-13 series of visits with European leaders.

Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said Pope Benedict and Mubarak spent about half an hour together and began their meeting by discussing "the good relations between the Holy See and the Arab Republic of Egypt and the situation of interreligious relations in the country."

The two spoke English and spent about 20 minutes together without aides present.

"The meeting allowed them to review themes relative to the prospects

for a stable peace in the Middle East," Navarro-Valls said. "There was a profound exchange of ideas about the situation in Iraq and also a look at issues regarding the Islamic Republic of Iran."

Neither the Vatican nor the Egyptian government provided more information.

Meeting March 11 with German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Mubarak called for a nuclear-free zone in the Middle East, including Israel.

"We need to take steps to prevent the spread of atomic weapons," he said.

Throughout his European trip, Mubarak also urged the European Union to continue giving financial assistance to the Palestinian Authority, and he asked European leaders to try to convince Israel to recognize the authority's new Hamas leadership.

Hamas, he said, also must recognize Israel's right to exist and pledge to participate in the peace process.

more information, call the church office at (336) 294-4696.

GREENSBORO — *Theology on Tap*, a speaker series for Catholics in their 20s, 30s and 40s, will meet at Coopers Ale House, 5340 West Market St., April 19 and 26, May 3 and 10 at 7 p.m. *Theology on Tap* is a casual forum where people gather to learn and discuss the teachings of the Catholic Church. A service project will take place May 13 at Mary's House in Greensboro. For more information, visit www.triadcatholics.org or call Deb at (336) 286-3687.

GREENSBORO — All Irish-Catholic women are invited to participate in the *Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians*, a social, cultural and charitable group for an ongoing series of fun and informative activities. LAOH will meet April 6 at 7 p.m. in the Kloster Center of St. Pius X Church, 2210 N. Elm St. A representative from New Garden Nursery will discuss "Planting in Containers." Please join us for refreshments and to learn more about our group. Any questions can be directed to Mary Giff at (336) 855-7014.

HICKORY VICARIATE

NEWTON — The *Little Flowers Catholic Girls' Group* is for all Catholic girls ages 5 and up. The group meets the fourth Monday of each month at St. Joseph Church, 720 West 13th St., at 4 p.m. in the Holy Family Hall. For more details, call Debbie Vickers at (828) 495-2039.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

SYLVA — The *Lay Carmelite Community of St. Mary Church* will begin a new series of inquiry classes on the fourth Saturday of each month following the 9 a.m. Mass. The first class, on March 25, will cover the lay orders in general, the particular call of a Lay Carmelite, and the process of formation. The meeting will be from 9:30-11:30 a.m. For more information, call Linda Knauer at (828) 586-9496.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

March 21 — 10:30 a.m.
Celebration in honor of St. Benedict
Belmont Abbey, Belmont

March 25 — 11 a.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
Good Shepherd Church, King

April 2 — 3 p.m.
Youth Pilgrimage
Belmont Abbey, Belmont

April 4 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. Benedict the Moor Church, Winston-Salem

Pope says every Christian must share love of God with others

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The first obligation of every Christian is to share with others the love of God and his promise of salvation in Jesus Christ, Pope Benedict XVI said.

The pope met March 11 with people from about 100 countries attending a conference on the 40th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council's decree on the church's missionary obligation.

Pope Benedict said the Vatican II document gave new energy to the church's missionary work, outlined the theological foundations of missionary activity and emphasized its "value and relevance in the face of global transformations and the challenges that modernity poses for preaching the Gospel."

The document reminded all Catholics that in every age they are called help others hear "the truth of the Gospel message and, in that way, open for them the way of salvation," the pope said.

The Christian vocation, he said, always includes a missionary obligation.

"The proclamation and witness of the Gospel is the first service Christians can give to each person and to all humankind, called as they are to communicate to all the love of God which was manifested fully in the one redeemer of

the world, Jesus Christ."

Through Christ, "who died and rose, the provident tenderness of the Father reaches every man and woman in forms and ways that he alone knows," the pope said.

While each Christian is called to share the good news through their words and actions, he said, it is the Holy Spirit who makes Christian witness effective by transforming their lives, freeing them from sin and helping them show the world that God is love.

Pope Benedict said the church has felt it necessary in the last few years to reaffirm its belief that preaching salvation in Christ is essential because missionary activity seems to have slowed down.

The pope said it also is clear that missionary activity cannot be focused only on people in far-away lands who never have heard of Christ, but also must try to reach people who live nearby, but far from the Gospel.

The task is not easy, Pope Benedict said. It requires "patience, farsightedness, courage and humility, listening to God and carefully discerning the 'signs of the times.'"

Catholics must give what they can of their time and resources, but must recognize that the one who accomplishes everything is the Lord, he said.

For the love of reading



COURTESY PHOTO

Students at Our Lady of Mercy School in Winston-Salem participate in the National Education Association's Read Across America, an annual reading motivation and awareness program that celebrates reading on or around Dr. Seuss' birthday, March 2. Student activities included students attending talks on books at a local bookstore and library, a school-wide reading time and a "bookmark contest."

Dr. Seuss, or Theodor Seuss Geisel, was born in 1904 and authored and illustrated popular children's literature, including "The Cat in the Hat" and "How the Grinch Stole Christmas."

FORMER POLISH COMMUNIST REGIME OFFICIAL FINED FOR INSULTING LATE POPE

WARSAW, Poland (CNS) — Poland's former communist regime spokesman has been fined for insulting Pope John Paul II in a 2002 newspaper article, in the first binding court judgment of its kind.

In a March 7 ruling, the Warsaw Appeal Court rejected a claim by former spokesman Jerzy Urban that he acted "within the bounds of free criticism" in writing the article, in which he described the late pope as a "hoary idol" and "living corpse."

The court said Polish law did not permit free speech to be cited for

"violating the honor of public figures."

Urban, who gained notoriety in the 1980s as spokesman for the regime of Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski, published the front-page article, "Mobile Sado-Masochist," in his satirical weekly, *Nie (No)*, on the first day of Pope John Paul's August 2002 visit; he urged the then 82-year-old to "die and save us all embarrassment."

In his article, the spokesman urged "all sensible people" to write to the pope, advising him to "go to bed" and "stop making a scary spectacle of himself."

Perpetuating the faith



COURTESY PHOTO

Grand Knight Lance Cancro of Council 8509 at Holy Cross Church in Kernersville presents a scholarship award to Elizabeth Ann Lawrence March 3. Also pictured are Elizabeth's parents, Deborah and Paul.

Youth receives Knights' scholarship award

KERNERSVILLE — Knights of Columbus Council 8509 at Holy Cross Church in Kernersville recently presented a scholarship to a young member of the parish.

The Staddon-Cain Scholarship Award was presented to Elizabeth Ann Lawrence, a junior at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School, during a fish fry fundraising dinner March 3. Grand Knight Lance Cancro presented this year's \$500 award.

The scholarship fund is to perpetuate the education of young individuals in the Catholic faith. Candidates are considered based on

their academic achievements as well as community- and church-related accomplishments.

Elizabeth's activities include volunteering with Habitat for Humanity, Special Olympics and the Columbiettes, the Knights' sister organization. She is also an active member of Holy Cross Church's youth group.

The Staddon-Cain scholarship is named after John Staddon and Frank Cain, two men who married Catholic wives and supported the Catholic Church and its teachings.

The annual award was first presented by the Knights in 1987.

Sisters of St. Francis vote to conserve farmland

Decisions, leadership established during assembly

TIFFIN, Ohio — Sisters of St. Francis from the Diocese of Charlotte recently participated in their congregation's general assembly.

During the assembly at the motherhouse in Tiffin, Ohio Feb. 5-11, the sisters voted to place 396 acres of their property's farm and woodland into a land conservation easement.

After nearly six years of study and community dialogue, the Sisters decided to protect the land originally purchased between 1869 and 1879 by the congregation's co-founder, Father Joseph Bihn.

"Our community began in 1869 out of a need at that time to care for the elderly and the orphans in the area around Tiffin," said Franciscan Sister Andrea Inkrott, director of Hispanic ministry for the Diocese of Charlotte.

Sister Inkrott and Franciscan Sister Joan Ann Gilsdorf, who works at the Franciscan discernment house in Charlotte, attended the assembly from the Diocese of Charlotte.

Under the land conservation easement, the land will continue to be farmed and the woodlands and wetlands will be preserved from significant building projects.

The farm was established in 2005 to grow and sell vegetables free of chemicals.

The land conservation was one of several decisions made during the assembly, including electing new leadership to serve until 2010.



**Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center**

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

Winning words



COURTESY PHOTO

Connor Spillane and Caitlyn Carmean, seventh-graders at St. Pius X School in Greensboro, recently won a Knights of Columbus writing contest.

The contest, sponsored by Knights of Columbus St. Pius X Council 11101, was open to middle school-age students at both St. Pius X School and St. Pius X Church.

Connor won in the essay division with his essay, "Catholics Give Back to the World by Actions of Love and Compassion." Caitlyn won in the poetry division with her poem, "How Catholics Help Others."

Gift certificates for \$50 were given to both Connor and Caitlyn.

The Catholic Company™ Just in!

First Communion Gifts

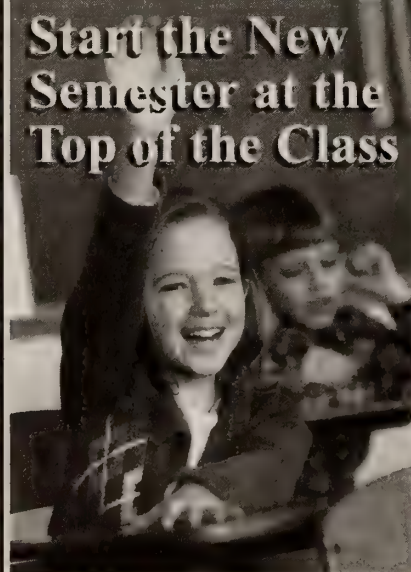
Catholic Shop @ St. Matthew Catholic Church • New Life Center, Rm. 104
Corner of Rea Rd. and Ballantyne Commons Parkway - Charlotte, NC

Hours:
Monday-Friday 9-3
Sunday 10-2

704-927-4313
(Call for info or directions)

**Bring in this ad for 15% off
your purchase.**

(Not valid on "sale" items.) Exp. 3/31/06



**Start the New
Semester at the
Top of the Class**

*Felicia Susi, Owner/Director
Parishioner, St. Matthew Catholic Church
& Parent, St. Matthew Catholic School student*


South Charlotte
(704) 752-4234
www.camdenlearningcenter.com

**CAMDEN
LEARNING CENTER™**

is a personalized
educational center offering
specialized tutoring
for all ages in:

Reading • Phonics
Written Language • Math
Study Skills
SAT/ACT Preparation

Let Camden™ help.



**CAMDEN
LEARNING CENTER™**
The Academic Edge™

AFTER KATRINA

'A magnet of hope'

Dominicans anchor French Quarter revival

BY THERESA LAURENCE
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW ORLEANS — Nestled in the heart of the famously rowdy French Quarter of New Orleans is an oasis of learning and discipline, run by Dominican nuns from a congregation based in Nashville, Tenn., and catering to some of the city's most at-risk children.

Cathedral Academy is a spiritual presence in an area struggling to be reborn in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

The sisters, in their black-and-white habits, "don't have to say a word to proclaim God," said Sister Mary Rose Bingham, principal of Cathedral Academy, the parish school of St. Louis Cathedral.

Several years ago the sisters were recruited to run the elementary school, not only for their teaching skills but particularly for the prayerful witness they give to people, said Sister Mary Rose.

"Maybe every city needs it," she said, and maybe none as much as the fragile city of New Orleans.

While certain neighborhoods, such as the French Quarter, are tentatively coming back to life, others remain in shambles. Homeowners are confused about when or if they will be able to rebuild; many of the city's residents are growing frustrated with feeling like transients in their hometown.

The Dominicans are working hard to provide these displaced and disheartened families of New Orleans with some stability in their lives.

Following the storm Cathedral Academy was the first school, public or private, to reopen in Orleans Parish, a civil entity, and it welcomed anyone.

"The parents were so desperate and so relieved," said Sister Mary Rose.

"It's hard to overestimate the importance of that school coming back so quickly and so well" after the

hurricane, said Father William Maestri, superintendent of schools for the Archdiocese of New Orleans. "It served as a magnet of hope for the city."

Families won't return to a city without the assurance that their children can be enrolled in school, so "infrastructure begins to develop when schools reopen," Father Maestri said.

Cathedral Academy serves a predominantly African-American population; many of the students come from poor or broken homes.

Since Katrina, Cathedral Academy has nearly doubled in size, from 125 to 250 students, and nearly all pay drastically reduced tuition. While the racial makeup of the student body is basically the same, most of the students who started school last August have resettled elsewhere.

The students now enrolled at Cathedral Academy have come from all over the city, and about one-quarter of them are from public schools. Many families are still living on cruise ships or in hotels or trailers.

Some students are having an especially difficult time adjusting to life in temporary housing or to being in their own home with extra family members around.

Some children, shuffled around after the hurricane to as many as six schools in four months, are at Cathedral Academy because their own school was destroyed or has yet to reopen.

Sister Mary Cecilia tries to keep an open dialogue with students about their Katrina experiences, and sometimes uses the storm as a springboard for religion class.

While the sisters "grieve for the kids who evacuated and had to leave us," their mission is to "live in the spirit of the present moment" and serve the people "placed in our path" by the hurricane, Sister Mary Rose said.



CNS PHOTO BY THERESA LAURENCE, TENNESSEE REGISTER

Dominican Sisters walk along Bourbon Street in New Orleans' French Quarter in mid-January. The nuns staff Cathedral Academy and are a strong presence in the city.

Catholic groups to run clinic

KATRINA, from page 1

boarded-up storefront windows were closed. Fast-food restaurants appeared to have collapsed and their metal signs remained twisted.

Ten percent, or 7,000 residents, have returned to an area with almost no electricity or running water.

Services for these residents were still extremely limited, existing primarily in temporary disaster relief centers dotting the main roads.

Still in need

On Saturday afternoon March 4, the parking lot of the Wal-Mart Supercenter in Chalmette was as packed as it may have been in its pre-Katrina days, but no one was there to shop.

Instead, they were there to get free lunches from a charity-run food tent, consult officials from the Federal Emergency Management Agency or insurance workers in trailers on-site, or receive health care at a triple-wide trailer run by three local doctors with financing and staffing assistance from the U.S. Public Health Service.

At the entrance to the health clinic was a spray-painted sign on a piece of plywood that read: "No knives No weapons."

The federal contract for the clinic, which has been seeing about 150 patients a day, is about to run out, which would leave the area without a health care facility since Hurricane Katrina destroyed all of them, including its only hospital, Chalmette Medical Center.

Thirty-five doctors offices that had been in the area are now closed.

Two Catholic health care systems — Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady Health System based in Baton Rouge and Ascension Health in St. Louis — have

stepped in and are planning to run the clinic in the near future. FEMA is setting up a 22,000-square-foot metal building on the parking lot to handle more patients and emergency care.

FEMA will not provide funds to run the facility because the parish did not qualify for long-term assistance since it did not have public health care before Katrina.

Committed to care

The new clinic site, still under construction, was one of several visited by nearly three dozen members of the Catholic Charities USA board of trustees who toured the Gulf region March 4 for an update of post-Katrina recovery efforts.

"There is a huge need, and we're trying to meet that need," said Michael Pisciotta, clinical administrator for the Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady, who will be the operating manager for the Chalmette clinic.

"We are committed to the health care recovery of the St. Bernard community," he said, adding that the health care systems will continue to run the clinic "as long as we need to be there."

Pisciotta, whose own home was flooded with 3 feet of water, noted that the Chalmette area was 75 percent Catholic prior to Katrina and that the Catholic health systems' sponsorship of the clinic was an "incredible opportunity for a Catholic organization" to help the local community.

On March 1, the first Catholic school reopened in St. Bernard Parish for 30 students. The school, Our Lady of Prompt Succor Central, is located on the grounds of the church where eight parishes are being consolidated into one.

Despite the devastation around him, Pisciotta was optimistic about the region's eventual recovery.

"We will come back. I believe it," he said.

Many Annuity Owners Lose Money. Will YOU?

Some annuity owners lose money because they didn't know what questions to ask when they bought, and their salesperson did not volunteer any information.

If you own an annuity or are considering taking advantage of their many benefits, my **FREE** report, "Using Guaranteed Annuities to Help You Survive Your Retirement," will tell you what questions to ask.

The report is **FREE** and shows you how to get more benefits from your existing assets and help preserve your annuity value.

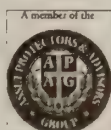
Call 800-800-4960, ext. 7405 (24 hours)

for your **FREE** report!

Dr. Richard Pucciarelli

Certified Senior Advisor

Member of Asset Protectors and Advisors Group



A group effort

Youths paint apartment for refugee services

CHARLOTTE — Youth group members from St. Vincent de Paul Church in Charlotte recently painted an apartment to be used by refugees.

Jordan Raniszkeski, youth group leader, guided 28 youths armed with painting equipment as they washed, primed and painted the Charlotte apartment Feb. 25. A local home supply store donated the paint.

The apartment had served as an English as a Second Language classroom for refugees. Currently 251 refugees are enrolled in ESL classes provided by the Catholic Social Services' Refugee Resettlement Office.

In 2005, CSS resettled 387 refugees. December was the busiest month with 89 arrivals: 64 Montagnards came from the Central Highlands of Vietnam, and

various others came from Vietnam, Sudan, Cuba, Somalia (Bantu), Eritrea and the Soviet Union.

Refugees are provided with housing and stocked refrigerators of their ethnic food upon arrival. CSS also connects them with schools, health and banking services, and assists with employment training and placement.

CSS seeks volunteers to help provide tutoring in English, transportation and housing preparations. Household items and furniture, except appliances, are a continuous need. CSS will pick up large furniture pieces.

WANT TO HELP?

To volunteer or request a furniture pick-up, call (704) 370-3283.



COURTESY PHOTO BY ANN KILKELLY

Youth group members from St. Vincent de Paul Church in Charlotte paint an apartment for Catholic Social Services' Refugee Resettlement Office Feb. 25.

Jamming for God



COURTESY PHOTO BY MARY WADE

Youths from St. Barnabas Church in Arden and St. Joseph Church in Asheboro play guitars at a "jam session" during the "On Our Hearts" youth retreat at St. Michael Church in Gastonia Feb. 24-26. The musicians led more than 30 youths attending the retreat in song prior to adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Other activities during the retreat included talks, group activities, evening prayer and Mass. The retreat was sponsored by the diocesan Office of Youth Ministry, which is one of the ministries supported by contributions to the Diocesan Support Appeal.

Catholic Social Services

invites you and your golfing friends to join us!

3RD ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT



Monday, April 3 - 11:30 a.m.

Carolina Golf and Country Club
2415 Old Steele Creek Rd., Charlotte

Visiting honoree: Sr. Eileen McLoughlin, MSBT
— former CSS Counseling Supervisor

\$125 fee includes cart, box lunch and dinner
Registration or information: 704-370-3232



Spring Fever?

**We've got just what
the doctor ordered...**

1551 Trinity Lane, Hickory, NC 28602
(828) 327-7441 or Toll-free (888) 536-7441

Come take a breath of fresh air on our front porch. With fifty comfortable hotel style lodging rooms, six meeting and break-out areas, delicious meals and snacks, miles of beauty on woodland pathways and reflective areas, you'll be feeling like spring through and through. Call to plan your special event and renew your spirit!



**The Catholic
Conference
Center**

Check out our website
www.catholicconference.org
info@catholicconference.org

Growing in the faith

Catholic Daughters welcome junior court in Sylva

BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH
CORRESPONDENT

SYLVA — Good example inspired Stormy DeLucia to become a founding member of the Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas (JCDA) court at St. Mary, Mother of God Church in Sylva.

DeLucia, 14, was impressed with the members of Court St. Mary, Mother of God No. 2534 of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

"I was attracted because I noticed that the ladies who were in the Catholic Daughters were very active in the church," DeLucia said. "It just seemed like they really knew why they were Catholic and what they stood for."

"I think (JCDA) will help me understand my faith more and to appreciate my church and everyone who's involved in it," she said.

Catholic Daughters, the largest organization of Catholic women in the Americas, is open to Catholic women 18 and older. JCDA serves girls ages 6 through 17. Chapters are called "courts."

The local Catholic Daughters wanted to sponsor a JCDA court "to stimulate the young people to get them interested in projects that are of value to the Church," said Rita Goffinet, the court's recording secretary.

On Feb. 12, the JCDA worldwide celebrated its 80th anniversary. To commemorate the occasion, Court St. Mary, Mother of God sponsored a JCDA court, the first in the Diocese of Charlotte.

Father Ray Williams, pastor of St. Mary, Mother of God Church and the

sponsoring court's chaplain, celebrated the installation Mass at the church Feb. 12.

Maryann Grabasky, Catholic Daughters state regent (president); Sheila Storey, first state vice regent; and Sandy Beauchemin, local court regent, presided at the installation ceremony.

They received five girls into the JCDA court: Kathryn Hayes, president, Camille Ensley, Kristin Geier, Arianna Holt and Kaitlyn Karcher.

"I've always liked participating in the church and helping out in the community," said Kathryn, 16, who is an altar server at St. Mary, Mother of God Church and has volunteered with the Harris Regional Medical Center auxiliary and at a daycare center.

At a post-Mass reception, Father Williams read the national JCDA's anniversary proclamation.

Inclement weather prevented seven other potential JCDA members from attending the Feb. 12 ceremony, but they were received into the court March 4 during the JCDA's first official meeting.

Gwen Parris, the sponsoring court's first vice regent, installed Stormy as vice president; Ana Maria Balta as secretary; and Mary Jo Cope as treasurer.

Sara Freeman, JCDA facilitator and chairman of the local Catholic Daughters youth committee, installed Madeleine Franzen, Emily Gonzalez, Anna Pierce and Regina Stanton.

The girls' mothers were invited to join them to celebrate the occasion at a luncheon after the meeting.

Knights of Columbus founded the Catholic Daughters of the Americas (originally called the National Order of the



COURTESY PHOTO BY VICKI DORSEY

A Junior Catholic Daughters of America court was recently instituted at St. Mary, Mother of God Church in Sylva Feb. 12. Pictured (from left): Jane Sullivan, Rita Goffinet, Sandra Beauchemin, Arianna Holt, MaryAnn Grabasky, Kristin Geier, Father Walter Williams, Camille Ensley, Sara Freeman, Kaitlyn Karcher, Sheila Storey, Kathryn Hayes, Gwen Parris and Susan Karcher.

Daughters of Isabella) in Utica, N.Y., in 1903. According to its Web site, Catholic Daughters' purpose is to participate in the Catholic Church's "religious, charitable and educational apostolates."

Court St. Mary Mother of God, founded in 2004, has 47 members. They help the parish with such things as fundraising events, including one that provided money to help the Catholic Center at Western Carolina University. They also assist with receptions after funerals.

During Lent last year, the Catholic Daughters were in charge of a 24-hour period of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and plan to do that again this year. They also sponsored a WRAP project, encouraging people to Wear a white Ribbon Against Pornography.

The JCDA court is planning its first project, a vocations exhibit to foster interest in religious vocations.

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail jnell@dnet.net.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Catholic Daughters has nearly 95,000 members in 1,400 courts in the United States, Puerto Rico, Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Guam, Saipan, and the Virgin Islands, the Web site notes.

The Catholic Daughters and JCDA promote the development of the whole person through programs of self-identity and personal growth; serve the parish and community; encourage spiritual growth; and encourage programming that is open and creative to meet current needs and concerns.

There are currently seven Catholic Daughters courts in the Diocese of Charlotte

For more information on the Catholic Daughters, visit www.catholicdaughters.org.

JOIN OTHER CATHOLICS AND FATHER KRISS
DEPARTING SEPTEMBER 23, 2006

California

Golden West Tour

2 Weeks from **\$949***

Join Your Spiritual Director Fr. Aaron Kriss and other Roman Catholics on this terrific 15-day motor coach tour departing September 23, 2006. Fly round-trip to Los Angeles and visit L.A., Hollywood, Beverly Hills, Laughlin, NV on the Colorado River; Las Vegas; & Prim Nevada; Yosemite National Park; San Francisco; Monterey and the 17-Mile Drive; California's Scenic Hwy. One Coastal Drive (big Sur); the Danish Village of Solvang; and more! Prices, including 14 nights hotels, baggage handling, all taxes and escorted motor coach sightseeing, start at only \$949 (per person, double occupancy). *Add \$500 round trip airfare from Charlotte. Space is limited and \$100 deposits are now due. Friends and family are welcome. Mass available some days on tour.

For brochure with day-to-day itinerary call:

'YOUR MAN' TOUR 1-800-968-7626

Carefree vacations since 1967!

Earthbound ANGELS...

POSITIONS AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY
HOME HELPERS, COMPANIONS & CNA'S



Join our team of people who make a real difference in the lives of seniors —

Home Instead Senior Care is seeking friendly and dependable people in the Mecklenburg County area to provide home care assistance and companionship to seniors.

Call 704-344-9739

8 AND 12 HOUR SHIFTS AVAILABLE
Part Time, Full Time, AM/PM and Weekend Hours
Position requires a vehicle.

Home Instead
SENIOR CARE®

Groce

FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

1401 Patton Ave. 72 Long Shoals Road
Asheville, NC Arden, NC
(828) 252-3535 (828) 687-3530

Assuring Absolute Integrity

Asheville's Catholic Funeral Directors
Dale Groce • John Prock

Toll-free (888) 874-3535

Pre-arrangements and obituaries on-line at www.grocefuneralhome.com

Thousands rally at Capitol to protest House-passed immigration bill

BY MARK PATTISON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Thousands of people, many of them Spanish-speaking immigrants, loudly voiced their displeasure about a House-passed immigration bill with a large rally outside the Capitol March 7.

The bill would stiffen penalties for undocumented immigrants and their employers, and Cardinal Roger M. Mahony of Los Angeles has said church and charitable organizations would be subject to prosecution if they aid immigrants. The Senate is considering its own versions of immigration legislation.

Father Jose Hoyos, head of the Spanish apostolate for the Diocese of Arlington, Va., drew cheers from the crowd when, at an interfaith prayer service that was part of the rally, he said, "I want to pray for all the representatives and the senators and the president of the United States, because they have become atheists — because if they were Christians they would not pass this kind of law."

The bill, the Border Protection, Anti-Terrorism and Illegal Immigration Control Act, sponsored by Rep. James Sensenbrenner, R-Wis., passed the House Dec. 16 by a vote of 239-182.

The day of the rally the Senate Judiciary Committee began consideration of an immigration bill drafted by Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., committee chairman.

It includes provisions to criminalize violations of immigration law, including the act of providing aid to illegal immigrants; would make it harder for legal immigrants to become citizens; and would penalize state and local governments that do not pointedly enforce immigration laws, currently only a responsibility of federal agencies.

It would eliminate a visa lottery program that allows up to 50,000 people a year from certain countries to enter the United States legally and would build 700 miles of new fence along the 2,000-mile border with Mexico.

The bill also would expand the employment authorization verification program, but not replace what many say is a flawed database currently used by employers for checking documents.

The National Capital Immigration

Coalition, sponsors of the rally, said they were expecting 20,000 to attend. No crowd estimate was offered by U.S. Park Police. Among the 44 coalition members are the Archdiocese of Washington's Office of Justice and Service, Catholic Charities of the Arlington Diocese and the Catholic social justice lobby Network.

"Neither Sensenbrenner's bill nor Specter's markup is a solution to our immigration problem," said coalition chairman Jaime Contreras. "In fact, their proposal will only create more problems instead of fixing them."

"What we need is real, comprehensive immigration reform," he said, touting the Secure America and Orderly Immigration Act, co-sponsored by Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Ted Kennedy, D-Mass., as the preferred alternative.

The McCain-Kennedy bill includes provisions for border security, temporary worker visas and family reunification. It would require efforts by foreign countries to help control the flow of emigrants, cover the costs borne by hospitals that provide emergency care for undocumented immigrants, promote citizenship, and take various steps to prevent fraud.

The Catholic bishops of Arizona stated their support of the bill last year, saying it took "a comprehensive approach to a complex issue."

Eduardo Castro, 35, came to the rally from a Catholic church in Baltimore. Castro, who owns a small construction firm, said he came to the United States in 1988 to flee the civil war in his native El Salvador.

He said the reaction he gets from people in America about immigration is far removed from the language in the Sensenbrenner bill.

"Most people I talk to about the bill, they look at me and say, 'Oh, my God! Is this true?' ... It's like they're trying to build the perfect race, like in Germany," he said.

Immigration system needs reform

REFORM, from page 1

topic, "Welcome the stranger among us — unity in diversity," on the Sisters of Mercy campus in Belmont March 11.

In a phone interview, Franken said Catholics have a responsibility to develop a "gospel attitude" toward immigrants, regardless of their legal status.

"As people of faith, we look at how laws affect people from a moral perspective," he said. "Are these laws humane? Do they uphold the God-given right to human dignity?"

While the U.S. bishops' don't condone breaking any criminal or civil law, they do believe the current policies are morally unacceptable, Franken added.

"We must look at why so many people are compelled to come here by illegal means," he said. "These people leave their homes because of lack of opportunities."

"Many people in Central America live in conditions marked by poverty and exclusion," said Terri Jarina, program director of the diocesan Office of Justice and Peace. "They face an increasing gap between the rich and the poor, and they have inadequate educational and public health systems."

Reforming the system

While Catholic Relief Services, the U.S. bishops' international relief and development agency, supports the right of the government to enforce the law and protect the national security interests, it also recognizes that the existing "complex and unworkable immigration

system" has made it nearly impossible for many immigrants to achieve legal status, according to its Web site.

"A comprehensive package of reforms will provide Americans with an immigration system that safeguards the homeland, restores the rule of law and maintains our ideals as a nation of immigrants," Franken said.

The U.S. bishops support the Secure America and Orderly Immigration Act, which was introduced to Congress in May 2005. The act would not increase immigration in the employment area, but legalize it, since immigrants are already entering and working without documentation.

By legalizing the undocumented workforce, wages for all workers increase because the undocumented are better able to organize and assert their rights in the workplace.

Undocumented immigrants have broken a civil law, not a criminal one, Franken said. "Have they broken the law, or has the law broken them?"

The argument people use to protest immigration — they won't adapt to American culture, they don't learn English, they're criminals — are the same arguments that were used a century ago against immigrants.

"The facts don't bear out that there is any greater criminal activity among today's immigrants than there was in previous generations," said Franken. "If we had a more rational immigration system, allowing fewer people to live on the margins of society, we could direct our resources to violent criminals."

"Cities with large percentages of foreign-born in their population are typically low-crime, not high-crime

NEW July dates!

Pilgrimage to Poland – Remembering JPII



July 6 - 15, 2006 – 10 days, 14 meals

Warsaw, Czestochowa, Krakow, Auschwitz, Divine Mercy Shrine, Wadowice & more.

Airfare, hotels & transfers included. \$2,789 per person (double) from Columbia, SC. Call Fr. Andrew Vollkommer, Our Lady of the Lake, for brochure: 803-345-3962.

BINGO

it's here!!!

Doors open: 6 pm

BINGO starts: 7 pm sharp!

St. Matthew K of C

BINGO at the new

South Charlotte Banquet Center
every Monday evening

Food and refreshments available

NON-SMOKING FACILITY

CASH ONLY - ATM AVAILABLE

9009 Bryant Farms Rd.

Directions: from 485- exit Rea Road (south). Right on Ballantyne. Past St. Matthew, turn left on Elm Lane (which turns into Bryant Farms Road). K of C Banquet Center is approximately 2 miles on the left.



MARY KAY®

give
the girls
a call.

Looking for a fun way to enjoy a little girl time? Plan a Mary Kay party! Invite your girlfriends. Enjoy free makeovers.

Exchange beauty tips. It's a beautiful way to bond! Call me to schedule the fun.

Mention this ad for
15% off web site orders!

Meredith Magyar

Independent Beauty Consultant
www.marykay.com/meredith126
704-236-4839

Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Charlotte 704-334-6421

Pineville 704-544-1412

Mint Hill 704-545-4864

Derita 704-596-3291

n, say Catholic leaders

"We need to remember our own ancestors' stories of how they came to the United States and why they came."

"I think Jesus would expect the Catholic Church to treat all people with love and compassion, as he did," she said. "He saw persons with his heart and helped them in their need."

Stemming the flow

Franken said it's a myth that better security will stop illegal immigration.

"It will make it more difficult, but will in no way stem the flow," said Franken. "People will always risk their lives for a better way of life."

Franken is convinced tightened border security will result in increased tunnels, smuggling, organized crime and, eventually, boat people landing in California and in the Gulf Coast states.

"We must ensure the best we can, that people are not coming here to do us harm," Franken said. "Our nation's trade, economic aid, debt relief and other types of economic and social policies should help to create conditions in which people are not compelled to leave their homes."

On Dec. 16, 2005, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Border Protection, Anti-Terrorism and Illegal Immigration Control Act, which would stiffen penalties for undocumented immigrants and their employers.

"We need to remember our own ancestors' stories of how they came to the United States and why they came," said Sister Inkrott.

An economic necessity

Jaime Contreras, National Capital Immigration Coalition chairman, said

cities," Stephen Moore wrote in his essay, "Immigration and the Rise and Decline of American Cities," published by Stanford University's Hoover Institute.

"For example, the 17 cities with the most immigrants in 1990 had a 1991 crime rate of 8.7 per 1,000 population. The cities with the fewest immigrants had a crime rate 17 percent higher, or 10.5 per 1,000 persons," he said.

The cities with the most immigrants in 1980 also had lower crime rates on average (9.2 per 1,000) than the low-immigration cities (11.1 per 1,000), according to Moore.

"In sum, crime is more rampant in cities with few immigrants than in cities with many immigrants," Moore said.

"I do not condone breaking the law, but I am very much concerned that we do not seem to be asking 'Why are people breaking the law?'" said Franciscan Sister Andrea Inkrott, director of diocesan Hispanic Ministry.



CNS PHOTO BY PAUL HARING

Magdalena Schwartz makes a statement with symbolic handcuffs during an immigration rally on the west lawn of the Capitol in Washington March 7. The crowd was protesting a House-passed immigration bill that they contend would allow law enforcement authorities to prosecute social service workers and others who help illegal immigrants.

each year immigrant workers contribute \$90 billion in income taxes, up to \$7 billion in Social Security taxes and receive only \$5 billion in services.

Contreras spoke at a March 7 rally in Washington protesting the border protection act.

According to the U.S. bishops' Web site, studies show that immigrant workers are employed in jobs in industries that do not attract sufficient U.S. workers.

The U.S. Department of Labor has predicted that the United States will experience a labor shortage in many "unskilled job categories" by as early as 2008.

More than 80 percent of agricultural

workers are foreign-born, as are the majority of laborers in the meatpacking and poultry industries. More than one-third of all dishwashers, janitors, maids and cooks are also foreign-born.

"Our country has always been a country of immigrants, who bring with them many gifts as well as their hands to do the manual labor in our fields and factories," said Sister Inkrott. "As Catholics they bring with them their faith and their values — gifts that the local Catholic community can benefit from in a mutual sharing of faith and values."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

Mark your calendar now for the

Second
Diocese of Charlotte
Eucharistic Congress —
Charlotte Convention Center

OCTOBER 6 & 7

Visit the Web site
www.GoEucharist.com
often for the latest updated
information about programs and
speakers, as well as opportunities
to volunteer.



Diocese of Charlotte
EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS
2006

Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School
proudly presents

OKLAHOMA



RJ Reynolds Auditorium
301 N. Hawthorne St., Winston-Salem
March 23 and 24 — 10 am and 8 pm
March 25 — 8 pm

Tickets: \$10 at the door
Information: Sr. Anne at (336) 564-1002

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



Don't miss upcoming
BOOK SIGNING Monday, May 1st — 10 am
Monroe Road store

• Carl Olson, author of *DaVinci Code Hoax* and
Will Catholics Be Left Behind?

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

\$5 OFF
Any Purchase
of \$35 or More
Present coupon. Not valid with any
other offers. Expires 4/30/06

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Understanding sacrifice is theme of Virginia Catholic writer's novel

BY JEAN DENTON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

BLACKSBURG, Va. — Killing spiders on Good Friday, building bonfires to burn Judas in effigy on Holy Saturday, draping purple cloths over crucifixes and holy pictures — welcome to Holy Week in the recollections of Catholic author Irma Silva-Barbeau.

These memories also are found in the pages of her first novel, "A Sweet Oblation."

Silva-Barbeau, of Blacksburg, Va., explores the joy of loving sacrifice through the open heart of a child who is learning the meaning behind the religious and cultural practices of Lent and Easter.

She places the story in the colorful culture of her native Cape Verde in the years before the Second Vatican Council. The country is a group of islands in the North Atlantic Ocean, west of the African country of Senegal.

She takes the reader on a spiritual journey of discovery with her character, 12-year-old Isabel, as she probes the questions — and the answers — about self-denial and love of Jesus and the poor.

Isabel learns that giving up something as small as a candy bar can help her detach herself from the things of the world so she can draw closer to God.

"I wanted the sacrifice to be something small — a very simple gift for a child — a candy bar or Isabel just holding back in class at school to allow someone else to shine, to show that the littlest sacrifices can bring us close to God," Silva-Barbeau said.

The author's story of Isabel, who is based largely on her own childhood and spiritual experiences — is told in the language of a mother explaining to her daughter the value of a penitential season and the difference between suffering in the context of love and simply suffering.

Silva-Barbeau also celebrates some older Catholic practices — such as the veiling of crucifixes and sacred images and rigorous fasting — through the lens of post-Vatican II understanding.

An active member of St. Mary's Church in Blacksburg, Silva-Barbeau was 14 years old when she immigrated to the U.S. with her parents and siblings from Cape Verde, then still a Portuguese colony.

The family went to Massachusetts, which has a large population of Cape Verdeans. That connection was made in the early 19th century, when whaling ships from New Bedford, Mass., would stop periodically in the islands as they sailed their route.

With a doctorate in international nutrition from Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y., Silva-Barbeau has traveled extensively in developing countries in West Africa and South and Central America.

She specializes in research and development projects in the field of hunger and malnutrition and has worked on numerous projects for organizations such as the U.S. Agency for International Development and Catholic Relief Services, the U.S. bishops' overseas relief and development agency.

She and her husband, Bill, a professor at Virginia Tech, a state university in Blacksburg, co-published a report on a successful project in Gambia in the Food and Nutrition Bulletin of the United Nations.

She said she had never thought of the idea of writing as a vocation, but as she got older she became "more introspective" and realized she had some stories to tell.

"I realized how blessed I've been with opportunities and education — I've worked with presidents and the lowliest farmers. I learned that for me, as I understand it is for many writers, the characters come to you," she said. "As I remembered things from my own past, the story started writing itself."



AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles
Licensed & Insured
FREE ESTIMATES
www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: MAR. 26, 2006

March 26, Fourth Sunday
of Lent

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23
Psalm 137:1-6
- 2) Ephesians 2:4-10
- 3) Gospel: John 3:14-21

Jesus' love is unconditional

BY BEVERLY CORZINE
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

For weeks our evenings had been inundated with a deluge of prerecorded telephone calls urging us to vote for or against someone or something. Our latest strategy was not to answer if we didn't recognize the number.

Recently, on an evening of incessant ringing, my husband brought me the phone. I thought, "Why in the world did he answer it?"

After being hammered with unwanted calls for days, I guess I had temporarily forgotten that sometimes we did want to talk to the person calling.

However, I realized that this particular call was high priority when I hear the familiar salutation: "Hi Grandma. This is Olivia." Olivia has a case of First Reconciliation butterflies.

We had a conversation about what she might say when she visits with the priest and how God sent Jesus to let us know how much we are loved no matter what. We talked about her hopes of getting a priest she knows.

Then she said, "Would you like to

hear me say the Our Father?"

"Of course," I replied. I listened to the words of this ancient prayer and heard the innocence in the voice I love so much.

I told her she did a wonderful job and did not miss a word. She told me she would call back soon with the Hail Mary.

The conversation ended with our declarations of love for each other.

My husband asked, "What was that all about?"

Glowing, I answered, "Olivia wanted me to hear her say the Lord's Prayer." I was struck with her confidence in Jesus.

On this fourth Sunday of Lent, all the readings assure us that God has always loved us. However, that assurance may have been blocked by a lifetime of thinking that God is just waiting to zap the unsuspecting into oblivion.

John's Gospel says otherwise, especially in one of the most memorized verses in the Bible that illustrates the depth of that love — John 3:16: "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son."

As my granddaughter said, "Jesus loves us no matter what."

Questions:

What experiences or conditions in your life make you tend to forget God's unconditional love? What Lenten practice can help keep you conscious every day of that love?

Scripture to Illustrate:

The light came into the world, but men loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were wicked. ... But he who acts in truth comes into the light" (Jn 3:19, 21).

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 19-25

Sunday (Third Sunday of Lent), Exodus 20:1-17, 1 Corinthians 1:22-25, John 2:13-25; **Monday (St. Joseph)**, 2 Samuel 7:4-5, 12-14, 16, Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22, Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24; **Tuesday (Lenten Weekday)**, Daniel 3:25, 34-43, Matthew 18:21-35; **Wednesday (Lenten Weekday)**, Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9, Matthew 5:17-19; **Thursday (St. Toribio de Mogrovejo)**, Jeremiah 7:23-28, Luke 11:14-23; **Friday (Lenten Weekday)**, Hosea 14:2-10, Mark 12:28-34; **Saturday (The Annunciation of the Lord)**, Isaiah 7:10-14, Hebrews 10:4-10, Luke 1:26-38.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 26-APRIL 1

Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent), 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23, Ephesians 2:4-10, John 3:14-21; **Monday (Lenten Weekday)**, Isaiah 65:17-21, John 4:43-54; **Tuesday (Lenten Weekday)**, Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12, John 5:1-16; **Wednesday (Lenten Weekday)**, Isaiah 49:8-15, John 5:17-30; **Thursday (Lenten Weekday)**, Exodus 32:7-14, John 5:31-47; **Friday (Lenten Weekday)**, Wisdom 2:1, 12-22, John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30; **Saturday (Lenten Weekday)**, Jeremiah 11:18-20, John 7:40-53.

ATTENTION ALL YOUNG PEOPLE AGES 13 - 30!

John 6:35 YOUTH RETREAT

one of several Eucharistic Retreats being held throughout the nation in response to the challenging message of World Youth Day

April 7-9 at Cardinal Gibbons High School, Raleigh

Respond to the call of Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI as you come to learn how to live and proclaim the Gospel! Gather with others your age for prayer, adoration, singing and learning about our Catholic faith.

Info: (919) 847-2220 (Marguerite Jr.) or www.inhisname.com/John635retreat/home.htm



St. Thomas Aquinas Academy
Asheville, North Carolina

www.stthomasaquinasacademy.org

(828) 687-7714

Accepting applications for ninth, tenth and eleventh grades.

Member, National Association of Private, Catholic and Independent Schools
St. Thomas Aquinas Academy is a private school, independent of the Charlotte Diocesan school system.

Decoding the truth

'Jesus Decoded' site launched to counter claims in 'Da Vinci Code'

BY CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — A new Web site sponsored by the U.S. bishops' Catholic Communication Campaign has been established to provide accurate information about the life of Jesus, the origins of Christianity and Catholic teaching to counter claims made in the best-selling novel "The Da Vinci Code" by Dan Brown.

The site, www.jesusdecoded.com, was launched March 9. A film version of the book is slated for nationwide release May 19.

The site contains information that refutes claims made in the book about the nature of Jesus; his relationship with Mary Magdalene; the first four ecumenical councils of the early church and how they shaped today's teaching about Jesus; contemporaneous accounts of Jesus' life that were not selected for the New Testament; the role of women in the church throughout history; and the "Last Supper" paintings by Leonardo da Vinci and other artists of his era.

Also found on the site is a column by John Thavis, Rome Bureau chief for Catholic News Service, on the level of Vatican reaction to the book and forthcoming movie.

There is also an essay from the U.S. bishops' Office for Film & Broadcasting on the marketing hype behind the movie; and a commentary, "What's Wrong With 'The Da Vinci Code'?", written by Father John Wauck, a U.S. priest of Opus Dei, the personal prelature which figures prominently in the novel.

The site also has production

information on the CCC's "Jesus Decoded" TV special, including information on air dates and times in cities around the United States. The program, shot on location in Israel, Turkey and Italy, includes interviews with international scholars versed in art, history and Scripture who "help separate Catholic truth from popular fiction."

It has been offered to NBC affiliates, but each affiliate's management makes the decision whether to air it.

"Many of my students and myself included enjoy a good, fast-paced novel, and enjoyed 'The Da Vinci Code' on that level, as a tall tale of adventure," said Alan Schreck, chairman of the theology department at the Franciscan University of Steubenville in Ohio, who contributed an essay to the Web site on early church ecumenical councils.

"There's a level where this book is appealing to people," Schreck told CNS. "That is what makes it dangerous to someone, if they believe it's a historical representation or an accurate theological presentation."

Rather than cover up the truth about Jesus, as the novel suggests, the early church councils tried to uncover the truth, according to Schreck.

In those councils, the participants "asked critical questions and had entertained different views of who Jesus was, his mission, and in this process saw the need to clarify the truth about Jesus that sprung from the most authentic and reliable sources about him," Schreck said.

"And there were many sources about him that were being promulgated," he said.

Southern sounds in school



COURTESY PHOTO

David Holt (right), a four-time Grammy Award winner, historian and storyteller; and Josh Goforth (center), a native of Asheville and fellow traditional and acoustical musician, are pictured outside Our Lady of Grace School in Greensboro Feb. 27 with school librarian Doris Melson.

Melson arranged the visit of Holt and Goforth, who delighted the students and guests with traditional American storytelling and folklore interwoven with their musical performance. Holt, who played a number of homemade acoustical instruments, reflected on Southern culture and ways of the craftsmen and musicians of the Southern mountains.

"The day was a very special one, as it brought schoolchildren, their families, Our Lady of Grace parishioners and fellow librarians from across the country together for an inspirational and uplifting performance," said Melson.

A worthwhile 'Vendetta'

"V for Vendetta" is a provocative futuristic thriller based in London about a masked antihero (Hugo Weaving) who enlists the aid of a young office worker (Natalie Portman) to undermine a totalitarian government.

That government is headed by an Orwellian dictator (John Hurt) and his cowering advisers (Stephen Rea, Rupert Graves, Tim Pigott-Smith).

Director James McTeigue, working from a Wachowski Brothers adaptation of Alan Moore (uncredited by choice) and illustrator David Lloyd's graphic novel, has crafted a reasonably intelligent political allegory, with emphasis on character development, ideas and even a bit of romance, rather than simple mindless violence.

The performances are first rate, and the film's theme of the individual's

responsibility in standing up to tyranny — while questioning the moral limits of opposition — is worthy, and stops short of imparting a universal anti-authoritarian message.

Some discreetly handled violence with bloodshed, a hanging, scattered profanity, rough and crude language and expressions, minor lesbian-themed flashback and implied gay male character, corrupt Anglican clergyman, attempted rape, sexual innuendo, drug use.

The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is L — limited adult audience, films whose problematic content many adults would find troubling.

The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

***** Now with 3 locations to serve you *****



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels. 

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooreville
704-663-1065

A Creative Later Life: A Gift To Be Cherished —

*a look at God's call to continue to
develop and share our talents and gifts*
Avila Retreat Center in Durham, NC

Presenter: Richard von Stamwitz, Licensed Professional Counselor

Are you considering retirement or already retired? All are welcome to come and share their concerns, hopes and plans. Explore how God is calling you to new beginnings of personal meaning and purpose.

May 1-3, 2006 — Monday, 10 am until Wednesday, 11 am
Cost: \$110 - includes room and meals

For information call: R. von Stamwitz (336) 931-0577 or (919) 477-1285

Eucharistic Conference coming to Asheville

EUCCHARIST, from page 1

At the Basilica of St. Lawrence in Asheville, Bishop Peter J. Jugis will celebrate Mass, followed by a eucharistic procession through the streets to the Asheville Civic Center.

Inside the Civic Center, the conference will feature a holy hour and speaker presentations.

The event is open to all Catholics. Many who attended the diocese's first Eucharistic Congress in Charlotte last

year described the eucharistic procession, holy hour and speakers as sources of spiritual strength and revival.

"We know that making a trip to Charlotte poses a problem for many people in the western part of the diocese," said Father Roger Arnsperger, pastor of St. Barnabas Church in Arden and Eucharistic Conference organizer.

"We want everyone to have the experience of attending a Catholic family gathering centered on the holy Eucharist, and so the decision was made to hold this event in Asheville," he said. "Of course, we also encourage everyone to make the

effort to participate in the upcoming diocesan Eucharistic Congress in Charlotte."

Details of the event, including speakers, are still being formulated. Information about the event and procession route can be found on the section of the diocesan Web site dedicated to the diocesan Eucharistic Congress.

David Hains is director of communications for the Diocese of Charlotte.

WANT MORE INFO?

The Asheville Eucharistic Conference will take place Saturday, June 24, beginning with 9 a.m. Mass at the Basilica of St. Lawrence, followed by a eucharistic procession to the Asheville Civic Center. The conference will include a holy hour and speakers, and is expected to end at approximately 1 p.m.

More details will be available at www.goeucharist.com.

Principal -

Holy Redeemer Catholic School

The Archdiocese of Atlanta seeks a principal for Holy Redeemer Catholic School. The principal is the administrator and educational leader of this elementary School, including students, faculty, and staff; and is accountable for implementation of the mission of Catholic education in the School. MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES: provide leadership and manage School staff; develop long- and short-range plans for the School; provide communication and support for teachers, students, chaplains, pastors, and boards; mentor and provide mediation and conflict resolution among staff, students, and external sources; represent the Archdiocese in matters related to the School; and assure compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws and codes. REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE: Active membership in a Catholic parish; degree in education or a related field; state endorsement in teaching and school administration or eligibility for endorsement; central educational office experience preferred; teaching, administrative and supervisory experience; participative management style; excellent interpersonal, written, and verbal communication skills; strong supervisory and managerial skills; some travel required.

TO APPLY: Send resume, transcripts, licenses and other credentials, references, and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811-5018
Email: mruprecht@cpinternet.com
Telephone: 218-727-5150



PRINCIPAL

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Principal of St. Thomas More School, a practicing Catholic, is the administrator and educational leader of St. Thomas More of the Archdiocese of Atlanta with approximately 500 students and approximately 40 faculty and staff. Appointed by the Archbishop and reporting to the Chancellor, the Principal is accountable to the Archbishop through the Chancellor, for implementation of the mission of Catholic education in St. Thomas More School. The Principal is also responsible for providing leadership and managing the School staff; mentoring and providing mediation and conflict resolution among staff, students, and external sources; developing long and short range plans for the grade School; providing communication and support for teachers, students, chaplains, pastors, and boards; representing the Archdiocese in matters related to St. Thomas More School; and assuring compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws and codes. Some travel required. Send resume, credentials, references and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht,
140 West Myrtle Street,
Duluth, MN 55811-5018
Telephone 218-727-5150
E-mail mruprecht@cpinternet.com



Superintendent -

Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta seeks a superintendent of schools. In cooperation with Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory, the superintendent is the chief administrator and educational leader of 18 Catholic schools, being responsible for their overall spiritual and academic quality, in keeping with the Archbishop's vision and the Church's mission. MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES: managing the Office of Catholic Schools and its staff; developing long- and short-range plans for schools; providing direction and support for local school leadership, pastors, religious congregations, principals, and boards; recruiting, hiring, supervising, and supporting principals; representing the Archdiocese in matters of education; creating, monitoring, updating, and enforcing archdiocesan policies; and ensuring compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws and codes. REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE: Active membership in a Catholic parish; doctorate degree in education or a related field; state endorsement in teaching and school administration or eligibility for endorsement; five to ten years' recent experience in Catholic schools or at the diocesan level; participative management style; excellent interpersonal, written, and verbal communication skills; excellent managerial skills with attention to detail. Some travel required.

TO APPLY: Send resume, transcripts, licenses and other credentials, references, and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811-5018
Email: mruprecht@cpinternet.com
Telephone: 218-727-5150



Classifieds

SERVICES

COUNSELING SERVICES: Individuals. Couples. Family. Lucille Moses, BSN, M.Ed. North Carolina Licensed Professional Counselor. 1801 East 5th Street, 108-B, Charlotte. 704-366-6507 or 704-942-4334.

COUNSELING SERVICES: With a faith perspective. Elizabeth Pantas, MA-Ed., LPC. Individual - Group - Marriage. (828) 628-4621. Parishioner of Basilica of St. Lawrence, Asheville.

Classified ads bring results! Over 135,000 readers! Over 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

FROM THE COVER

Pope discusses women's role in church decision-making, other topics

POPE, from page 1

Rome, Pope Benedict spent two hours listening to their concerns and responding to the questions posed by 15 of them.

Father Marco Valentini asked the pope why the church does not recognize that women's experience, wisdom and points of view would complement those of the men in decision-making positions.

Pope Benedict said, "Everyone certainly has had this experience" that Father Valentini described of being assisted by women in growing in the faith.

"The church owes a great debt of

thanks to women," the pope said.

Women not only have exercised a charismatic function in the church, being prompted by the Holy Spirit to found religious orders, expand charitable projects and develop new forms of piety, he said; they have had "a real and profound participation in the governance of the church."

"How could one imagine the governance of the church without this contribution, which sometimes has been quite visible, like when St. Hildegard criticized the bishops or when St. Brigid and St. Catherine of Siena admonished and obtained the return of the popes to Rome" from Avignon, France, the pope said.

The contribution of women, he said, "always has been a determining factor without which the church could not live."

Pope Benedict said priestly ministry is reserved to men, but "it is right to ask" if it would not be possible "to offer more space, more positions of responsibility to women."

Dealing with several subjects, the pope emphasized the importance of individuals recognizing they have been created by God, entering into a relationship with God and sharing that relationship with others.

He quoted the Old Testament reading used March 2 at Mass: "I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. Choose life."

The decline of Christianity in the West, he said, too often is presented falsely as a choice for life.

"It has been said — I'm thinking of Nietzsche, but also many others — that Christianity is a choice against life. With the cross, with all the commandments, with every 'no' it tells us, it closes the door to life," he said.

But true Christian faith teaches people that the abundance of life comes not from hoarding it, but from giving it, he said.

"Human life is a relationship ... with the Creator, otherwise all relationships are fragile," he said. "A world emptied of God, a world that has forgotten God, loses life and falls into a culture of death."

Pope Benedict said too many people in the West are afraid to have children because they think a child will diminish their lives.

The pope said he personally wanted to thank Catholic mothers "because they have given life, because they want to help this life grow" and because they

introduce their children to "friendship with Jesus."

The pope said a "great solitude" is the basic problem faced by young people.

"Everyone lives in his own world. They are islands of thought and feelings; they never come together," he said.

Without a strong family life and strong faith, the pope said, people forget that they are all children of God and that they are called to live a life in community.

Pope Benedict said too many people give value only to what is new and modern and forget what endures and what unites all people: having been created by God, loved by God and saved by his Son.

Whether dealing with the problems of youth and family life or looking at the church, its liturgy and its relationship to the world, he said, people must remember that "in a moment of renewal and change, the element of the permanent becomes more important."

The church does not ignore or condemn all that is new, the pope said, but it knows it has a treasure of faith, piety and liturgy that has helped people for centuries and can still help them.

Turning to the liturgy, the pope said he was "a bit upset" when the Second Vatican Council changed the liturgical readings for Lent, adopting the reading he had just cited about choosing life or death.

"Today I see that these readings are very beautiful and express the program of Lent: to choose life, that is to renew one's baptismal 'yes,' which is to choose life," he said.

"We must accept the new, but also love continuity and see the council from the viewpoint of continuity," he said.

Principal

St. Anne Catholic School in Rock Hill, South Carolina seeks candidates for principal, starting date of June 1, 2006. Qualifications -- practicing Catholic with dynamic leadership skills, valid educational certification, master's degree in educational administration or equivalent, and evidence of successful teaching experience. Prior experience in school administration preferred. St. Anne School is PK-8 with 300 students. Visit our web site -- www.stanneschool.com

Send letter of interest, resume and statement of philosophy on education to:

Principal Search Committee
Attention: Ms. Susie Hinton
St. Anne Catholic School
1698 Bird Street
Rock Hill, SC 29730

BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED



Conveniently located on campus
I-85 exit 26

Join us Friday, March 24th from 2pm to 6pm
for our Abbey Experience open house event!

RSVP by calling 1.888.222.0110, emailing admissions@bac.edu or logging onto

www.BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Make the Beatitudes your Lenten program

God offers many great suggestions for Lent

It's Lent again.

Every year we try to think of some new penance that will help us sing "Alleluia" at Easter and really mean it. Why not let Jesus set the agenda?

He tells us straight out in Matthew's Gospel how we can be happy. Why not follow his instructions in the Beatitudes?

So here is the plan for a blessed Lent:

— Happy are the poor in spirit, theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Go on a shopping fast. Don't spend money except for absolute necessities.

I've decided the only things I will buy during Lent are necessities I can get at my local supermarket and gas station. (My supermarket also has a pharmacy and dry cleaner.)

Most people spend too much money on stuff they don't need. This is a good way to become detached from things and truly "poor in spirit."

— Happy are they who mourn.

Go to the funerals at your parish church. Attend wakes of parishioners, even if you don't know them. Pray for the dead.

Better yet, volunteer to help with funerals. It is a great sign of what we mean by the "communion of saints," a great way to show sympathy and solidarity.

Maybe someday when you are mourning a stranger will come to support you. As the Lord says, "They shall be comforted."

— Happy are the meek.

Lose arguments on purpose this Lent. Don't defend yourself to family or friends when they disagree with you. Just say, "You may be right." That will stop 'em cold.

The odd thing is, they will start agreeing with you and concede, "You have a point, too." Then the Lord's prediction will come true, you will inherit the earth.

Losing is how you really win.

— Happy are those who hunger and thirst for justice.

Go to a demonstration for a good cause. Support immigration rights or pro-life issues. Write a letter to your state assemblyman on an issue affecting the poor. Speak out at a community meeting on a local issue like low-cost housing or needs of the mentally ill.

Jesus says it will be very satisfying.

— Happy are the merciful.

Forgive a debt. The bigger, the better. This is especially true for family members' debts.

Parish Diary

FATHER
PETER J. DALY
CNS COLUMNIST



If somebody owes you money you can afford to live without, forgive the loan. If somebody needs a car and you can afford to give your old one, give it.

They won't forget your generosity. Someday they may show you some mercy, as Jesus says.

— Happy are the clean of heart.

Get rid of the things that pollute your life. If you have cable channels or magazines that bring temptations into your house, get rid of them. If you find yourself tempted by the Internet, get a filter.

All we really need to see in the end is what the clean of heart will see: God.

— Happy are the peacemakers.

End an old argument. Settle a quarrel. If you can't do it, what makes you think the Palestinians and Israelis should be able to do it? Call a truce to a longstanding feud in your family.

Break the ice by saying, "I'm sorry if I ever caused you pain." Then you will be one of God's own children.

— Happy are those who are persecuted and insulted because of me.

When somebody criticizes your religious devotion or faith, let it go. Don't fight, but don't disappear. Let your life be the witness. Your reward will be great in heaven.

That is a program for Lent. Thanks to the Lord for the suggestions.

'The Mystery of Christ and his Church'

Pope says personal faith is essential, but so is church community

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — While personal faith in Jesus is essential in a Christian's life, Jesus also came to gather his disciples into a new people of God, the community of the church, Pope Benedict XVI said.

"A slogan in vogue a few years ago, 'Jesus, yes; the church, no,' is completely irreconcilable with the intention of Christ," the pope said March 15 at his weekly general audience.

The audience, held in St. Peter's Square under bright, sunny skies, marked the beginning of a series of audience talks Pope Benedict planned on "The Mystery of Christ and his Church."

"In the catechesis that begins today, I want to demonstrate how the light of Christ's face is reflected in the face of the church, despite the limits and shadows of our fragile and sinful humanity," the pope said.

Pope Benedict criticized the "individualistic interpretation" of Christ's ministry espoused by "liberal theologians" such as the late German theologian Adolf von Harnack.

The idea of von Harnack and others that Jesus' mission is addressed only to individuals, he said, "is a typically modern" interpretation of relationships and does not fit in with the biblical description of God establishing a covenant with an entire people and sending Jesus to establish a new covenant and save all humanity.

Setting aside his prepared text, the

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



pope said, "this individualistic Jesus is a Jesus of fantasy. We cannot have Jesus without the reality (of the church) he created and through which he communicates himself."

Even if Jesus' preaching "always was an appeal to personal conversion, he constantly aimed at the formation of the people of God which he came to gather, unify and save," the pope said.

Jesus founded the church by calling the Twelve Apostles, sharing his life and ministry with them and entrusting the continuing guidance of the new community to them, he said.

"Having entrusted to them at the Last Supper before his Passion the task of celebrating his memorial, Jesus demonstrated that he wanted to transfer to the entire community — in the person of its leaders — the mandate of being the sign and instrument in history of the gathering he began," the pope said.

"The Twelve Apostles are the most evident sign of the will of Christ regarding the existence and mission of his church, the guarantee that between Christ and his church there is no contradiction," he said.

Again speaking without notes, the pope said Jesus and the church "are inseparable despite the sins of the people who make up the church."

"Christ is present today among his people, especially through those who are the successors of the apostles," he said. "And his continuing presence in the community is a motive for our joy."

Letter to the Editor

Guest column a timely reminder

I commend Kevin Roeten for his guest column, "The miracle beyond reality" (Feb. 17).

It was very timely, because we are not reminded enough of, and we tend to forget, the substantial real presence of Jesus in the holy Eucharist.

"This is my body. This is my blood." Surely it is! Amen.

— Don Millard
Charlotte

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

'Faith alone' is not enough

Jesus said faith and action necessary for salvation

Protestant theologian Karl Barth advised his followers not to be discouraged if they are having trouble believing all the claims of Christianity:

"Those who have to contend with unbelief should be advised that they ought not take their own unbelief too seriously. Only faith is to be taken seriously, and if they have faith as tiny as a grain of mustard seed, that suffices for the devil to have lost his game."

I've always been uncomfortable with his oversimplification. Jesus did refer to faith and the mustard seed, but he said a great deal more.

Jesus never said that faith alone saves. What he did say was that faith and action are necessary for salvation: "Believe in me," and "keep my commandments" (Jn 14:12,15).

I love our separated brethren. Many have great love for the Lord, but those who think that the Gospel only calls them to accept Jesus and then rest on their laurels have put themselves at some considerable risk.

Some compound their error by saying that Catholics believe they are saved by their works. The church has never believed or taught that.

In fact, the church condemned Pelagius, an English monk of the fifth

century, for teaching what we name Pelagianism. It is the belief that we save ourselves by our good deeds. The church flatly rejected this erroneous theory.

Then exactly what did Jesus teach on this topic?

Jesus proclaimed this message: "Repent and be baptized for the forgiveness sins ..., and love one another." In Chapter 25:40 of St. Matthew's Gospel, he spells it out: "What you do for the least of my brethren you do for me."

He goes on to explain how our judgment will take place: "When the Son of Man comes ... he will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come blessed of my Father, take your heritage prepared for you ..., for when I was hungry you gave me to eat, and when I was thirsty you gave me to drink' (Mt 25:33, 34).

We will be judged by our deeds as well as our faith. Jesus never said, "Faith alone saves."

Rather, he insisted that we are to believe in him and take care of our neighbor: "I tell you solemnly, insofar as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me. And they will go away to eternal

Spirituality for Today

FATHER JOHN CATOIR
CNS COLUMNIST



punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life" (Mt 25:46).

The Catholic Church urges the people of God to live a life according to the teachings of Jesus, and this means a life of faith and charitable action.

St. Paul spoke against the necessity of circumcising non-Jewish converts. In his letter to the Romans (3:28), he said that "a man is justified by faith and not by doing something the law tells him to do."

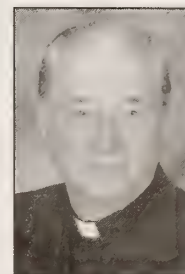
However, Paul never meant to cancel the Gospel teaching of Jesus, who called us perform good deeds with humility:

"Be careful not to parade your good deeds before men to attract their notice. ...When you give alms, do not have it trumpeted before you" (Mt 6:1, 2).

Blessing of throats by lay ministers

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



rites designate how to perform blessing

Q. On the feast of St. Blase, it is customary to have our throats blessed. We were surprised to see [lay] ministers giving the St. Blase blessing. Have they been mandated by the bishop to perform this blessing? (New York)

A. According to the approved blessing of throats on the feast of St. Blase, "the blessing of throats may be given by a priest, deacon or lay minister who follows the rites and prayers designated for a lay minister."

During Mass, the blessing follows the reading of the Gospel, homily and the General Intercessions. Outside of Mass, within a prayer service, the blessing is made at an appropriate time.

In either case, with crossed candles touched to the throat of each person, the priest, deacon or lay minister says, "Through the intercession of St. Blase, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

Priests and deacons make the sign of the cross over the person as the invocation is recited. Lay ministers say the same words, touching the throat of each person, but do not make the sign of the cross over the person receiving the blessing.

Thus, what you experienced is entirely proper in the church's regulations for the blessing of throats.

A further regulation provides that if the blessing cannot appropriately be given individually, the priest, or whoever is leading the celebration, extends hands over the people and says the prayer of blessing for everyone at the same time.

These rubrics are found in the Book of Blessings for the United States, confirmed by the Vatican in 1989.

A free brochure on ecumenism, including questions on intercommunion and other ways of sharing worship, is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 5515, Peoria, IL 61612.

Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address, or e-mail: jjdietzen@aol.com.

Just when you thought discrimination was gone

'Others' are friends we haven't made yet

I talked recently with two high school students attending a workshop on discrimination.

Before the workshop they were convinced that no discrimination existed at their school. Nobody uttered racial epithets. The school was diverse, and students of all races played on sports teams together.

They thought tolerance was a given until they looked a little closer.

What about the learning-disabled boy in class, the one everybody called a "retard"? What about the time someone said that a friend had to be good at math "because she was Asian"?

What about the names certain classmates used to describe gay and lesbian students? What about condescending attitudes some had toward certain other groups?

For teens, discrimination isn't always as clear-cut as some might imagine. While race can be a factor in some schools, it isn't always about black and white, it's about "us and them."

On the TV show "Lost," the main characters were terrorized for a long time by "the Others," people they hadn't met. What made "the Others" frightening was what the castaways didn't know about their appearance, their culture or

their motives.

Who are "the Others" for people today? There are as many answers to this question as there are people in the world.

Employers in the United States are bound by law not to discriminate in the hiring process against people based on their marital status, race, color, sexual orientation, religion, ancestry, age, disability, religion or creed.

In a perfect world, this attitude would be epitomized on a personal level all the time. But people are only human; we all fight with preconceived notions about our "others" on a daily basis.

It may range from thinking that girls just can't play basketball as well as guys to voicing many of the negative characterizations of African Americans that still haunt our culture today.

Most recently, this issue was crystallized by the furor in the Muslim world over satirical cartoons of the prophet Muhammad. It is tempting for many, seeing Arab protesters torching Western emblems, to draw the quick conclusion that the Islamic world is violent, that the Islamic world is "the other," that they're "not like us."

Do those conclusions really take into consideration the political realities of the countries where the rioting happened or

Coming of Age

KAREN DIETLEIN OSBORNE
CNS COLUMNIST



try to understand why, for many Muslims, demeaning Muhammad means demeaning all of Islam? Do these conclusions look beyond the surface? Not really.

It does an injustice to both sides when we snap to a quick conclusion about "the others" and don't reach out to discover the real people behind the stereotypes.

In a culture where it was common to adopt discriminatory attitudes towards lepers, tax collectors, and prostitutes, Jesus made an effort to get to know "the other." He invited them over for dinner, treated them like people and, as a result, made new friends of former strangers.

More connects us to "the others" than divides us from them: life, love, friendship, faith and family.

Ending discrimination in the world is a tall order. It is still pretty obvious that we have a long way to go. Perhaps breaking down discriminatory attitudes at home and at school is a place to start.

That's the plan of the two students I talked to, at least. They were going to get to know more about their "others," whether they were Goth girls, the loud lacrosse team, the cheerleaders or anyone else they stereotyped.

I think they're on to something.

St. Therese Church serves thousands of Catholics in south Iredell County

MOORESVILLE — The Catholic community in Mooresville was born Jan. 6, 1946 as the St. Gerard Mission of St. Joseph Church in Kannapolis. Redemptorist priests celebrated the liturgy for about a dozen people in the Van Hoy family home.

At the time, the Catholic population of western North Carolina was about 6,000. For a few months, Masses were celebrated in an upper room of the local Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall in Mooresville.

The church family adopted the name St. Therese, in honor of the late-1800s French Carmelite nun from Lisieux.

With help from the Catholic Extension Society, a pre-World War II chapel was purchased from Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville and was relocated, piece by piece, to Mooresville. The town then had its first Catholic church.

Redemptorist priests continued to serve Mooresville Catholics until August 1954, when diocesan priests assumed pastoral care of the Catholic community. St. Therese Church was granted parish status in 1956.

In 1970, Consolata Society Father John Radaelli served as pastor for several months. Later that year, Jesuit priests began their pastorate at St. Therese Church, a presence that continues to this day.

By 1981, about 100 families were worshipping at St. Therese Church each weekend. At this time, the parish took over the responsibility for Catholic campus ministry at Davidson College from St. James Church in Concord.

In 1983, the parish purchased 25 acres of land, with plans to build a new church and parish center. Ground was broken at the new site July 20, 1986.

Having sold the original church building, the parish accepted Central United Methodist Church's invitation to



PHOTO BY GEORGE COBB

Over the past 60 years, St. Therese Church in Mooresville has grown from a community of 12 Catholics to 1,900 families.

share their facilities from October 1987 until moving into the new facility in January 1988.

Then-Bishop John F. Donoghue celebrated the dedication Mass in January 1988. Membership had continued to climb, and the parish consisted of 310 families.

By late 1992, the Catholic population of the Diocese of Charlotte had reached more than 75,000 people. St. Therese Church had 735 families and was the fastest growing parish in the diocese. In June 1997, St. Mark Church in

Huntersville was formed by redrawing the parish boundaries for St. Therese Church.

By March 1998, the parish population had returned to the same level it had been before the 1997 split.

By spring 1999, nearly 1,100 families called St. Therese Church their spiritual home, and overcrowded facilities were insufficient to meet the parish's needs. A capital campaign was

ST. THERESE CHURCH

217 Brawley School Rd.
Mooresville, N.C. 28117
(704) 664-3992

Vicariate: Salisbury

Pastor: Jesuit Father Vincent Curtin

Parochial Vicar: Jesuit Father Joseph Kappes

In Residence: Jesuit Father James

Keogh, Jesuit Father William Lynch

Permanent Deacon: Deacon John Sims

Number of Households: 1,900



Jesuit Father Vincent Curtin

begun to construct a parish life center to house the education and music ministries, and a social hall to accommodate parish-wide events, sports and holiday Masses.

On Sept. 14, 2002, the Lewis Mack Parish Life Center, named for one of the church's founding members, was dedicated and it was none too soon — more than 1,500 families, including almost 1,000 children in faith formation, made up the parish.

The parish center has brought new life to the parish and allowed the expansion of ministries in both the parish and the community.

More than 1,900 parish families now make up St. Therese Church, participating in more than 100 active ministries in the parish and the community.

Contributing to this story was Staff Writer Karen A. Evans.

WALK WHERE JESUS WALKED ON A DIOCESAN-SPONSORED PILGRIMAGE TO



THE HOLY LAND

September 5 – 14

with Fr. James Hawker, Diocesan Vicar
of Education and Pastor, St. Luke Church

Deepen your understanding of our Catholic faith and watch the pages of the Bible come alive as you experience daily Mass at many of the historical sites of our faith.

Highlights include:

- Tiberias, Mt. Carmel, Sea of Galilee area
- Mt. Tabor, Cana, Nazareth — Jesus' boyhood area
- Capernaum, Mount of Beatitudes, River Jordan
- Jerusalem area: Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Via Dolorosa, Lord's Tomb at Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Mount Zion, Upper Room, Dormition Abbey, Wailing Wall
- Dead Sea (excavations and scrolls), Masada, Holocaust memorial
- Bethlehem's historic sites — PLUS much more!

Price: \$2,499 from Charlotte (\$2,599 after June 22) includes airfare, most meals, first-class hotels and all tours. Airport taxes/fees, tips and insurance are extra.

Call Cindi Feerick at 704/370-3332 for a brochure with complete details or Pentecost Tours 800/713-9800 for registration.

Only 4 spaces left! Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise — "The Footsteps of Paul" Greece and Turkey — May 11-21, 2006 Space is limited—register now!



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,949 for inside cabin — includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

Istanbul — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace

Mykonos — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels

Patmos — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation

Kusadasi & Ephesus — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites

Rhodes — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith

Crete — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion

Santorini — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.

Roman Catholic
Diocese of Charlotte



Established Jan. 12, 1972
by Pope Paul VI

MARCH 24, 2006

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 15 No 24

RESPECTING LIFE

Catholics bring legislatures messages on life-and-death issues

BY NANCY FRAZIER
O'BRIEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — In Washington, issues such as parental notification before an abortion, fetal pain and assisted suicide remained on the back burner in Congress and court observers wondered when a judicial challenge to Roe v. Wade might reach the Supreme Court.

But around the country, state legislators were stepping up in defense of life.

Although not every effort was successful, legislators in nearly every state were working to limit abortions, prohibit assisted suicide, improve health care access, eliminate the death penalty, achieve just immigration reform and enact a living wage for workers.

And in many places, Catholics were taking their messages directly to legislators.

See ISSUES, page 7

Irish jigging in the streets



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Dancers from Rince na h'Eireann School of Traditional Irish Dance make their way past St. Peter Church in Charlotte as part of the 10th annual St. Patrick's Day parade March 18.

St. Patrick's parade, festival held in Charlotte

CHARLOTTE — Catholic schools and local Catholic organizations marched in the 10th annual St. Patrick's Day parade in uptown Charlotte March 18.

This year's parade, the largest yet, ran along Tryon Street past St. Peter Church and was viewed by more than 40,000 spectators. It was followed by a free community festival that featured Irish food and live entertainment.

More Coverage

page 8-9 | Parade
photos; history of
St. Patrick's Day parade

Luminous blossoms

Company develops hybrid tea rose in honor of late pope

BY ED LANGLOIS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

PORTLAND, Ore. — There have been medals, mugs, puzzles and even a commemorative umbrella, but an Oregon company has created arguably the most elegant memorial for the late Pope John Paul II.

The company unveiled a hybrid tea rose in honor of the pope, who died a year ago April 2.

See ROSE, page 13

Canceling chaos

Catechists study prayer, meditation at retreat

BY JOANITA NELLENBACH
CORRESPONDENT

LAKE JUNALUSKA — The 25 catechists acknowledged that chaos is part of the journey.

Catechist Oasis 2006's program, "Chaos, Catechists and Contemplation: Finding the Still Point in a Busy Life," began with each person

receiving a drawing of two feet. On those feet, they wrote what causes chaos in their lives: job commitments, too many obligations, and too little time, just to name a few.

Catechist Oasis, March 17-18, emphasized dealing with chaos. The Diocese of Charlotte's Office of Faith Formation and the parish catechetical leaders of the Asheville Vicariate cosponsor

See CATECHISTS, page 5



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Kathy Posey of St. Joseph Church in Bryson City places a tea light on a "feet picture," then prays for the person who wrote on the picture, as part of the Catechist Oasis program March 17-18.

Around the Diocese

Franciscans flip flapjacks;
programs help many

| PAGE 4

In Our Schools

Bishop McGuinness sweeps
models U.N., Congress

| PAGE 6

Perspectives

Babel's confusion;
dancing with God

| PAGES 14-15

#BXNPDVQ.....3-DIGIT 275
#420836#
NC COLLECTION
UNC
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001
S35 P1

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

EVERYDAY EXPLORER CHALLENGE



CNS PHOTO BY MARK KEMPF, ST. LOUIS REVIEW

Caitlin Zera, an eighth-grader at St. Francis of Assisi School in Oakville, Mo., poses with a map in early February detailing the Galapagos Islands, the destination of an upcoming trip she earned in the Everyday Explorer Challenge, sponsored in part by National Geographic Kids magazine. Caitlin won with an essay about her local exploration of the Soulard Farmers Market, a historic market in the Soulard neighborhood of South St. Louis.

Catholic school student's essay earns a Galapagos adventure

ST. LOUIS (CNS) — Caitlin Zera's parents have always liked to take their children on Saturday adventures to explore areas near their home. That spirit of adventure has been passed on to Caitlin and helped her earn a trip to the Galapagos Islands.

Caitlin, an eighth-grader at St. Francis of Assisi School in Oakville, Mo., is one of 15 students nationwide to win the Everyday Explorer Challenge, a contest sponsored by National Geographic Kids magazine, the National Geographic Channel and the makers of Purell Instant Hand Sanitizer. The contest was aimed at encouraging a love of exploring in young people. Entries required essays and photos of local places participants like to explore.

Caitlin said she read about the contest in National Geographic Kids magazine and thought it would be fun to enter. She chose a location she and her family visit frequently — Soulard Farmers Market.

Caitlin noted that her parents have taken her to "really cool places" and added that she likes to "explore all different kinds of things, not just places, but the things you find there, the people, the culture, the foods."

Regarding her upcoming trip, Caitlin said, "Every aspect of the trip is so

exciting. To be able to see things that I can't see anywhere else in the world, things I probably won't see again — it is just exciting," she said.

Caitlin's family is equally excited and proud about her trip to the remote island chain 600 miles off the coast of Ecuador. "It's pretty amazing. We are still in shock," said Susan Zera, who will accompany her daughter.

Caitlin and her sister Lauren, a fifth-grader, were among 81 students to come from St. Matthias to St. Francis, which now has an enrollment of 442 kindergartners through eighth-graders. The Zeras are members of St. Matthias Parish in Lemay.

"I really like it at St. Francis," Caitlin said. "It was a bit of an adjustment. We had 13 kids in our class and 12 came over. Now we have 52 kids in our grade with two classes. I like it."

She said she likes geography and enjoys reading, writing, painting, playing basketball and volleyball.

When asked what advice she had for other young people, Caitlin's response was: "Get out there and try new things. Don't be afraid of other cultures and people. Get to know them. A lot of people are really cool and nice. You can learn so much from them."

Pro-life official urges Congress to suspend FDA approval of RU-486

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A spokeswoman for the U.S. bishops' pro-life secretariat, responding to a report that two more women have died after taking RU-486, called on Congress to pass legislation that aims to suspend the Food and Drug Administration's approval of the drug used for chemical abortions.

"We are deeply saddened by yet another advisory from the Food and Drug Administration that two more women have died from RU-486 abortions," said Deirdre A. McQuade, director of planning and information for the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities.

However, in its March 17 public health advisory, the FDA said it was not yet "able to confirm the causes of death" of the two women in the United States but was "investigating all circumstances associated with these cases."

The agency said it had received "verbal notification" of the deaths by the manufacturer of RU-486, Danco

Laboratories. McQuade said 10 women have died after using the regimen.

"We again call on Congress to pass the RU-486 Suspension and Review Act," McQuade said.

The measure calls for temporary suspension of the FDA's approval of RU-486 so the U.S. comptroller general can review the agency's adherence to statutory mandates in its process for approving the drug.

RU-486 induces an abortion in the first seven weeks of pregnancy when used in conjunction with another drug, prostaglandin.

RU-486 prevents the fertilized egg from clinging to the uterine wall, and the prostaglandin is used 48 hours later to set off contractions that expel the embryo.

McQuade said the New England Journal of Medicine reported in December 2005 that "RU-486 abortions are 10 times more likely to kill a woman, from infection alone, than are surgical abortions in early pregnancy."

Diocesan planner

ASHEVILLE VICARIATE

ASHEVILLE — The Basilica of St. Lawrence, 97 Haywood St., will host a free concert by the *University of North Carolina-Asheville Singers and Chamber Chorus* March 26 at 3 p.m. The program will consist of works by R. Vaughn Williams, Herbert Howells and John Rutter. For more information, call the church office at (828) 252-6042.

BOONE VICARIATE

SPRUCE PINE — A *Rosary of Intercession for Priests* is recited each Friday at St. Lucien Church, 695 Summit St., before the 9 a.m. Mass. Prayers are offered for bishops, priests and deacons, and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. For more information, call the church office at (828) 765-2224.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — A *Lenten Mission* will be held at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd., April 1-5. Norbertine Father Alfred McBride will celebrate the weekend Masses April 1-2, and at 12:10 p.m. April 3-4. There will be a conference and penance service April 3 at 7:30 p.m.; conference and anointing of the sick April 4 at 7:30 p.m.; and Mass and commissioning service April 5 at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call the church office at (704) 554-7088.

CHARLOTTE — A free *Natural Family Planning Refresher Course* will take place April 2, 2-4 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd. Please register by March 31. Generally, Couple to Couple

League encourages class attendance by the couple together. However, since this is simply a refresher class for people already familiar with the method, feel free to come without your spouse. For more information, call Kelly Schiffiano at (704) 845-1435 or e-mail kbs1299@alltel.net.

CHARLOTTE — The *Young Adult Faith Reflection* group meets at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd., the first and third Mondays of each month. The group will read "The Faith Explained," 3rd edition, by Leo J. Trese and a chapter will be covered at every meeting. For more information, call Jordan at (704) 737-1964 or Ryan at (704) 377-1328.

HUNTERSVILLE — A *Mass to Honor Deceased Loved Ones* is celebrated the last Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. St. Mark Church, 14740 Stumptown Rd. For more information, call Pam Schneider at (704) 875-0201.

CHARLOTTE — The *St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order* gathers the first Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. at Our Lady of Consolation Church, 2301 Statesville Ave. Those interested in learning more about the SFO and the Franciscan way of life are invited to attend. For more information, call Tom O'Loughlin at (704) 947-7235.

GASTONIA VICARIATE

BELMONT — A *Morning of Reflection* in preparation for Holy Week will be held at Belmont Abbey College April 8, 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Benedictine Father David Brown presenting "Isaiah's Suffering Servant: Who Is It?" and Professor David Pitt will present "Hosanna to Alleluia: The Church at Prayer during Holy Week." Mass will be in the Abbey Basilica at 11 a.m. followed by midday prayer. All are invited to attend this free event. Please reserve your place by calling (704) 825-6248 or e-mail

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

MARCH 24, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 24

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Pope urges religious leaders to reconcile conflicts with dialogue

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI called on Jews, Christians and Muslims to work together to promote peace and justice in the world, and he urged religious leaders to lead the way by reconciling conflicts and divisions through dialogue and active solidarity.

In a March 16 speech to members of the American Jewish Committee, the pope underlined the "rich common patrimony" that "distinguishes our relationship as unique among the religions of the world," he said.

Christianity acknowledges God's relationship with Israel as the beginning of salvation history, and the pope reminded his audience that the Catholic Church "can never forget that chosen people with whom God entered into a holy covenant."

But Judaism and Christianity also share a unique trait with Islam in that they all believe in one God as creator of

heaven and earth, he said.

"All three monotheistic religions are called to cooperate with one another for the common good of humanity, serving the cause of justice and peace in the world," said the pope.

He emphasized the importance of religious leaders spearheading such efforts since they "have a responsibility to work for reconciliation through genuine dialogue and acts of human solidarity."

The pope said such cooperation is urgent today because greater attention needs to be given to "teaching respect for God, for religions and their symbols, and for holy sites and places of worship."

He encouraged the visiting committee delegation to continue "to build bridges of understanding across all barriers."

The committee's international director of interreligious affairs, Rabbi David Rosen, said he agreed with the pope's assessment of "the need to reach out to Islam."

peggy.mcglohon@bac.edu.

BELMONT — *First Saturday Devotions* take place on the first Saturday of each month at Belmont Abbey Basilica, 100 Belmont-Mt. Holly Rd. Devotion begins at 9:30 a.m. with the recitation of the rosary, followed by reconciliation and Mass. For more information, call Phil or Terri at (704) 888-6050.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — If you have a special need for prayers, or would like to offer your time in prayer for others' needs, please call the *Prayer Chain* at Our Lady of Grace Church. The Prayer Chain is a sizable group committed to praying for your needs and the needs of your family and friends on a daily basis. To request a prayer or to participate in the Prayer Chain, call the church office at (336) 274-6520, ext. 10 and leave your name, address and phone number.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

MURPHY — Rev. Deborah Rice, pastor of Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd in Hayesville, will preach the fourth in a series of *Ecumenical Lenten Services* March 29, 12-12:30 p.m. at St. William Church, 765 Andrews Rd. The series is designed to strengthen ecumenical bonds within the community. For more information, call Joan Kennedy at (828) 837-8519.

MAGGIE VALLEY — A *Rachel's Vineyard Retreat for Post-Abortion Healing* is a confidential opportunity for anyone struggling with the emotional or spiritual pain of abortion. The retreat is designed to help you experience the mercy and compassion of God. It is also an opportunity to surface and release repressed feelings of anger, shame, guilt and grief. This will help you to grieve the loss of your unborn child, to receive and accept God's forgiveness, and to forgive yourself. The next retreat is April 21-23 at the Living Waters Catholic Reflection Center, 103 Living Waters Lane. For further informa-

tion, call Shelley at (828) 670-8192 or (828) 230-4940, e-mail sglan1234@aol.com or visit the Web site at www.rachelsvineyard.org.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

WINSTON-SALEM — Spirit of Assisi, a Franciscan Center, 221 W. Third St., will host *Lenten Faith Sharing* "brown-bag" gatherings March 29 and April 5, 12-12:45 p.m. We will spend time looking ahead to the weekend Lenten readings to prepare our hearts for the Word of God to take root. Bring your own lunch. Coffee and tea will be provided. For more information, call (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

WINSTON-SALEM — Spirit of Assisi, a Franciscan Center, 221 W. Third St., will host a book discussion on "*Humility of God: A Franciscan Perspective*" by Ilia Delio, O.S.F. This book deals with the theology of divine humility and God's relationship to the world, while at the same time tackling some tough questions. The group will meet March 27; April 3 and 24; and May 1, 8 and 15, 6-7:30 p.m. For more information, call (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

KERNERSVILLE — Holy Cross Church, 616 S. Cherry St., hosts a *Senior Coffee House* the first and third Mondays of each month, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., in Salesian Hall in the Child Development Building. Call the church office at (336) 996-5109, ext. 12, for directions or information.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Truth about human dignity will prevail, pope tells Vatican diplomats

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Despite public debates or the rule of dictators, the truth about human dignity, including the sacredness of human life and the importance of the traditional family, eventually will be victorious, Pope Benedict XVI said.

In a March 18 meeting with Vatican diplomats accredited to the United Nations and other international governmental organizations, the pope said Christians must not "marvel and, even less, be discouraged in the face of difficulties and misunderstandings" because God is on the side of truth.

The growing participation of Vatican diplomats in international organizations and meetings is a consequence of the church's conviction that human dignity must be protected in every sphere, he said.

By upholding the dignity of the human created in God's image, the church works to foster the common good, authentic freedom, justice and peace, he said.

"Relations between states and within states are just to the degree that they respect the truth," the pope said. When the truth is desecrated, "peace is

threatened and rights are compromised and, with logical consequences, injustices are unleashed."

Pope Benedict said injustices based on violations of the truth about people "are borders that divide countries in a much deeper way than do those drawn on a map."

Among the injustices he listed, the pope cited those based on "disinterest or disorder," including those that "damage the structure of that original cell of society which is the family."

Another, he said, is "domination or arrogance that can arrive at the arbitrary, silencing those who have no voice or do not have the strength to make themselves heard, as occurs in the case of the injustice which, today, is perhaps the most serious, that of suppressing unborn human life."

Pope Benedict told the diplomats that "the church intends to continue raising its voice in defense of man, even when the policy of states or the majority of the public moves in the opposite direction."

"The truth, in fact, finds its strength in itself and not in the size of consensus it receives," he said.

Lenten mission



PHOTO BY SUSAN DEGUZMAN

Father James Solari (front), a retired priest of the Diocese of Charlotte, and Father Johnathan Hanic, parochial vicar of St. Leo the Great Church in Winston-Salem, bless people during the anointing of the sick at the church March 7.

The Mass was part of the parish Lenten mission, themed "Love and Charity for Others," March 5-8.

Other events held during the mission included presentations on the seven capital sins by Father Matthew Buettner, parochial vicar of St. Dorothy Church in Lincolnton; the *Corporal Works of Mercy* by Father Timothy Reid, parochial vicar of St. Mark Church in Huntersville; the *Spiritual Works of Mercy* by Msgr. Richard Bellow, pastor of St. Mark Church; and Catholics' eucharistic mission by Father Mark Lawlor, pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Church in Charlotte.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament was offered each day during the mission.

Also during the week, parishioners of St. Leo the Great Church traveled on a mission trip to Bolivia.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

March 25 — 11 a.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
Good Shepherd Church, King

April 2 — 3 p.m.
Youth Pilgrimage
Belmont Abbey, Belmont

April 4 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. Benedict the Moor Church,
Winston-Salem

Host Homes honors supporters

WINSTON-SALEM — A special reception for donors to and supporters of Host Homes was celebrated in Winston-Salem March 16.

Host Homes, a program of Catholic Social Services Piedmont Triad Regional Office in Winston-Salem, provides services to restore and maintain healthy family relationships and to promote the well-being and safety of children and youths.

Through a special appeal, Host Homes raised \$17,000 that will help provide ongoing services, such as counseling, temporary shelter and foster care.

Host Homes also runs the Safe Place project, where youths can seek help at 232 participating local businesses, to which Host Homes responds immediately.

A 24-hour crisis hotline also gives youths and their families easy access to Host Homes help. Counselors provide parent education and anger management classes, as well as workshops and presentations to community groups.

Additional services include information and referral services, a mentoring



PHOTO BY ANN KILKELLY

Mable Stevenson (right), program director for Catholic Social Services Piedmont Triad program Host Homes, shares a light moment with Gerry Finley, advisory board chair, and Carolyn and Larry Hardy, supporters of Host Homes, during a reception for donors and supporters in Winston-Salem March 16.

program for at-risk youths and a leadership development program for high school youths.

Flipping for the friary



COURTESY PHOTO

The "Fantastic Franciscan Flapjack Flippers," members of the Fraternity of Brother Francis, Secular Franciscan Order in Hickory, pose for a photo at St. Aloysius Church in Hickory in February. The group has conducted pancake breakfasts at St. Aloysius Church, St. Joseph Church in Newton and St. Francis of Assisi Church in Lenoir to help raise funds for the St. Fidelis Friary in Guam.

The friary, built in 1955 and housing 20 Franciscan priests and brothers, was destroyed by Super typhoon Pongsona in December 2002. The friars of Guam and Hawaii plan to rebuild a new friary on the same location.

Grant helps center educate Hispanic children

HIGH POINT — The Hispanic Center in High Point now will be able to help prepare more Hispanic children for school with a recent grant.

The \$17,500 grant from the Mebane Charitable Foundation of Mocksville was awarded for the center's De Paul Academy Preschool Project, "Helping Hands for Hopeful Kids."

The grant enables the center to provide reduced fees on a sliding scale for the project services for low-income families.

The Hispanic Center, located at Christ the King Church, was founded in 1999 to serve area Hispanics through various programs and services. It is managed by the Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul.

The De Paul Academy offers bilingual preschool and afterschool programs for Hispanic and other minority children.

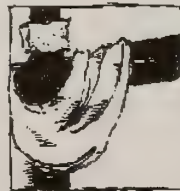
Currently, about 70 children are enrolled in the preschool program and 25 in the afterschool program. Almost all of them are from low-income families, said Father Philip Kollithanath, pastor of Christ the King Church.

Without affordable programs such as these, many Hispanic children must stay at home and are not prepared for school, said Father Kollithanath.

The De Paul Academy also teaches parents how to help their children in school.

Contributing to this story was Kelly Kramp of the High Point Enterprise.

Announcing the 2006 Saint Pius the Tenth



LENTEN PARISH MISSION
with
Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin

APRIL 1-5

"The Presence of Jesus in Us"

Bishop Curlin will preside and preach at all the Masses April 1 & 2.

Monday, April 3 - The Reconciling Christ with the Sacrament of Penance
Tuesday, April 4 - The Need for Prayer with Holy Hour & Benediction
Wednesday, April 5 - Jesus, Eucharist with Holy Hour & Benediction
All evening sessions begin at 7 p.m. in the church.

For More Information call (336) 272-4681

Saint Pius the Tenth Catholic Church, 2210 North Elm Street, Greensboro, NC, 27408

Start the New Semester at the Top of the Class



Felicia Susi, Owner/Director
Parishioner, St. Matthew Catholic Church
& Parent, St. Matthew Catholic School student

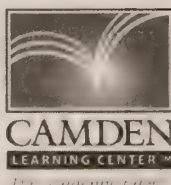
South Charlotte
(704) 752-4234

www.camdenlearningcenter.com

CAMDEN LEARNING CENTER™
is a personalized educational center offering specialized tutoring for all ages in:

Reading • Phonics
Written Language • Math
Study Skills
SAT/ACT Preparation

Let Camden help.



IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



Don't miss upcoming
BOOK SIGNING Monday, May 1st - 10 am
Monroe Road store

• Carl Olson, author of *DaVinci Code Hoax* and
Will Catholics Be Left Behind?

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

\$5 OFF
Any Purchase
of \$35 or More
Present coupon. Not valid with any
other offers. Expires 4/30/06

Catechists study prayer, meditation at retreat

CATECHISTS, from page 1

the annual retreat for catechists in the Asheville and Smoky Mountain vicariates.

Augustinian Father Robert Dueweke, who works with the Hispanic ministry in the Smoky Mountain Vicariate, spoke first on "Prayer: Understanding Christian Spirituality and Sacred Texts." He earned his doctorate in spirituality and theology at St. Paul University in Ottawa, Canada.

He pointed out that, "When we try to do everything, we get burned out. It's not we as ministers who transform people but the (Holy) Spirit who transforms. It's up to us to create the environment for that to happen. It's not our church, it's God's church."

"The purpose of a parish," he added, "is to create an environment where people have an encounter with, an experience of, Christ. Where is Christ in your life? How does Christ touch you?"

Church, he said, is everyone working together.

"Vatican II emphasized the people of God — the faithful, rather than laity and clergy (as separate groups) — people of faith on a journey to God," he said. "Vatican II helped us refocus on discipleship. There's a difference between thinking about Jesus and following Jesus. Spirituality is the notion of discipleship."

Living examples

Each catechist received Pope John Paul II's apostolic exhortation, "The Church in America — On the Encounter with the Living Jesus Christ: The Way to Conversion, Communion, and Solidarity in America."

Father Dueweke cited paragraph 44,

which describes "the church as the people of God."

It adds: "Pastors should have a profound respect for the witness and evangelizing work of lay people who, incorporated into the people of God through a spirituality of communion, lead their brothers and sisters to encounter the living Jesus Christ."

"The renewal of the church in America will not be possible without the active presence of the laity. Therefore, they are largely responsible for the future of the church."

Catechists, Father Dueweke said, must teach not just doctrine, but out of their own experience of Christ.

He asked about the practices that help one encounter Christ: "Do I read the Scriptures? Pray the rosary? Go to Mass? As a disciple, what are the habits you have that feed the life of the Spirit?"

He suggested that lectio divina — dialoging with sacred texts — is one way to find calm in the midst of chaos and to encounter Christ. This ancient prayer method involves "lectio," reading from a text; "meditatio," meditating on a word or phrase from the text; and "oratio," prayer, a direct, short dialogue with God.

Lectio, he said, could be Scriptures or other sacred texts, or it could be an experience or an event.

Rediscovering silence

In his second presentation, "Prayer of the Heart: Silence and Contemplation," Father Dueweke described contemplative prayer (or meditation) as another way to find Christ and calm.

Contemplative prayer, going back to the early Christian mystics, the "desert fathers and mothers," is different from the "meditatio" of lectio divina.

Father Dueweke suggested that, "part of our mission as catechists is to



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

At the beginning Catechist Oasis 2006, participants write on "feet pictures" about the chaos in their lives. Pictured: John Sherrill (left) and Suzanne Sherrill, Immaculate Conception Church, Hendersonville; Alice Elio, St. Eugene Church, Asheville; Annamarie Jakubielski, Immaculate Conception Church; Marie Seigle, St. William Church, Murphy; and Don Hendricks, St. Andrew the Apostle Church, Mars Hill.

create spaces of silence, to help people rediscover silence."

"We tend to project on our exterior lives what goes on in our interior lives," he said. "We often can't control what goes on outside, but we can go into our center."

"The meditation is done in Christ, that's what makes it Christian," Father Dueweke said. "Instead of talking about Christ, it's being with Christ. We don't have to justify our being. It's important to be instead of to do."

Maxine Pendleton, youth minister at St. Andrew the Apostle Church in Mars Hill, has seen contemplation's positive results in the 13- to 18-year-olds she teaches.

At the end of each class, they light candles and spend 15 minutes in silence.

"The kids are so in touch with who they are spiritually," Pendleton said. "I've seen such growth in their faith; it's carried them through some rough times."

Calming effects

Those in the Catechist Oasis got a taste of contemplation by viewing a video, "Coming Home," then meditating for five minutes. Following traditional meditation practice, they sat still, closed their eyes and silently began repeating a word they had chosen.

Father Dueweke recommended "Maranatha," the Aramaic word in Jesus' language for "Come, Lord."

The idea was to begin by repeating the word but then to not think of anything. When thoughts come, repeat the chosen word so that the distracting thoughts go away.

Father Dueweke recommended beginning with five minutes of contemplation twice a day, working up to 30 minutes twice daily.

At the end of the five minutes, Father Dueweke led everyone in the "Lord's Prayer."

The interior calmness that meditation fosters manifests itself in calmness in everyday life and in compassion for others.

Many were surprised that five minutes could pass so quickly.

"The time went fast for me," said Ann Stowe, pastoral assistant at Sacred Heart Church in Burnsville and involved in faith formation at St. Andrew the Apostle Church. "And when we said, 'Our Father' ... it was so powerful."

After the meditation period, those feet drawings with the causes of chaos written on them were placed in a circle on the floor. Each person lit a candle from a larger candle, placed it on a feet picture and prayed briefly for the person represented there.

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail jnell@dnet.net.

In the Blue Ridge Mountains of NORTH CAROLINA

CAMP
KAHDALEA
FOR GIRLS

CAMP
CHOSATONGA
FOR BOYS

Two mountain camps, in the heart of the Blue Ridge, surrounded by national forest, offering:

Rock climbing • swimming • drama • horseback riding • mountain biking • whitewater canoeing and kayaking • arts and crafts • archery • tennis • guitar • nature • riflery • backpacking • field sports • awesome staff • and more...

A place where a child can explore and reach fullest potential. A challenging environment for building self-esteem, self-confidence and improving skills within a framework of Christian ideals.

Ages 8-17 • Session lengths 2,3,5,9 weeks
MASS AT CAMP ON SUNDAYS

Kenne & David
Anne and David Trufant
Catholic Owners and Directors

For information and a free video visit our website:

www.kahdalea.com

(828) 884-6834
2500 Morgan Mill Road, Burnsville, NC 28712

We are also seeking
faithful college (+ up) staff



www.kahdalea.com

NEW July dates!

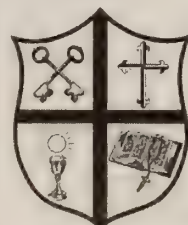
Pilgrimage to Poland – Remembering JPII

July 6 - 15, 2006 – 10 days, 14 meals

Warsaw, Czestochowa, Krakow, Auschwitz,

Divine Mercy Shrine, Wadowice & more.

Airfare, hotels & transfers included. \$2,789 per person (double) from Columbia, SC.
Call Fr. Andrew Vollkommer, Our Lady of the Lake, for brochure: 803-345-3962.



St. Thomas Aquinas Academy

Asheville, North Carolina

www.stthomasaquinasacademy.org

(828) 687-7714

Accepting applications for ninth, tenth and eleventh grades.

Member, National Association of Private, Catholic and Independent Schools

St. Thomas Aquinas Academy is a private school, independent of the Charlotte Diocesan school system.

IN OUR SCHOOLS

Assembly of greatness

Bishop McGuinness students win at Model U.N.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Model United Nations team from Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville was recently designated "best high school" in the Model U.N. competition.

High school teams from across the United States, each portraying various U.N. countries, participated in the competition held in Washington, D.C. Feb. 9-12.

Simulating a United Nations assembly, students researched positions of the country they represented and worked with other "countries" to pass resolutions on the issues presented.

The team from Bishop McGuinness, under the leadership of faculty advisor David Seidel, won the national competition for the second year in a row.

"The Bishop McGuinness Model U.N. team is made of the most motivated group of high school students one could imagine," said Seidel. "Their competitive success is matched only by their

personal dedication and willingness to sacrifice in order to achieve."

First place, "Best Delegation" awards went to students P.J. Dascoli, P.J. Stanford, Noah Carmichael, Casey Moore, Evin Torney, Tyler Frankenberg, Sam Wharton, Neil Goodman and Josh Chen.

Second place, "Outstanding Delegation" awards went to Jordan Cain, Thomas Parcell, Patrick Schweighart, Ify Watson, Tony Barker, Brendan Cain, Robert Whelan, Chris Coggin, John Valitutto, Michael Scott, Mike O'Shea and Jenny Pentz.

Speaking Citations went to Brian Rice, Justin Balser, Terri Walsh and Breanne Long.

Other Model U.N. team members from Bishop McGuinness were Helen McNamara, Matthew O'Neill, Tommy Saintsing, Holly Navarro, Will Scott, Joanna Braeckel, Kelsey Calaghan, Joch Manguno, Matt Sutter, Melissa Plunkett, Michael Taylor and Brenden Regan.

BMCHS hosts middle school Model U.N.

Catholic school students receive awards at competition

KERNERSVILLE — More than 200 middle school students from five Catholic schools recently participated in a Model United Nations competition.

For the second time, the program was held, at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville Jan. 27.

Bishop McGuinness' International Relations Association sponsors the annual middle school Model U.N. This year, 218 students participated from St. Pius X and Our Lady of Grace schools in Greensboro, Immaculate Heart of Mary School in High Point, Our Lady of Mercy School in Winston-Salem and Blessed Sacrament Academy in Charlotte.

Student teams chose a U.N. member country and participated in two sessions, one that discussed the political situation in Haiti and one that discussed problems in the Sudan. At the end of the daylong event, judges rewarded students from each group for their efforts.



COURTESY PHOTO

Catholic middle school students participate in the Model United Nations competition at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville Jan. 27.



COURTESY PHOTO

Students from Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville are pictured at the 21st annual Harvard Model Congress this month.

Bishop McGuinness shines at Model Congress

KERNERSVILLE — Students from Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville turned in a stellar performance at the 21st annual Harvard Model Congress March 17.

The students were recognized with 13 individual awards of excellence, more than were received by any of the other 80 high schools participating in the event at Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass.

Harvard Model Congress is a government role play facilitated by Harvard students that simulates all three branches of the U.S. government. While the

conference's focus is educational, recognition awards denote outstanding preparation and performance.

Award winners from Bishop McGuinness included Dominic Dascoli, Neil Goodman, Matt Maloney, John Valitutto, Melea Foley, Chris Coggin, Mike O'Shea, Preston Stanford, Brendan Regan, Robert Whelan, Samantha Cibelli, Laura Beth Enos and Sam Wharton.

Bishop McGuinness has been participating in the model congress for over 20 years, and has emerged as one of the strongest schools in the last five years.

GET A LOW RATE BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

30-Year Fixed:

5.75%

As mortgage brokers, we work with a variety of lenders to find the best loan and rates for your needs & goals!

NEW WORLD MORTGAGE
A Lender For Life

1930 Camden Rd., Suite 2010
Charlotte, NC 28203

Jayne McGonnell
Parishioner of St. Thomas Aquinas
704.549.4600 x1028
877.402.4600 (tollfree)
704.516.9682 (cell)

Debra Young
Parishioner of St. Matthew
704.549.4600 x1027
877.402.4600 (tollfree)
704.771.6251 (cell)

Rates subject to change. Certain restrictions on loan size apply. APR varies on loan placement.

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

***** Now with 3 locations to serve you *****

- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels.

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065

MARY KAY®

give the girls a call.

Looking for a fun way to enjoy a little girl time? Plan a Mary Kay party! Invite your girlfriends. Enjoy free makeovers. Exchange beauty tips. It's a beautiful way to bond! Call me to schedule the fun.

Mention this ad for 15% off web site orders!

Meredith Magyar
Independent Beauty Consultant
www.marykay.com/meredith126
704-236-4839

Carolina Funeral & Cremation Center

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

FROM THE COVER

Catholics bring messages on life-and-death issues to legislatures

ISSUES, from page 1

"We put them in office and we need to hold them accountable," Candy Hill, senior vice president for social policy at Catholic Charities USA, said of legislators in a March 8 talk to students and adults gathered in Nashville, Tenn., for Catholic Day on the Hill.

"One of the most important things we can do as citizens is to be here and learn to understand the issues," Father Ragan Schriver, director of Catholic Charities of East Tennessee, told 250 middle and high school students at the Capitol.

"It's a great day to recognize what our faith tells us as Catholic Christians to advocate for," he said.

Like other Catholic Day on the Hill participants, Bishops David R. Choby of Nashville, Joseph E. Kurtz of Knoxville

and J. Terry Steib of Memphis met with state legislators in their offices throughout the day to discuss immigration, abortion, health care and other issues.

The bishops also met privately with Gov. Phil Bredesen.

Catholics in Florida planned similar meetings with legislators during Catholic Days at the Capitol in Tallahassee March 21-22.

Among the topics cited as priorities by the Florida Catholic Conference during the March 7-May 5 legislative session were parental notification, the death penalty, farmworker safety, affordable housing, a sales tax exemption for textbooks and adoptions by homosexuals, currently banned in the state.

Issues in Illinois

In Illinois, parents and supporters of Catholic, Lutheran, Jewish and other nonpublic schools came together for a February rally in support of legislation expanding scholarship opportunities and after-school educational programs to low-income children attending public, private or religious schools.

Another issue drawing Catholic attention in the Illinois General Assembly was the "morning-after pill" — in particular, whether pharmacists who object to it can be forced to dispense the drug.

A bill under consideration would require pharmacists to dispense the morning-after pill without a prescription, while other proposals would include pharmacists under the state's Health Care Rights of Conscience Act, which Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich says applies only to doctors.

Blagojevich has pledged to veto any legislation that weakens the state regulation requiring pharmacists to dispense emergency contraception.

"Let me make something else very clear — if any of those bills reach my desk, they are dead on arrival," the governor said.

Physician-assisted suicide

At the other end of the life spectrum,



CNS PHOTO BY RICK MUSACCHIO, TENNESSEE REGISTER

Tennessee Bishops Joseph E. Kurtz, from left, of Knoxville, David R. Choby of Nashville and J. Terry Steib of Memphis talk with Gov. Phil Bredesen during Catholic Day on the Hill March 8. The bishops have asked Catholics across the state to help improve the tone of political debate.

legislators in California were preparing to debate whether that state should become the second to allow physician-assisted suicide, currently legal only in Oregon.

The debate was expected to heat up in mid-April, when Democratic Assembly members Patty Berg and Lloyd Levine scheduled a hearing in the Senate Judiciary Committee on Assembly Bill 651, a measure that would allow doctors to prescribe lethal medication to patients who have been declared mentally competent and terminally ill by two physicians.

Berg and Levine tried unsuccessfully last year to pass another assisted suicide measure, but abandoned the effort because of lack of support.

A recent survey showed 49 percent of Latinos in the state strongly disapprove of physician-assisted suicide, 15 percent disapprove, 17 percent somewhat approve and 12 percent strongly approve. The margin of error was plus or minus 5.4 percentage points.

The results "speak volumes about how the Latino community opposes doctor-assisted suicide," said Angel Luevano, state director of League of

United Latin American Citizens.

"Latinos know that this is morally wrong. We don't see this as a partisan issue, but one that concerns civil and human rights," said Luevano.

Abandoning abortions

Another hot topic in state legislatures this spring was Roe v. Wade, the 1973 Supreme Court decision that lifted most state restrictions on abortion.

In March, South Dakota became the first state since Roe took effect to ban nearly all abortions, except those to save the life of the mother.

A similar bill is headed for conference committee in Mississippi, after the state Senate March 15 declined to concur with House-passed amendments adding exceptions for rape, incest and "the presence of a life-threatening condition in the mother that would be worsened by continuing the pregnancy."

Contributing to this story was Theresa Laurence in Nashville, Ann Piasecki in Joliet, Ill., and Julie Sly in Sacramento, Calif.

SOME OTHER ISSUES BEFORE STATE LEGISLATURES THIS SPRING

— Unborn victims of violence: The South Carolina Senate and a Georgia state Senate committee have passed legislation making it a crime to kill or injure an unborn child during an attack on a pregnant woman.

— Parental consent/notification: Bills passed by the House in Arizona and Oklahoma would require parental consent before an abortion is performed on a minor.

— Abortion regulations: Legislation in the Kansas House that would have increased safety requirements at abortion clinics was amended to include all medical clinics that perform surgery, changing its intent and making passage less likely, according to supporters.

— Informed consent: Georgia Gov. Sonny Perdue was expected to sign the Women's Right to Know Act, which also strengthens the state's parental notification requirements, in early April.

A measure mandating informed consent before an abortion also was headed for passage in Kentucky.

— Government funding of abortions: The Arizona Senate approved a bill to prohibit use of taxpayer funds for abortions in state, local and county government insurance plans.

— "Wrongful birth": The Ohio Senate passed a measure banning lawsuits based on wrongful birth or wrongful life arguments.

The legislation would protect doctors from claims that women were insufficiently informed about the possibility of disabilities in their children and therefore decided not to abort those children.

— Death penalty: A coalition that includes Catholics has called on the Tennessee Legislature to put a moratorium on executions and order a comprehensive study of the state's system for capital punishment.

NEW COVENANT BOOKSTORE

- Books
- Cards
- Videos
- Jewelry
-and more!

336-760-1673

304 Upton St.,
Winston-Salem, NC
www.newcovenantbookstore.com

SENIORS' SPRING FLING

Sponsored by CSS Elder Ministries

Two dates and locations to choose from!

Thurs., April 20th - St. Aloysius, Hickory
9 am to 3:30 pm: Closing Mass with Bishop Curlin
Registration deadline: April 11th

Thurs., April 27th - St. Mark, Huntersville
10 am to 4 pm: Closing Mass with Bishop Jugis
Registration deadline: April 18th

Your day will be filled with fellowship, Mass, lunch with friends, chair massages, line dancing and yoga, crafts, bingo, door prizes and more!

Call Sandra Breakfield (704) 370-3220 or
Sherill Beason (704) 370-3228.

Cost: \$12 includes lunch. Limited space available.
Register NOW!



Irish saint not really so Irish

St. Patrick converts Ireland to Christianity

St. Patrick, Ireland's favorite saint, wasn't actually Irish. Nor did he drive the snakes out of Ireland — because Ireland is lucky enough to not have any native snakes.

Instead, St. Patrick was born around 385 A.D. in Britain as the pampered, far-from-faith-filled son of a Roman nobleman. Patrick's real name is believed to have been Maewyn Succat, and his baptismal name was Patricius.

In his teens, his plush lifestyle ended when his village was attacked and slave traders kidnapped him and sold him into slavery to an Irish chieftain. Serving as a shepherd on a lonesome hillside, the distraught youth gradually turned to prayer, after six years made a daring escape to Gaul (now France), and eventually returned home.

But memories of the Irish haunted him and Patrick felt God wanted him to preach the Gospel in pagan Ireland. Ordained to the priesthood, he sailed back to Ireland in 432 A.D. and in essence converted the entire populace. That this was accomplished without resorting to violence is a historical rarity.

Patrick's success at winning converts upset the Celtic Druids. They arrested Patrick several times, but each

time he escaped.

Patrick traveled throughout Ireland establishing monasteries, which were instrumental in preserving Western civilization's literary traditions through the Dark Ages. He also set up schools and churches, which would help him in his conversion of the Irish country to Christianity.

It is believed that Patrick raised people from the dead, though this cannot be substantiated. He is also said to have given a sermon from the hilltop that drove all the snakes from Ireland. Because no snakes were ever native to Ireland, many scholars believe this is a metaphor for the conversion of the pagans to Christianity.

Patrick's mission in Ireland lasted for 30 years. After that time, Patrick retired to County Down. He died on March 17, 461 A.D. The day has been commemorated as St. Patrick's Day ever since.

Though originally a Catholic holy day, St. Patrick's Day has evolved into a secular holiday, often celebrated with parades and festivals.

Mercy Sister Patricia Durbin, director of the diocesan Media Resources Office, contributed to this story.

The St. Patrick's Day parade — an American institution

The first St. Patrick's Day parade took place not in Ireland, but in the United States. Irish soldiers serving in the English military marched through New York City on March 17, 1762. Along with their music, the parade helped the soldiers to reconnect with their Irish roots, as well as fellow Irishmen serving in the English army.

Today, St. Patrick's Day is celebrated by people of all backgrounds in the United States, Canada and Australia. Although North America is home to the largest productions, St. Patrick's Day has been celebrated in other locations far from Ireland, including Japan, Singapore and Russia.

Legend of the shamrock

The shamrock, a three-leafed clover, is the national emblem of Ireland. It is widely believed that St. Patrick used the shamrock to illustrate the doctrine of the Trinity, but the idea cannot be proven.

The shamrock, which is also called the "seamroy" by the Celts, was a sacred plant in ancient Ireland because it symbolized the rebirth of spring. By the 17th century, the shamrock had become a symbol of emerging Irish nationalism.

As the English began to seize Irish land and make laws against the use of the Irish language and the practice of Catholicism, many Irish began wearing the shamrock as a symbol of their pride in their heritage and displeasure with English rule.



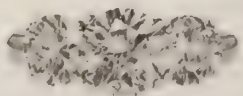
Carrying on the spirit of Ireland's patron saint

CHARLOTTE — Diocese of Charlotte schools, churches and other local Catholic organizations were among the 86 groups that marched in the 10th annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in uptown Charlotte March 18.

This year's morning parade, the largest ever, that ran along Tryon Street and was viewed by an estimated 40,000 people. It was followed by a free community festival that included Irish music, Irish and Celtic dancers and bagpipers.



Featuring Blue Diamond Exclusively



Malak Jewelers

At the Arboretum (St. Matthew parishioners)

We extend to you the very finest in Jewelry and Service...

Largest Selection - Best Quality & Prices Guaranteed

Certified Loose Diamonds
Platinum, Gold, Fine Jewelry
Sterling silver and watches
Estate Jewelry - Buy & Sell

26 years of Integrity and Experience!

(704) 341-1188 www.malakjewelers.com
8042-800 Providence Rd., Charlotte



Now featuring special
sterling silver medallion
of Pope John Paul II -
complimentary with
purchases over \$50
(one per purchase)

The Oratory Religion Camp

Visit us online at
www.rockhilloratory.com

- Two separate one-week sessions at Camp York in Kings Mountain State Park the weeks of July 9-15 and July 16-22, 2006
- Boys and girls under 12 who will enter grades 2-6 in September can apply for consideration.
- Swimming, crafts and religious activities.
- The fee is \$125.

For information and application: www.oratorycamp.com

The Oratory Religion Camp, P.O. Box 11586, Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586.
Volunteer counselors (16 or older) can write for an application.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY



PHOTOS BY KEVIN E. MURRAY



The 10th annual St. Patrick's Day Parade took place in uptown Charlotte March 18. The celebration was the largest parade to date, with 86 groups marching in front of approximately 40,000 spectators.

Pictured clockwise, from upper left, are: St. Matthew School in Charlotte; St. Mark School in Huntersville; St. Gabriel School in Charlotte; Ancient Order of Hibernians Mecklenburg — Division 1; Belmont Abbey College in Belmont; and St. Ann School in Charlotte.

Center: Youths from St. Patrick School walk alongside a float on Tryon Street.



You could be singing too after more than 135,000 readers see YOUR company's ad here!



LOW ad rates - easy for small businesses and individuals, too!

Call (704) 370-3332 now!
or ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org.

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD
Catholic Social Services
Diocese of Charlotte

Bishop Peter Jugis and Abbot Placid Solari invite all high school and college students to participate in the



Lenten Youth Pilgrimage to Belmont Abbey

Sunday, April 2nd 2 pm - 7 pm

Belmont Abbey College, Belmont

- Campus Tours
- Eucharistic Procession
- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- Speakers

You, your family and friends of all faiths are invited to join us for an



Information Meeting on International Adoption: Russia and China

Saturday, April 8th 2 locations



10 am - noon Diocesan Center - 1123 S. Church Street, Charlotte

or

2:30 pm - 4:30 pm Our Lady of Mercy Catholic School - 1730 Link Rd., Winston-Salem
Catholic Social Services provides licensed, professional adoption assistance for families of all faiths. For information: (704) 370-3232

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

A FRUITFUL ENDEAVOR

Local priest compiles Mass reflections into book

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

LINCOLNTON — Father Matthew Buettner did not set out to write a book.

"The book has a rather strange but providential origin ... it's what gives me evidence and the assurance that it is God's work," said Father Buettner, parochial vicar of St. Dorothy Church in Lincoln.

"Understanding the Mystery of the Mass: Si Scires Donum Dei" is the collection of Father Buettner's popular series of columns of the same name, which appeared in The Catholic News & Herald during the Year of the Eucharist in 2005.

Each column addresses an aspect of the Mass, from preparation to concluding rites. The purpose, as well as that of the collected works in the book, is to "assist the Catholic faithful to better understand the mystery of the Mass so we can better assist at holy Mass and participate more fully," said Father Buettner.

Also, he said, "it serves to introduce non-Catholics to the tremendous gift that we have been given in the holy Mass."

The 90-page book may prove to be a great source for RCIA, adult education and confirmation classes, he said, as well as for those whose Catholic education could use refreshing.

The concept for "Understanding the Mystery of the Mass" began a few months after Father Buettner's ordination in June 2003.

"I heard of a bishop in California who was so scandalized by the lack of catechesis and knowledge of the Catholic faith among the faithful that he asked his priests to teach for five minutes after holy Communion at every Sunday Mass in the diocese," said Father Buettner.

"I was inspired by this idea to present a similar idea to my pastor in my first parish assignment," he said.

Msgr. Richard Bellow, then-pastor of St. Gabriel Church in Charlotte, liked the idea, but believed it impractical for a large suburban parish with seven Sunday Masses. So Father Buettner was asked to teach a class on the Mass instead.

"The turnout was overwhelming. People were definitely interested in understanding the Mass better," he said.

During his second parish assignment at St. Dorothy Church, after the late Pope John Paul II proclaimed the Year of the Eucharist, Father Buettner began giving five-minute talks following Communion at the two Sunday Masses.

"There was a good response from my parishioners," he said.

As part of the Year of the Eucharist, the Diocese of Charlotte began planning its first Eucharistic Congress for September 2005. Father Buettner was asked to serve on the steering committee.

"The committee decided, as one aspect of the Year of the Eucharist and as preparation for the congress, to employ a catechetical instrument throughout the

diocese," said Father Buettner, "namely, to teach on a regular basis on the Eucharist through the diocesan newspaper."

Once again, Father Buettner said, response to the weekly teachings was overwhelming.

"People began to write and call, searching for back issues that they had missed. The next step was to make the reflections available on the diocesan Web site, which drew more attention," he said.

As Father Buettner's series approached the end, he received requests for compiling them into a single resource.

"So, in response to the numerous requests, I revisited the text, made revisions where necessary, added more than 100 footnotes and completed it with a bibliography and appendices," he said.

The book was given a "nihil obstat" (Latin for "nothing stands in the way," a judgment by an official church representative that a book contains no errors of faith or moral teaching) from Dominican Father Giles Dimock, a former professor of liturgy at the Angelicum, one of Rome's pontifical universities, and Father Buettner's liturgy professor at the Dominican House of Studies in Washington, D.C.

Bishop Peter J. Jugis, who gave the book an "imprimatur" (an ecclesiastical permission to publish, certifying the work is in conformity with Catholic understanding of Scripture), "was a great supporter throughout the project," said Father Buettner.

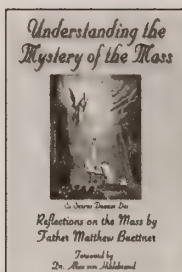
Dr. Alice von Hildebrand, noted author and philosopher, wrote the forward to the book, which is already receiving high praise from readers.

Father Buettner felt the completion of the book was timely, considering the diocese is planning its second Eucharistic Congress in Charlotte Oct. 6-7.

"As a tangible development of the first Eucharistic Congress, it flows fortuitously into our second Eucharistic Congress, themed 'The Love of Christ Impels Us,' referring to the apostolic works and fruitful endeavors that come from devotion to the holy Eucharist," he said.

Father Buettner said he is humbled and grateful to God for the experience of writing the book.

"I am still amazed that I was able to be involved in this work," he said. "It represents an exercise in trust in God's providence, humility and fidelity to his will."



WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: APRIL 11, 2006

April 2, Fifth Sunday of Lent

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm 51:3-4, 12-15
- 2) Hebrews 5:7-9
- 3) Gospel: John 12:20-33

Serving God can be difficult, but rewarding

BY JEAN DENTON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

The words of Jesus in this weekend's Gospel echo in my mind with the voice of my Haitian pastor friend, Father Hermann.

The scriptural words are, "It is for this purpose that I have come to this hour." Jesus was explaining why he was going forward with the task at hand in Jerusalem despite a heavy sense of foreboding.

He would be arrested, convicted, scourged and crucified, but he knew it was for the glorification of God and for the sake of God's people whom he loved.

Father Hermann lives and serves several thousand people in Haiti's central plateau. Most of them are very poor, working hard in a struggling agricultural economy.

One time, when conditions there were particularly volatile, I was having lunch with the 48-year-old priest and some friends. He told us about a recent incident when his life had been threatened: A gang of men had stopped his car, forced him out and held a gun to his head.

Bystanding parishioners successfully begged for his release.

He was slightly shaken but continued his ministry unabated. I knew how his days were spent — mornings walking through town to visit people, afternoons sitting on a bench outside the rectory (in the center of the town) conversing with a steady stream of individuals seeking his help.

Some days he walked or rode a horse to a remote mountain village to provide the same pastoral care.

Considering the dangerous situation at the time, I wondered aloud whether maybe he should curtail his activities for awhile.

"Ampil travay isit" ("There's much work here"), he said.

"But aren't you afraid?" I asked.

"No," he said simply.

I couldn't believe it. "You're not afraid?" I pressed.

He turned in his chair to face me and spoke my name in his preaching voice for emphasis.

"Jean," he said, his piercing, gentle eyes expressing his desire that I understand something deeply important to him, "it is for this reason that Jesus came."

Unspoken was the same preface Jesus had offered: "I am troubled now. Yet what should I say? 'Father, save me from this hour?'"

Father Hermann smiled his assurance that the one who had gone before him also had taken away his fear.

Questions:

In your own situation, what risks are you called to take for the sake of others and the glory of God? What are fears you must overcome?

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 26-APRIL 1

Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent), 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23, Ephesians 2:4-10, John 3:14-21; **Monday (Lenten Weekday)**, Isaiah 65:17-21, John 4:43-54; **Tuesday (Lenten Weekday)**, Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12, John 5:1-16; **Wednesday (Lenten Weekday)**, Isaiah 49:8-15, John 5:17-30; **Thursday (Lenten Weekday)**, Exodus 32:7-14, John 5:31-47; **Friday (Lenten Weekday)**, Wisdom 2:1, 12-22, John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30; **Saturday (Lenten Weekday)**, Jeremiah 11:18-20, John 7:40-53.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 2-8

Sunday (Fifth Sunday of Lent), Jeremiah 31:31-34, Hebrews 5:7-9, John 12:20-33; **Monday (Lenten Weekday)**, Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62, John 8:1-11; **Tuesday (Lenten Weekday)**, Numbers 21:4-9, John 8:21-30; **Wednesday (Lenten Weekday)**, Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95, Daniel 3:52-56, John 8:31-42; **Thursday (Lenten Weekday)**, Genesis 17:3-9, John 8:51-59; **Friday (Lenten Weekday)**, Jeremiah 20; 10-13, John 10:31-42; **Saturday (Lenten Weekday)**, Ezekiel 37:21-28, Jeremiah 31:10-13, John 11:45-56.

The Catholic Company™

Just in!

First Communion Gifts

Catholic Shop @ St. Matthew Catholic Church • New Life Center, Rm. 104
Corner of Rea Rd. and Ballantyne Commons Parkway - Charlotte, NC

Hours:
Monday-Friday 9-3
Sunday 10-2
704-927-4313
(Call for info or directions)

Bring in this ad for 15% off your purchase.

(Not valid on sale items.)

Exp. 3/31/06



Construction has begun and we're on our way!

It's a new year, full of resolution and hope for the future. It's also a new beginning at Pennybyrn at Maryfield, for you and your retirement future. Construction has started on what will be the area's most sought-after retirement address. Don't hesitate to inquire about this enriching lifestyle offering unparalleled services and amenities as well as the security of on-site health care. Soon, Pennybyrn will be a reality—a new beginning for you and your retirement future—act now!

Call (336) 886-4103 or toll-free (866) 627-9343 to learn more about the exciting developments at Pennybyrn at Maryfield.

PENNYBYRN
at MARYFIELD
A Continuing Care Retirement Community

Sponsored by the Sisters of The Poor Servants of The Mother of God

1315 Greensboro Road, High Point, NC 27260
www.maryfieldliving.org



NP/CNH-Groundbreaking



CNS PHOTO BY BOB ROLLER

This rosary, made from fishing weights, was designed by Father Edward Burns, director of the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Vocations and Priestly Formation, as part of the "Fishers of Men" vocations project. The program is based on having dioceses and religious orders convene priests to discuss their vocations and then encourage other men to consider following them.

New vocations film encourages priests to be 'Fishers of Men'

BY CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — With the mid-March premiere of "Fishers of Men," an 18-minute film on DVD that shows many facets of a priest's daily life, "all the elements are in place" for dioceses to join in a new vocations fulfillment and recruitment project sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, according to the head of the USCCB Secretariat for Vocations and Priestly Formation.

Father Edward J. Burns, executive director of the secretariat, said the Priestly Life and Vocation Summit: Fishers of Men project is intended to renew priests' sense of fulfillment in their vocation and to encourage them to draw on that satisfaction to invite other men to pursue the priesthood.

The project was developed by the USCCB Committee on Vocations.

"Through workshops for priests, the goal of this project is to renew and regenerate the priesthood in the United States," Father Burns said.

"It is intended to help priests articulate the joy in their vocation that the overwhelming majority of priests feel and to give them confidence that if they

extend the invitation to consider the priesthood, they will find that Catholic men today, especially young men, are open to the challenge," he added.

Produced by Grassroots Films of Brooklyn, N.Y., "Fishers of Men" features testimony by several priests on the importance they place on their own vocation and a dramatic re-enactment portraying how a priest can inspire a vocation through his service to someone in need of priestly ministry.

Msgr. David J. Malloy, USCCB general secretary, described the film as "extremely moving" and added, "It reminds us why we became priests. I would love for my nephews to see it."

The film also is intended to be used by priests in discussions with men considering the priesthood.

In an address to the full body of bishops last November, Bishop William S. Skylstad of Spokane, Wash., USCCB president, said "the challenge of fewer priests is a reminder of how important it is to encourage vocations."

"Who can more surely invite another man to be a priest than a man who is a priest?" he asked. "And what priest is a more attractive inviter than a man who appreciates his own gift of priesthood?"



Let stairs be our problem... not yours!

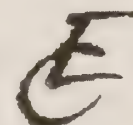
Ask about our Stairway lifts.

- Easily attached to steps (not walls)
- Folds out of the way
- Fits most stairways (straight & curved)
- Very affordable (rent or buy)
- We install

Chair & Equipment Rentals & Sales, Inc.

800 Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC • (800) 333-8431

Member of St. Thomas Aquinas



DIOCESAN REGIONAL COORDINATORS (OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION)

Charlotte Diocese seeks two persons with master's degrees in Religious Ed/allied field, and five years of demonstrable successful experience in parish/diocesan work. Well-rounded in catechist formation skills. Collaborative. Sensitive to cultural minorities. Good written/oral communication skills. Spanish a plus. Office locations: one in Maggie Valley, NC and the other in Greensboro, NC.

For copy of Job Description, e-mail paonaindia@charlottediocese.org.

Please send resume, salary requirements and three letters of recommendation to:

Dr Cris V. Villapando, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203-4003 or

cvvillapando@charlottediocese.org.

Application deadline is April 30, 2006.

BOOKKEEPER

Large Catholic church seeks full-time bookkeeper. Proficiency in Excel required, experience in ACS software a plus. Must have associate's degree or better, and 3 years' experience. Send resume as well as references to: Susie Barnes, St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church, 2715 Horse Pen Creek Rd, Greensboro, NC 27410; fax (336) 294-6149; e-mail sbarnes@stpaulcc.org.

PRINCIPAL

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Principal of St. Thomas More School, a practicing Catholic, is the administrator and educational leader of St. Thomas More of the Archdiocese of Atlanta with approximately 500 students and approximately 40 faculty and staff. Appointed by the Archbishop and reporting to the Chancellor, the Principal is accountable to the Archbishop through the Chancellor, for implementation of the mission of Catholic education in St. Thomas More School. The Principal is also responsible for providing leadership and managing the School staff; mentoring and providing mediation and conflict resolution among staff, students, and external sources; developing long and short range plans for the grade School; providing communication and support for teachers, students, chaplains, pastors, and boards; representing the Archdiocese in matters related to St. Thomas More School; and assuring compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws and codes. Some travel required. Send resume, credentials, references and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht,
140 West Myrtle Street,
Duluth, MN 55811-5018
Telephone 218-727-5150
E-mail mruprecht@cpinternet.com



ATTENTION READERS! HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?

Do you have a faith-based story that you think would be of interest to our readers? Please contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans at (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

Principal - Holy Redeemer Catholic School

The Archdiocese of Atlanta seeks a principal for Holy Redeemer Catholic School. The principal is the administrator and educational leader of this elementary School, including students, faculty, and staff; and is accountable for implementation of the mission of Catholic education in the School. MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES: provide leadership and manage School staff; develop long- and short-range plans for the School; provide communication and support for teachers, students, chaplains, pastors, and boards; mentor and provide mediation and conflict resolution among staff, students, and external sources; represent the Archdiocese in matters related to the School; and assure compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws and codes. REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE: Active membership in a Catholic parish; degree in education or a related field; state endorsement in teaching and school administration or eligibility for endorsement; central educational office experience preferred; teaching, administrative and supervisory experience; participative management style; excellent interpersonal, written, and verbal communication skills; strong supervisory and managerial skills; some travel required.

TO APPLY: Send resume, transcripts, licenses and other credentials, references, and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811-5018
Email: mruprecht@cpinternet.com
Telephone: 218-727-5150



Superintendent - Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta seeks a superintendent of schools. In cooperation with Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory, the superintendent is the chief administrator and educational leader of 18 Catholic schools, being responsible for their overall spiritual and academic quality, in keeping with the Archbishop's vision and the Church's mission. MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES: managing the Office of Catholic Schools and its staff; developing long- and short-range plans for schools; providing direction and support for local school leadership, pastors, religious congregations, principals, and boards; recruiting, hiring, supervising, and supporting principals; representing the Archdiocese in matters of education; creating, monitoring, updating, and enforcing archdiocesan policies; and ensuring compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws and codes. REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE: Active membership in a Catholic parish; doctorate degree in education or a related field; state endorsement in teaching and school administration or eligibility for endorsement; five to ten years' recent experience in Catholic schools or at the diocesan level; participative management style; excellent interpersonal, written, and verbal communication skills; excellent managerial skills with attention to detail. Some travel required.

TO APPLY: Send resume, transcripts, licenses and other credentials, references, and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811-5018
Email: mruprecht@cpinternet.com
Telephone: 218-727-5150



Classifieds

FOR RENT

NEW LAKE LURE CABIN: Stay while touring the HGTV Dream Home! 2 bedrooms, 2 bath-rooms, fully furnished. Off-season rates. 828-299-3714.

Classified ads bring results! Over 135,000 readers! Over 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

Company develops rose in honor of late pope

ROSE, from page 1

Representatives of Jackson & Perkins worked with Vatican officials over a period of several months to designate the rose.

In addition, the company will put 10 percent of sales at the disposal of the Vatican; church officials have designated the poor people in sub-Saharan Africa as the recipients.

The Vatican chose the pure white rose, which its creators are calling "luminous." The color is reminiscent of the

late pope's white garb, and the description brings to mind the five luminous mysteries the pontiff added to the rosary in 2002.

"Pope John Paul, a man of peace and compassion, was one of the most revered leaders of our time," said Bill Williams, president of Jackson & Perkins, a nationally recognized gardening and outdoor decorating company.

Ten of the rose bushes have already been planted in the Vatican gardens overlooking St. Peter's Basilica.

"It's going to be popular with customers and perpetuate the good works and the sense of noble Christianity that we found in the heart of our late Holy Father," said Bill Ihle, the company's senior vice

president of corporate relations and a member of Shepherd of the Valley Church in Central Point.

He helped develop the idea of honoring the pope.

Jackson & Perkins, a subsidiary of catalog giant Harry & David, has honored other prominent figures. Roses have been named for Princess Diana, President Ronald Reagan and first lady Nancy Reagan, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Habitat for Humanity, the Rev. Billy Graham and President John F. Kennedy.

In all cases, proceeds went to causes associated with the figure. What Ihle called "cause roses" are one way he gets to live out his faith, he said.

Proceeds from the Our Lady of Guadalupe Rose, for example, fund college scholarships for low-income Latinos. The 1997 Princess Diana Rose raised \$750,000 to eradicate land mines and make prostheses for people injured by mines.

In 2004 Ihle went to Italy with his pastor, Augustinian Father Jim Clifford, and Portland Archbishop John G. Vlazny. The men planted an Our Lady of Guadalupe Rose in the pope's personal garden at Castel Gandolfo.

The pope, too ill to attend the ceremony, sent good wishes via U.S. Cardinal Edmund C. Szoka, currently president of the commission that governs Vatican City State.

The cardinal suggested a rose honoring the Vatican. But Ihle made the point that roses named after people have "much more emotional appeal."

Archbishop Vlazny and Father Clifford suggested Pope John Paul II.



CNS PHOTO COURTESY JACKSON & PERKINS

This hybrid tea rose has been unveiled in honor of the late Pope John Paul II, who died a year ago April 2. The Vatican chose the pure white rose, which creators are calling "luminous."

After the pope died, Ihle met twice with Cardinal Szoka. Given choices between pure white, off-white and coral, the cardinal immediately liked the first one.

"This is a remembrance that people will be able to have for years and years to come of a man who moved them, moved their faith and moved the world to a better place," said Ihle.

HOLY ANGELS

THE HARDEST JOB YOU'LL EVER LOVE!

DIRECT CARE PROFESSIONALS

Weekend Relief (every other weekend) - 1st, 2nd & 3rd Shifts

Required: High School/GED. Prefer individuals with 2-3 years work experience, preferably in healthcare and/or working with children/or adults with developmental disabilities. Responsible for physical care, goal implementation, and associated duties for assigned residents. Training provided for all positions. Be sure to bring your resume with job history and references.

APPLY AT: Holy Angels, 6600 Wilkinson Blvd., Belmont, NC.

www.holyangelsnc.org

704-825-4161



The Catholic Shoppe

AT BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

Rosaries, Statues, Artwork, Crosses, Medals, Jewelry,
Prayer Cards and so much more!

Online store available: www.BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu
Call for store hours: 704-461-5100

Join us Friday, April 22nd
from 2pm to 6pm
for our Abbey Experience
open house event!


BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE
There is no other God but He

RSVP by calling 1.888.222.0110, emailing admissions@bac.edu or logging onto

BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu



Conveniently located on campus
I-85 exit 26

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Mind your posture and God's big feet

Trust in God leads to good things, even dancing

"Ouch!" I exclaimed.

"Oops, sorry," said God.

"Don't you apologize, Lord; it's Kevin's fault," grumbled Antonio, giving me his fourth dirty look of the day. "Quit dragging your feet, Kevin, and let's try it again from the top!"

And so God and I tried it again — ballroom dancing. Antonio, our instructor, started the music and God and I, arm in arm, started the steps. "One, two, three," I counted, trying to mind my foot placement.

"Up straight!" scolded Antonio, smacking me in the back. "Relax! This is supposed to be fun!"

Fun? It was excruciating, especially when God stepped on my toes again. And as you can imagine, God's got a pretty big foot.

"My bad," he offered.

Antonio cut the music and gave me another dirty look. "No, Lord, you're doing fine. It was Kevin again! Can you not hear the music?"

"Sure, but it's not that ..." I said. "I'm just not used to wearing shoes with heels."

"Bah!" he said, placing his hands on his hips. "You're just too tense. You need to loosen up, let go. Give yourself to the task at hand."

That was easier said than done. But it made me think back to how this all started ...

I was talking to God one day at the diocesan Pastoral Center, and he asked me if there was anything I wanted. Knowing God has a wicked sense of humor, I jokingly told him I wanted to learn to ballroom dance.

"Really?" he asked. "Well, gosh — me, too. What a great idea!"

I couldn't tell if he was serious, or if he was just saying that because he wanted to be involved in my life — that was God; always there, whether you wanted him to be or not.

Next thing I know, we're in Antonio's studio, trying on ballroom dancing shoes and stretching our legs. Since it was all my idea, I suggested I lead when we danced.

It was a bad idea.

"I'm not sure I'm cut out for this," I said. "It's too hard. I just can't do it."

Antonio was disappointed, muttering under his breath. God just stared silently at his big, shiny shoes. "Would you like me to lead, Kevin?" he asked.

Murray's Musings

KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR



I didn't respond right away. Surely letting God lead would make sense, but the thought of letting go, of giving him control, was a bit frightening. I like being in control of my life, or at least thinking that I am.

But that's not really the case, is it?

"Okay," I conceded. "God, I'm in your hands."

God returned a warm smile.

"OK, let's do it right this time!" snapped Antonio, clapping his hands and starting the music. And off we went.

God led me around the floor, patient and mindful as I stumbled along, concentrating on my feet, my posture, the rhythm of the music. But then, when I looked up into God's eyes, saw his reassuring smile, it all made sense. And I let myself go.

God whisked me around the room, but I had no trouble keeping up with the pace he set — whether we were waltzing or doing the mambo, the foxtrot, the cha-cha-cha; whether we were spinning or dipping — God never gave me more than I could handle.

And I was surprised how great a dancer I could be, there in God's arms, secure in his gentle embrace.

Eventually the music ended, and Antonio applauded with tears in his eyes. "I knew you could do it, Kevin," he said.

"So did I," whispered God.

I hugged him. "Thank you, God. This was a great idea."

As we slipped off our dancing shoes, God asked me, "So, what would you like to conquer next?"

I thought about it a moment. "Why don't you decide what's next, God? You haven't led me astray so far."

He grinned. "I've always wanted to try bungee jumping."

I started to protest, but then gave in — I knew I had nothing to fear.

And it's amazing what we can accomplish and where we can go, if only we're brave enough to let God lead.

Da Vinci decoded

Truth won't lie in film, but in church teaching

Like a runaway freight train, the movie version of the mega best-seller, "The Da Vinci Code," is barreling toward us. Unless, as an answer to a prayer, the movie is an unwatchable dud, we need to get ready for its May release.

By now the allegations of the book are well-known. Sales of 40 million copies will do that. The author, Dan Brown, sets up an international murder mystery and claims, along the way, that Jesus wasn't divine, he married Mary Magdalene and their offspring are roaming around Europe hoping to release this strange news to billions of Christians. What a tale!

If you've read the book, you are probably well aware of the controversy over its questioning of the divinity of Jesus, as well as the historical accuracy of Brown's depiction of Jesus, the Catholic Church and Leonardo Da Vinci's works of art.

Brown has a convincing and captivating writing style that makes what he writes believable. For many people the book represents truth. The movie will likely have a bigger audience. The book makes claims about the Catholic Church and the Catholic faith that people will question.

Fortunately, you can easily learn the truth and find answers to questions. The Catholic Communication Campaign and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops have created a Web site, www.jesusdecoded.com, which will provide factual answers to some of the questions raised by the film.

The bishops' conference is sponsoring the Web site for two good reasons. First is the acknowledgement that the movie is going to create a great deal of interest in our faith. Their hope is that people who come out of the movie with questions about their faith or the Catholic Church can find factual answers at www.jesusdecoded.com.

It would be tempting for the site to attack the poor scholarship Brown demonstrated in his book, but instead the Web site gives serious answers to important questions. For example, the centerpiece of the book, and presumably the movie, is that the Catholic Church has somehow brutally suppressed the role of Mary Magdalene.

Catholics & the Media

DAVID HAINS
GUEST COLUMNIST



But if the Catholic Church really wanted to suppress Mary Magdalene's role, wouldn't it have deleted the sentences in three of the four Gospels where she is the first person to hear, "He is risen," the most important words in history? In the other Gospel (John 20:10), Mary Magdalene is the first person the resurrected Jesus speaks to.

The second reason for the existence of the Web site is the pastoral role that the Catholic Church plays. If you step back from the controversy of the book and film, you realize that it probably won't really have much impact on a worldwide church of more than 1 billion souls. But from a pastoral point of view, it is unacceptable for even one person to develop a distorted view of Jesus Christ or his church based on a movie. That individual, like a lost sheep, is as important as the whole world.

The bishops' conference is also producing a one-hour television documentary, "Jesus Decoded." It will be available to NBC affiliates for airing during the last weeks of May, just as the movie is released. There are two NBC affiliates in the diocese — WCNC in Charlotte and WXII in Winston-Salem. WYFF in Greenville, South Carolina broadcasts into the Asheville area. The Web site says the stations have not indicated yet if they plan to run the program.

The trailer for the movie "The Da Vinci Code" has the audacity to end with the words, "Seek the truth." That is always a good idea, but don't expect to find it in a movie theatre. For real answers, check out www.jesusdecoded.com.

David Hains is director of communication for the diocese. Contact him at dwhains@charlottediocese.org.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

One step forward, two steps back

Wanting too much can lead to unhappiness

Have you noticed how many times we take one step forward, only to then take two steps backward? It makes one wonder about the real meaning of progress in this life.

We have computers that cut our work in half, and yet I know many people who have been hospitalized with neck, back, eye and hand problems because of them.

Recently I purchased a Prius hybrid car that consumes less gas and emits fewer fumes. When a friend heard this, he berated me, saying its batteries are highly toxic and difficult to dispose of when they go dead.

In conversation with a physical therapist, I learned that the percentage of children with diabetes is growing. When I asked why this is so, she replied: "There are many reasons, some of them congenital, but one cause is the corn syrup in many of our foods. This has a tendency to break down the pancreas and cause diabetes."

We have come a long way in enriching our foods and making them more flavorful, but when we compare a home-grown tomato to a hothouse tomato, we

quickly realize we haven't made as much progress as we thought. Many of our foods have lost their natural flavors.

Recently, I read that NBC will offer a service in which breaking news will be flashed to people with video cell phones (for an additional fee, of course). We have come a long way from the days of Dick Tracy in the comics. He had a video wristwatch, and we fantasized about owning one.

But is this real progress?

The word "calm" in Greek means to come out of the torrid heat into a sheltered place. With minute-to-minute news coverage at our fingertips, isn't it a little like staying out in the hot sun too long and making our heads spin?

In the Book of Ecclesiastes we read: "For when I considered all the things that I had done and the energy I had expended in doing them, it was clear that the whole of it was futility and a grasping at the wind, and none of it was profitable under the sun."

If the author of the Book of Ecclesiastes were here today, he would tell us that all life is vanity. We talk a good game about progress, but in reality

The Human Side

FATHER
EUGENE HEMRICK
CNS COLUMNIST



it's not true.

We live in the most advanced civilization in history. It is also a civilization that has devised ways to annihilate itself.

The author of Ecclesiastes would remind us that nothing in this life is perfect. We must accept and live with our imperfections.

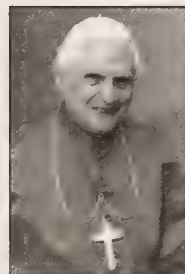
But most of all, we must not allow momentary happiness to be overrun by a restless dissatisfaction that forever strains after what it cannot have.

"Cherish the happiness of the moment, especially if you are young," he would say, "and most important of all, see that it can always be improved; put your hearts into making this happen."

Pope says main task of evangelizers is to lead people to Jesus

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — The basic mission of Jesus' Twelve Apostles and of those who evangelize today is not to spread an idea, but to lead people to Jesus and gather them into a single family, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Addressing some 35,000 people in St. Peter's Square March 22 for his weekly general audience, the pope gave the second in a series of talks about the apostles and the church.

In each of the four Gospels, he said, Jesus' call of the Twelve Apostles is the first step of his public ministry following his baptism in the Jordan River.

Pope Benedict said that, especially in the Gospel of Luke, "the call to follow him comes after they have listened to Jesus' first preaching and experienced the first marvelous signs he performed," especially the episode in which they catch a huge net full of fish after having little success.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus asks his future disciples, "What are you looking for?" and they ask him, "Where do you live?"

"Jesus' response is an invitation, 'Come and see,' 'Come in order to see.' The adventure of the apostles begins as an encounter between individuals who open themselves to one another. The disciples begin to have direct knowledge of the Master," the pope said.

"In fact, they are not called to announce an idea, but to give witness to a person," he said. "Before being sent to evangelize, they must stay with Jesus, establishing a personal relationship with him."

The Twelve, the pope said, were Jewish men expecting the Messiah and the coming kingdom of God. They were called first to proclaim the message among their fellow Jews, "in the light of God's special relationship with Israel, the covenant community," the pope said.

Jesus was sent to gather Israel together again, the pope said. "Through this gathering, the kingdom of God would be announced to all peoples."

Once Jesus died and rose again, it became clear that the apostles' mission was to go to all nations, making them disciples of Jesus, Pope Benedict said.

Setting aside his prepared text, the pope said, "This mission continues. The mandate of the Lord always is to gather all people in the unity of his love and his faith."

"This is our hope and our mandate: to contribute to this universality, this true unity with the richness of (different) cultures in communion with Our Lord Jesus Christ," he said.

Confusion at the tower of Babel

Diversity of humans part of God's divine

Q. I always pray for divine help to make us be of one faith, one Lord, living together in love as brothers and sisters of Christ. This makes me wonder why, in the book of Genesis, in the story of the tower of Babel, the Lord says, "Let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other" and be scattered over the world.

This only causes people to be of different nationalities and customs, and leads to animosity toward one another. Can you explain why God would do this? (New York)

A. Obviously, God did not desire animosity between peoples, but according to the story as we hear it in Genesis there was a reason the Lord wanted the people spread out.

At creation, God told the first humans to multiply and fill the earth. As Jesuit Father Richard Clifford points out in the New Jerome Biblical Commentary, until Chapter 9 of Genesis, the emphasis was on multiplying; then attention was given to "filling the earth."

To make this happen, we read that God assigned to each branch of the people a particular area of land and told them to take possession of their inheritance. (See, for example, Deuteronomy 32:8-9.)

The people refused to go, however. They were comfortable where they were, and rather than possess their lands

they chose to band together, build a huge city and top it off with a tower that would reach to the sky.

As the story goes, their defiance of God, their proud intention to "make a name for ourselves" rather than scatter over the earth (Gn 11:4), brought God's punishment by fulfilling his creative intent in another way: making it impossible for them even to communicate with each other.

Of the many ziggurats (sacred temple towers made of bricks) in Mesopotamia, the one in Babylon, not far from present-day Baghdad, was especially renowned at the time. Part of the great temple of the god Marduk, it had several terraces and reached nearly 70 feet high. Perhaps it was the model for the tower proposed in Genesis.

The Babylonians claimed that the name of their city meant the "gate of God," which may be where the biblical people got the idea of a tower that would reach to the heavens.

The Hebrew name for Babylon, however, was Babel, also literally the gate of God, but which they also explained as coming from the Hebrew word to confuse, to mix. Thus their tower became a place of confusion.

Another and different level of the tower story in Genesis, however, is that it could explain the wide variety of languages on the earth. The belief that there was once a common language for

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN
DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



all early human beings was widespread in the ancient world. And they were always anxious to know the origins — of people, places, customs and speech.

Genesis 11 served not only as their explanation of these diversities. It also was another of the lessons that abound in Genesis that the God of the Hebrews is beyond all gods, supreme on the earth and supreme among nations, and that disobedience to him, violence against his created harmony, always results in disaster and destruction.

A free brochure on ecumenism, including questions on intercommunion and other ways of sharing worship, is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 5515, Peoria, IL 61612.

Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address, or e-mail: jjdietzen@aol.com.

A PENNY FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Louisiana woman's penny project sends prayers, support to U.S. troops

BY JANET MARCEL
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

THIBODAUX, La. — The words "In God We Trust" on the U.S. penny were the inspiration for Thibodaux resident Sally Sobert's Power of Prayer Penny Project, which she began shortly after U.S. military forces invaded Iraq in 2003.

"When President (George W.) Bush first started to talk about a war with Iraq, there were a lot of people who were against sending our troops over there. I wanted to find a way to show our soldiers that we cared about them, that we were praying for them and that no matter whether we believed in the war or not, we supported them," Sobert said.

She said she had witnessed the power a prayer coin had on a friend of hers who received it while she was recovering from an injury, and the memory of it stayed with her.

"Whenever my friend rubbed the coin, it brought her comfort," she told the Bayou Catholic, newspaper of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux.

Sobert's prayer pennies for the military are spray-painted red or blue, then affixed to a card that reads: "God has so blessed America. You are one of his many blessings. Thank you. Thanks be to God for you. Keep this penny as a reminder that our prayers are with you. Thank you for serving our country and for protecting the world. God bless you and keep you."

The project has two goals. The first is to let those serving the country know that people's prayers and support are with them by giving them the military penny card. The second goal is asking people to pray for the troops by distributing penny cards that contain the prayer for peace.

To date, according to Sobert, more than 50,000 of the military penny cards have been distributed to troops in the U.S. and Iraq.

The project has been an ecumenical effort, with people from different religious denominations helping with everything from donating pennies to spray-painting them and affixing them to the cards.

Sobert needs thousands of pennies, but she said she has had no problems getting them.

"As word of the project got out, I literally had people coming up to me and giving me pennies," she said.

Some local organizations have also collected pennies for the cause, including St. Joseph Co-Cathedral in Thibodaux and the Bayou Community Band, which collected pennies at its concerts.

When 4,400 members of the National Guard from the area were deployed to Iraq, Brig. Gen. Hunt Downer of Houma requested military penny cards for each of them. He presented the cards to the soldiers while they were stationed at Fort Hood, Texas, to let them know that the people of south



CNS PHOTO BY LAWRENCE CHATAGNIER, BAYOU CATHOLIC

Volunteers Elicio Nicholas (left), Mary Nicholas, Elsie Taylor, Judy Daigle and Lorraine Thibodaux, place glue dots on pennies and affix them to "penny" cards and prayer cards Feb. 3 at the Marian Servants of the Word House of Prayer in Thibodaux, La. Sally Sobert designed the penny cards as a way to show support to those serving their country both at home and abroad. To date, more than 50,000 penny cards have been distributed to military personnel in the U.S. and Iraq.

Louisiana would be praying for them.

Word of the project has spread throughout Louisiana and beyond. Currently Sobert is working with a group called Operation Lifeline from New Castle, Pa., which sends goody boxes to military personnel in Iraq.

Sobert has received postcards and letters from people all across the country that have learned of the project. Some want to request information about the project and others just want to thank her.

Last Dec. 18, Capt. Bill Roberts, a

20-year Army veteran stationed in Baghdad, Iraq, called Sobert and told her he had had one of her military penny cards for 10 months. He said he "feels the prayers."

The Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux's chapter of the Marian Servants of the Word has adopted the project as a ministry. Members sometimes work together in assembly-line fashion placing glue dots on the pennies, affixing them to the military and prayer cards and preparing them for delivery or shipment.

Only 4 spaces left!
Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise —
"The Footsteps of Paul"
Greece and Turkey — May 11-21, 2006
Space is limited—register now!



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,949 for inside cabin — includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

Istanbul — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace

Mykonos — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels

Patmos — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation

Kusadasi & Ephesus — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites

Rhodes — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith

Crete — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion

Santorini — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?

**WALK WHERE JESUS WALKED ON A
DIOCESAN-SPONSORED PILGRIMAGE TO**

THE HOLY LAND
September 5 – 14

with Fr. James Hawker, Diocesan Vicar of Education and Pastor, St. Luke Church

Deepen your understanding of our Catholic faith and watch the pages of the Bible come alive as you experience daily Mass at many of the historical sites of our faith.

Highlights include:

- Tiberias, Mt. Carmel, Sea of Galilee area
- Mt. Tabor, Cana, Nazareth — Jesus' boyhood area
- Capernaum, Mount of Beatitudes, River Jordan
- Jerusalem area: Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Via Dolorosa, Lord's Tomb at Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Mount Zion, Upper Room, Dormition Abbey, Wailing Wall
- Dead Sea (excavations and scrolls), Masada, Holocaust memorial
- Bethlehem's historic sites - PLUS much more!



Price: \$2,499 from Charlotte (\$2,599 after June 22) includes airfare, most meals, first-class hotels and all tours. Airport taxes/fees, tips and insurance are extra.

Call Cindi Feerick at 704/370-3332 for a brochure with complete details or Pentecost Tours 800/713-9800 for registration.



Rallying for the cause

THOUSANDS GATHER TO
VOICE CONCERNS OVER
IMMIGRATION POLICY

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — As the fate of millions of illegal immigrants is considered in the Senate, thousands of people have taken to the streets in cities across the country, including here in the Diocese of Charlotte.

The eight-block march from Holy Cross Church in Kernersville to the town's Municipal Building drew an estimated 1,000 people March 25. A rally at Marshall Park in Charlotte drew an estimated 6,000 people March 25.

Although Bishop Peter J. Jugis was unable to attend the Charlotte rally, his letter to

See RALLY, page 5

FAITH IN THE EXTREME

Middle school students attend retreat

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — More than 250 middle school students had their faith re-invigorated in an extreme way at the Extreme Faith Retreat 2006, which took place at St. Matthew Church in Charlotte March 25.

Young people representing 16 of the 92 parishes in the Diocese of Charlotte gathered for a day of prayer, reflection and catechesis.

The goal of the retreat is to

See EXTREME, page 4

Decoding da Vinci



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

Leonardo da Vinci's "The Last Supper" features prominently in Dan Brown's novel, "The Da Vinci Code," and the movie version due this May. The story also depicts Opus Dei, an international Catholic organization, as a secretive cult within the church.

Vatican officials relatively quiet about 'The Da Vinci Code'

BY JOHN THAVIS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Is "The Da Vinci Code" on the Vatican's radar?

You wouldn't know it by public pronouncements.

Vatican officials have said little or nothing about the book, which has sold more than 40 million copies worldwide, or the upcoming movie, expected to open the Cannes Film Festival in May.

The dominant school of thought at the Vatican is that it

is always best to ignore a book or film that presents the church unfairly.

"You're only feeding the publicity," said one Vatican official. "I don't think the Vatican will say much about this movie when it comes out — if anything."

But not everyone feels that way, and there are signs that the Code phenomenon may be reaching the critical mass

See CODE, page 9

Opus Dei called 'complete opposite' of 'The Da Vinci Code' portrayal

BY JERRY FILTEAU
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — The impression of Opus Dei conveyed in Dan Brown's novel, "The Da Vinci Code," is "the complete opposite of what Opus Dei is about," said Brian Finnerty, U.S. spokesman for the international Catholic organization.

The book portrays Opus Dei as a secretive cult within the church plotting to take over the church and willing to kill those who stand in its way.

One of the main characters in the book is a murderous albino Opus Dei monk named Silas.

In fact Opus Dei, headed by a bishop, is a personal prelature — part of the hierarchical structure of the church — and it has no monks.

With the vast public attention given to the book over the past three years, and now with the movie coming out in May, Opus Dei is using the

See OPUS DEI, page 8

CHapel Hill NC 27599-0001
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3830
UNC
NC COLLECTION
#420836#
#BXNPDVQ.....3-DIGIT 275
S34 P1

Inside the Curia

Computer-whiz cardinal
answers medical questions

| PAGE 6

Enduring light of faith

People still show devotion
to Pope John Paul II

| PAGE 7

Perspectives

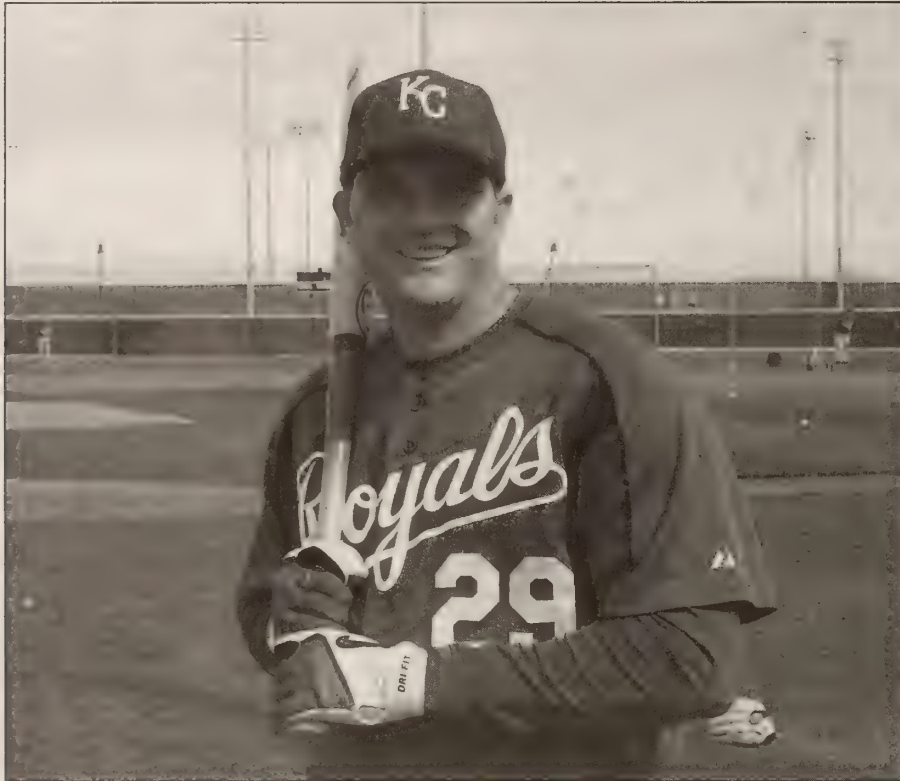
Easter and being yourself;
coping with news of war

| PAGES 14-15

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

A ROYAL SPIRIT



CNS PHOTO BY KARL BIERACH, NEW VISION

Kansas City Royals baseball player Mike Sweeney poses before a March 9 spring training game. The five-time All-Star first baseman gives a lot of praise to God and uses him as a beacon to guide his life. Sweeney plans to join players around the league in November on a pilgrimage to meet Pope Benedict XVI in an effort to bring Catholic values into Major League Baseball.

Catholic baseball player thanks God for many blessings

SURPRISE, Ariz. (CNS) — It was a cool and crisp morning at spring training camp for the Kansas City Royals baseball team in Surprise.

Wearing a bright blue jersey with the number 29 stitched on the back, first baseman Mike Sweeney worked on his bunting skills.

The five-time All-Star said he was excited to be back at camp and had a lot to be thankful for this spring.

"I'm healthy, blessed with a great wife and two beautiful children and at times I ask the Lord, 'Why are things so good?'" said Sweeney.

"I know it's due to his mercy, grace and love for me," he said.

As a Catholic athlete, Sweeney gives a lot of praise to God and uses him as a beacon to guide his life.

During a time when some of baseball's biggest stars have been surrounded by controversy about the use of steroids and other performance-enhancing drugs, Sweeney credits the church in keeping his mind, body, and soul pure.

"Without the gift of the Catholic Church and being able to receive the Eucharist, I would probably be the guy experimenting with steroids, drugs and infidelity," he said.

"I get filled up by my relationship with God," he said.

When they are on the road for weeks at a time, Sweeney and other members of the Royals seek out a local church before their Sunday games. Attending services on a regular basis has really strengthened his love for the Lord, he said.

At times in the past, he said, he "would just go through the motions at Mass," but in the last few years he has developed "a heartfelt love for the Eucharist."

"I truly believe in Christ's presence and feel such an honor to receive it," he said.

For baseball players, the goal of the season is to win the World Series in October. Sweeney believes his team is talented enough to make the Series but he knows that, win or lose, something special awaits him in November.

Players from around the league plan to make a pilgrimage to meet with Pope Benedict XVI in an effort to bring Catholic values into Major League Baseball.

"I spoke with (St. Louis Cardinals pitcher) Jeff Suppan, and he said meeting the pope (last November) was a life-changing experience," Sweeney said.

"Getting on his knee and kissing the pope's ring changed him forever. I want to experience that," he said.

Poll shows many want religious history in public school textbooks

FAIRFIELD, Conn. (CNS) — Religious history and traditions should not be kept out of public school classrooms or textbooks, according to a national poll conducted by the Sacred Heart University Polling Institute.

According to results released March 7, more than 79 percent of respondents said religious traditions should be included in public school textbooks and the same percentage also said it was important to teach religious history in public schools.

But some respondents indicated they were not always happy with the way their religious traditions are portrayed in textbooks.

Thirty-six percent said public school textbooks frequently misrepresent their religious history. Twenty-six percent said misrepresentation does not happen or seldom occurs, and 36 percent were unsure.

Among Catholics, 34 percent believe

textbooks misrepresent their religion, while 35 percent of Protestants believe their faith is misrepresented.

More than half of all respondents, 57 percent, suggested publishers allow religious groups to review, but not edit, public school textbooks for accuracy prior to their release. Another 27 percent did not agree and 14 percent were unsure.

Among Catholics and Protestants, support for such textbook reviews was 63 percent and 62 percent, respectively.

"A majority of Americans polled seem to indicate that not only do religious histories matter, but getting them right matters as well," said June-Ann Greeley, assistant professor of religious studies at Sacred Heart University.

The Sacred Heart University institute's poll was completed via 1,000 telephone interviews with residents nationwide Feb. 9-15. The margin of error for the survey was plus or minus 3 percent.

Diocesan planner

ASHEVILLE VICARIATE

ASHEVILLE — *Fostering Justice Worldwide*, sponsored by the diocesan Office of Justice and Peace, will share Catholic Relief Services (CRS) stories. This free event will take place at St. Eugene Church, 72 Culvern St., April 8, 1:15-4:45 p.m. The program will provide an overview of Catholic social teaching, CRS-related work in the Diocese of Charlotte, CRS work in Africa, presentations on effective advocacy and more. This event will be repeated in Charlotte June 24, in Newton Sept. 9 and in Stoneville Nov. 4. For specific details about the Saturday afternoon events, please call the Office of Justice and Peace at (704) 370-3234 or (704) 370-3225, or e-mail justicepeace@charlottediocese.org.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — *A Lenten Mission* will be held at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd., April 1-5. Norbertine Father Alfred McBride will celebrate the weekend Masses April 1-2 and at 12:10 p.m. April 3-4. There will be a conference and penance service April 3 at 7:30 p.m.; conference and anointing of the sick April 4 at 7:30 p.m.; and Mass and commissioning service April 5 at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call the church office at (704) 554-7088.

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., will have a *Polish-language Mass* on Palm Sunday, April 9 at 3:30 p.m. in the Daily Mass Chapel. Confessions will be available in Polish beginning at 2 p.m. For more information, please call Elizabeth Spytkowski at (704) 948-1678.

CHARLOTTE — The *Divine Mercy Novena* will be recited at St. Gabriel Church's Daily Chapel, 3016 Providence Rd., beginning on Good Friday, April 14, at 6:30 p.m. and Holy Saturday, April 15, at 6:30 p.m. All following days the novena will be recited at 7:30 p.m. Our Lord said to St. Faustina, "By this novena, I will grant every possible grace to souls" (Diary, 796). If you are not familiar with this devotion, please come and pray. We will have brochures available with the intentions our Lord has asked us to bring to him during this novena. For more information, call Tina Witt (704) 846-7361.

CHARLOTTE — Dr. Warren Carroll will speak on "*The Growing and Indestructible Church*" at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Park Rd., April 18 at 7:30 p.m. For more information and to RSVP, call Estelle Wisneski at (704) 364-9568 or e-mail jfwisneski@cs.com.

CHARLOTTE — New formation classes for the *St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order* will meet the second Saturday of each month, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Classes take place at Our Lady of Consolation Church, 2301 Statesville Ave. Those interested in learning more about the SFO and the Franciscan way of life are invited to attend. The order also gathers the first Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. at Our Lady of Consolation Church. For more information, call Kathleen Zuckerman at (704) 455-7954.

CHARLOTTE — The *Vietnamese Cursillo* of Charlotte School of Leaders meets the second Sunday of each month at 2:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1400 Suther Rd. For more information, contact Nam Le at (704) 549-1525.

CHARLOTTE — The *Happy Timers* of St. Ann Church meet the first Wednesday of each month with a luncheon and program at 1 p.m. in the Msgr. Allen Center, 3635 Park Rd. All

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

MARCH 31, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 25

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Pope, cardinals discuss several issues, including dialogue with Islam

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI and most of the world's cardinals sat down for closed-door discussions on a number of administrative and pastoral questions, including dialogue with Islam.

The pope presided over the day of reflection and prayer March 23, the day before he inducted 15 new cardinals, who also were invited to the meeting in the Vatican's synod hall.

There was no formal agenda, but the pope and cardinals discussed the condition of retired bishops; the question raised by (Archbishop Marcel) Lefebvre and the liturgical reform desired by the Second Vatican Council; and questions connected with the dialogue between the church and Islam.

Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick of Washington said the discussion on Islam reflected the shared recognition that "somehow we've got to relate to Islam, because

it's such a major force in the world."

"I think (the pope) is concerned that fundamentalist Islam is hostile to every other faith. That's a concern of all of us," Cardinal McCarrick said.

He said participants were worried about the fate of Christian minorities in some Muslim countries.

In his own remarks to the assembly, the cardinal said he stressed the need to encourage moderate Islamic leaders to "speak out and proclaim an Islam which is tolerant and able to work with others."

Others said that, while interfaith dialogue was important, perhaps more important right now is practical cooperation with Muslims — as a sign of dialogue in action.

It was the pope's idea to convene the meeting, and Vatican sources said it signaled a strong advisory role for the world's cardinals under the new pontificate.

adults age 55 and older are welcome. For details, call Charles Nesto at (704) 398-0879.

GASTONIA VICARIATE

BELMONT — A *Morning of Reflection* in preparation for Holy Week will be held at Belmont Abbey College April 8, 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Benedictine Father David Brown presents "Isaiah's Suffering Servant: Who Is It?" and Professor David Pitt will present "Hosanna to Alleluia: The Church at Prayer during Holy Week." Mass will be in the Abbey Basilica at 11 a.m. followed by midday prayer. All are invited to attend this free event. Please reserve your place by calling (704) 825-6248 or e-mail peggycmglohon@bac.edu.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — All Irish-Catholic women are invited to participate in the *Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians*, a social, cultural and charitable group for an ongoing series of fun and informative activities. LAOH will meet April 6 at 7 p.m. in the Kloster Center of St. Pius X Church, 2210 N. Elm St. A representative from New Garden Nursery will discuss "Planting in Containers." Please join us for refreshments and to learn more about our group. Any questions can be directed to Mary Giff at (336) 855-7014.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

MURPHY — Rev. Perry Brown, pastor of Ranger-Tomotla United Methodist Church in Murphy, will preach the final in a series of *Ecumenical Lenten Services* April 5, 12-12:30 p.m. at St. William Church, 765 Andrews Rd. The series is designed to strengthen ecumenical bonds within the community. For more information, call Joan Kennedy at (828) 837-8519.

SYLVA — A four-part series, "*Prayer of the Church*," will be presented at St. Mary Church, 22 Bartlett St. The sessions will meet 10-11 a.m., April 22, May 27, June 24 and July 22.

Please call the church office at (828) 586-9496 to pre-register.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

WINSTON-SALEM — Spirit of Assisi, a Franciscan Center, 221 W. Third St., will host a *Lenten Faith Sharing* "brown-bag" gathering April 5, 12-12:45 p.m. We will spend time looking ahead to the weekend Lenten readings to prepare our hearts for the Word of God to take root. Bring your own lunch. Coffee and tea will be provided. For more information, call (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

WINSTON-SALEM — Spirit of Assisi, a Franciscan Center, 221 W. Third St., will host a book discussion on "*Humility of God: A Franciscan Perspective*" by Ilia Delio, O.S.F. This book deals with the theology of divine humility and God's relationship to the world, while at the same time tackling some tough questions. The group will meet April 3 and 24; and May 1, 8 and 15, 6-7:30 p.m. For more information, call (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

WINSTON-SALEM — The *Healing Companions* is a grief support group for the bereaved that meets the first and third Thursdays of the month in conference room B at St. Leo the Great Church, 335 Springdale Ave. For further details, call Joanne Parcel at (336) 924-9478.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax

For new cardinals, a ceremony full of symbols

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The main elements in the ceremonies surrounding the creation of new cardinals are red, hat, church and ring.

When Pope Benedict XVI elevated 15 new members into the College of Cardinals March 24, they already were dressed in their new red cassocks.

As French Cardinal Albert Vanhoye, one of the 15, told Vatican Radio: "Red is the color of love, of fire, and it is also the color of the Passion. It is said that the cardinals must be ready even to shed their blood" for Christ and his church.

One by one, the new cardinals approached Pope Benedict and knelt before him so he could place the four-cornered red hat, called a biretta, on their heads.

Next, each cardinal was given a scroll testifying to his new office and containing the name of his titular church in Rome.

By receiving the "title" to a Rome church, each cardinal formally became part of the clergy of Rome. The status connects the modern tradition of the College of Cardinals electing a new pope

to the early church practice by which the bishop of Rome was elected by the clergy of Rome.

Over the coming months, the new cardinals will "take possession" of their titular churches in a brief ceremony, although their official responsibilities to the churches do not go beyond affection and prayerful concern.

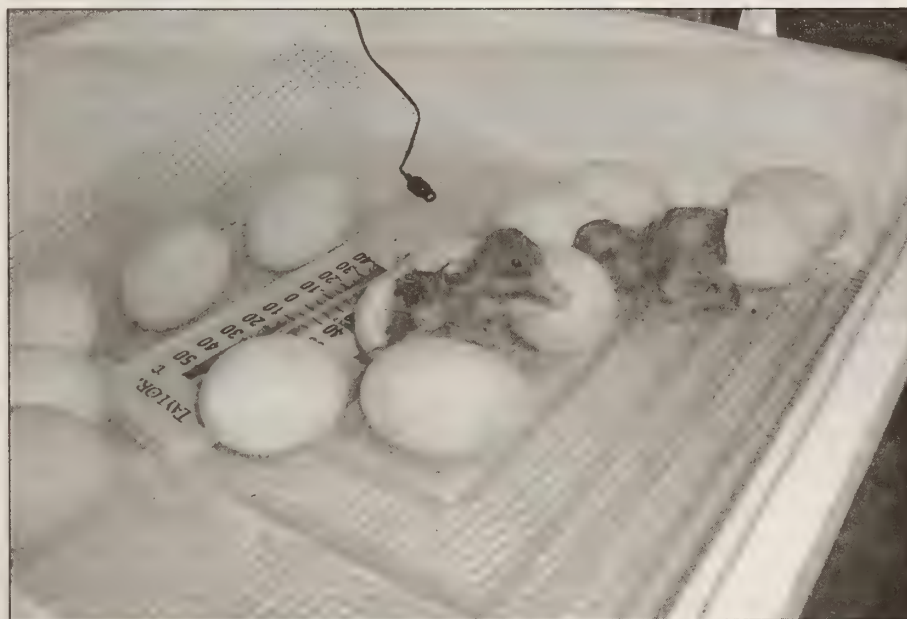
Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley of Boston was given the title to Santa Maria della Vittoria, a 17th-century church particularly famous as the home of Gianlorenzo Bernini's statue of "St. Teresa in Ecstasy."

The cardinal's new status and new relationship with the pope were to be sealed with a ring at a March 25 Mass.

The Vatican press office explained the rite is a "sign of dignity, of pastoral concern and of the most solid communion with the see of Peter."

When handing out the rings, Pope Benedict was to say to each cardinal: "Receive the ring from the hand of Peter and know that with the love of the prince of the apostles your love for the church will be reinforced."

Ducks in a row



COURTESY PHOTO

Two newly hatched ducklings make their way out of their shells March 27. Eight ducklings in all hatched in the incubator at St. Ann School in Charlotte.

Since Feb. 27, students have overseen 16 eggs' incubation as part of a hands-on science lab experiment. Students monitored the embryonic development of the eggs and learned about the sacredness of life.

Sister of St. Joseph Helene Nagle, principle, was the designated "official duck sitter" for the weekends prior to and shortly after the eggs hatch.

According to Patty Topper, lab instructor, a family at St. Ann Church will adopt the ducks to live on their farm.

The next project will include fertilized chicken eggs.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

April 2 — 3 p.m.
Youth Pilgrimage
Belmont Abbey, Belmont

April 4 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. Benedict the Moor Church, Winston-Salem

NEW July dates!



Pilgrimage to Poland – Remembering JPII

June 6 - 15, 2006 – 10 days, 14 meals
Warsaw, Czestochowa, Krakow, Auschwitz,
Divine Mercy Shrine, Wadowice & more.

Airfare, hotels & transfers included. \$2,789 per person (double) from Columbia, SC. Call Fr. Andrew Vollkommer, Our Lady of the Lake, for brochure: 803-345-3962.

Helping the hungry



COURTESY PHOTO

Youths from Queen of the Apostles Church in Belmont have a little fun with some of the canned goods they collected for the 30 Hour Famine held in Belmont March 17-18. More than 130 youths and adults from eight different churches in the Belmont area, including Queen of the Apostles Church, went without food for 30 hours and learned of the many ways all Christians can help the hungry. The participants helped collect more than 1,000 canned food items for the Belmont Community Organization's food bank.

Salisbury youth wins prestigious scholarship

SALISBURY — Virginia Ball, a member of the diocesan Youth Advisory Council, recently won North Carolina State University's prestigious Park Scholarship.

Virginia, a parishioner of Sacred Heart Church in Salisbury and a senior at North Rowan High School, plans to major in psychology, a field she discovered after taking an advanced-placement psychology course in high school.

The Park Scholarship, established in honor of N.C. State alumnus and media mogul Roy H. Park, is given annually to 35 in-state students and to 15 out-of-state students. For North Carolina residents, the award is worth \$59,000.

As reported in the Salisbury Post, Virginia's parents both went to N.C. State; her brother is currently a student and her grandfather was a professor there.

She was one of two North Rowan High School students nominated and was chosen from about 900 other applicants. The field was first narrowed to 200, and, after a round of regional interviews, 100 students headed to N.C. State for final interviews.

While Virginia felt her confidence pushed her ahead of the other finalists, she believes her resume helped, too.

As an active member of the diocesan Youth Advisory Council, Virginia is part of a 20-member group that meets one weekend a month to plan an annual conference for Catholic youth.

At North Rowan High School, she is student body president, a member of the Key Club, Anchor Club, National Honor Society and captain of the Quiz Bowl team.

Virginia is captain of the varsity soccer



Virginia Ball

team, runs cross country and swims. She is ranked second in her class.



**Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center**

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

Middle school students attend Extreme retreat

EXTREME, from page 1

enable participants to enter into the experience of God through new ways, said Peg Ruble, associate director of diocesan youth ministry.

Retreat organizers used workshops, art and scripture to illustrate the Annunciation of Mary and the life of Jesus and to address topics of concern for middle school students.

"I hope they walk away from the retreat with a deeper love and appreciation for Christ, his church and the cult of saints, as well as the beautiful art that has been created in western culture," said Paul Kotlowski, director of diocesan youth ministry.

Ruble said one new experience was praise and worship music, which most of the participants had not been exposed to before.

"The praise and worship music

brought things into depth in a new way," said Lemaat Michael, a parishioner of Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Monroe. "It was really a cool way to worship."

Workshops addressed such topics as prayer, Mary and peer pressure.

"The prayer gave me insight to not be shy to ask for what I want when praying and talking to God," said Danielle Hobbs, a parishioner of Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

"One of our most popular workshops was 'What would Jesus do for a Klondike bar?' dealing with moral decision-making," said Ruble.

"The Extreme Faith Retreat was a very touching event that changed the way I think about my religion," said Christine Zabel, a parishioner of Our Lady of Lourdes Church. "I was able to experience Jesus in new ways."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.



COURTESY PHOTO

Participants create artwork to represent the Annunciation of Mary as part of the Extreme Faith Retreat 2006. The annual retreat, sponsored by the diocesan Office of Youth Ministry, drew 250 middle school students March 25.

Many Annuity Owners Lose Money. Will YOU?

Some annuity owners lose money because they didn't know what questions to ask when they bought, and their salesperson did not volunteer any information.

If you own an annuity or are considering taking advantage of their many benefits, my **FREE** report, "Using Guaranteed Annuities to Help You Survive Your Retirement," will tell you what questions to ask.

The report is **FREE** and shows you how to get more benefits from your existing assets and help preserve your annuity value.

Call 800-800-4960, ext. 7405 (24 hours)

for your **FREE** report!

Dr. Richard Pucciarelli

Certified Senior Advisor

Member of Asset Protectors and Advisors Group



IMMIGRATION REFORM

Thousands gather to voice immigration concerns

RALLY, from page 1

those gathered was read in English and Spanish by Franciscan Sister Andrea Inkrott, director of Hispanic ministry for the Diocese of Charlotte.

In the letter, Bishop Jugis said he fully supports the U.S. bishops' campaign for immigration reform.

"All sides of the debate agree that our country's immigration system is in need of reform," said Bishop Jugis in his letter.

"It is my hope and prayer that all involved will work for legislation that will implement an immigration policy that will protect our national security interests, ensure the common good and maintain respect for the law as well as respect the human rights of those who come to our country as refugees from political and economic hardship in their home countries," he said.

Bishop Jugis said it is a Christian mandate given by God to "love, to offer charity to those in need and to protect and nurture human life in all its stages."

"The immigrants of the past and of today bring with them wonderful gifts and talents that they want to share with those around them," said the bishop. "Let us work together to make it possible for all to live with dignity and without fear in this country, which has been built by immigrants for more than 200 years."

At the Kernersville rally, marchers carrying a banner of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the patron saint of the Americas, led the procession to the town hall. They carried signs that read "We do pay taxes" and "We are no longer foreigners."

Judge George Bedsworth of Forsyth District Court spoke about obeying the law and told the immigrants gathered to make every effort to learn English, a remark met with applause.



COURTESY PHOTO

An estimated 1,000 people march from Holy Cross Church in Kernersville to the city's town hall as part of a pro-immigration rally March 25.

Heather MacKenzie, an immigration lawyer in Winston-Salem, called on Hispanics to organize and lobby Congress.

"We tried to ask the community to call the Congress ... and to let them know that we're concerned about what's going on down there," said Martin Mata, director of Hispanic ministry at Holy Cross Church.

In Washington, the Senate Judiciary Committee seemed to answer many people's prayers, for the time being, anyway.

On March 27, the committee voted 12-6 to send the full Senate a bill that would give the estimated 12 million illegal immigrants in the country a chance to legalize their status and would provide 1.5 million temporary visas to agricultural workers in a new guest worker program.

Another 400,000 "green cards" or permanent resident visas would be available to people in various industries.

The bill would double the size of the Border Patrol and provide more funds for high-tech equipment to monitor the border.

The Senate began debate on the bill March 28. Floor discussion is expected to

take two weeks before the Senate votes.

The final Senate bill will need to be reconciled with legislation passed in the House in December that deals with enforcement-related issues. Even in their approval of enforcement provisions, the Senate committee rejected many elements included in the House bill.

The committee refused to adopt amendments that would make it a crime to be in the United States illegally or to provide assistance to undocumented immigrants. Illegal immigration currently is a violation of civil law. Religious organizations are among the most vocal opponents of those provisions in the House bill.

In Charlotte, Bishop Jugis said prayer and support for immigrants would continue.

"The Catholic Church ... will continue to offer spiritual and material assistance to our brothers and sisters, doing what we can to help them feel at home," he said.

Contributing to this story was Catholic News Service and the Winston-Salem Journal.

Advising change

TWO FROM DIOCESE SERVE ON GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL

BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH
CORRESPONDENT

RALEIGH — Eduardo Bernal and Francisco Risso of the Diocese of Charlotte have been named to the Governor's Advisory Council on Hispanic/Latino Affairs.

District Court Judge Wanda Bryant swore them in at the North Carolina Museum of Natural History in Raleigh March 10.

Bernal is the Hispanic ministry coordinator for the diocese's Smoky Mountain Vicariate. Risso directs the Western North Carolina Workers' Center in Morganton.

They join 13 other council members from throughout North Carolina.

Risso fills a council vacancy in the Morganton area and will focus on worker issues. Bernal, the first person appointed the council from far-western North Carolina, will represent the Hispanic community at large.

Martha Oyala-Crowley, council chair, said Bernal was chosen for the council because he's well-known for his work with Hispanic people in the Smoky Mountain region.

Gov. James Hunt created the council in August 1998 at the request of Hispanic leaders. He also created the Office of Hispanic/Latino Affairs, which has a two-person paid staff.

The advisory council's members are unpaid volunteers. Fifteen are ex officio, nonvoting members: secretaries and commissioners of various state agencies such as the departments of Commerce, Revenue and Labor, as well as the attorney general and the governor's legal counsel.

The 15 voting members are all from the Hispanic community. There is no limit to how long a person can serve on the council.

Bernal, a native of El Salvador, has been the Smoky Mountain Vicariate's Hispanic ministry coordinator for four years.

His work includes outreach to the Hispanic community; training people as lectors and extraordinary ministers of holy Communion; organizing small faith communities; and translation.

"I have an insight into people's lives," Bernal said. "I want to learn how government works so I can do things better."

Risso, a parishioner at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Morganton, assists low-wage workers; helps immigrants understand their rights and assists them with work-related problems; and helps them file complaints with government agencies.

"I asked to be on the council," Risso said. "I think it's going to be valuable to work with the people from the government and see what kind of influence we have."

Both Bernal and Risso are concerned about immigration policy.

"Immigration is a consequence of globalization," Bernal said. "Goods move (across) the borders; people should be able to also."

He added that desiring a globalized economy but not wanting people to come to this country is "not real ... out of touch with reality."

"We want North Carolina to be as appreciative as possible of the contributions of the workers who come here," said Risso.



THE ORATORY

434 Charlotte Avenue, P.O. Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586
(803) 327-2097

ICONOGRAPHY RETREAT

Wednesday, May 3, 7 pm to

Sunday, May 7, 3 pm

Fr. Damien Higgins –
Ukrainian Rite

The Oratory is hosting a second icon-writing retreat this year. This 4-day retreat will introduce students to the traditional methods of egg-tempera icon writing/painting through prayer and study. Each participant will learn the various natural materials and practice the techniques and spiritual disciplines for creating a traditional icon. Each retreatant will take home a completed icon. All materials are included in the tuition, and the schedule is flexible for commuters. Enrollment is strictly limited to 12 retreatants. A deposit of \$150 is required and is deducted from the total due.

Cost: \$ 325 Tuition
\$ 180 Room & Board
\$ 30 Meals for Commuters

SENIORS'
SPRING FLING

Sponsored by CSS Elder Ministries

Two dates and locations to choose from!

Thurs., April 20th – St. Aloysius, Hickory
9 am to 3:30 pm: Closing Mass with Bishop Curlin
Registration deadline: April 11th

Thurs., April 27th – St. Mark, Huntersville
10 am to 4 pm: Closing Mass with Bishop Jugis
Registration deadline: April 18th

Your day will be filled with fellowship,
Mass, lunch with friends, chair massages,
line dancing and yoga, crafts, bingo, door prizes and more!

Call Sandra Breakfield (704) 370-3220 or
Sherill Beason (704) 370-3228.

Cost: \$12 includes lunch. Limited space available.
Register NOW!



INSIDE THE CURIA

Life and death matters

Computer-whiz cardinal answers medical questions as Vatican official

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — A trained theologian and self-taught computer whiz, Mexican Cardinal Javier Lozano Barragan now spends most of his time dealing with very technical medical questions.

The 73-year-old cardinal is president of the Pontifical Council for Health Care Ministry, which encourages the work of hospital chaplains, but goes well beyond strictly pastoral concerns.

"We must provide guidance on the various problems that face the world of health care today, from specific illnesses to technological discoveries, from political decisions to medical practice," Cardinal Lozano said.

Although Pope Benedict XVI has yet to make specific requests of the council, the cardinal said the pope's first encyclical, "Deus Caritas Est" ("God Is Love"), has set the framework for the council's activities.

The cardinal said the pope's encyclical told the church: "Love has something to say to us in our political decisions and our institutional decisions. It is not something ethereal."

Loving life

Cardinal Lozano said the more than 109,000 Catholic hospitals, clinics, rehabilitation centers and other health-related institutions around the world are a sign of the church's love for all people.

Another sign of love, he said, is his office's efforts to train and support Catholic doctors, nurses, pharmacists and researchers in their efforts to cure and care for the sick and to defend human life.

"The greatest challenge facing Catholic health providers today regards the dignity and sacredness of life," he said.

The problem is not just the legalization of abortion and growing acceptance of euthanasia, but efforts to violate the conscience of Catholic medical personnel by forcing them to participate in procedures they consider immoral, he said.

"There are many universities and many countries where you cannot become an obstetrician if you have not assisted at and performed a certain number of abortions," Cardinal Lozano said.

The council supports Catholics in defending their right to conscientious objection, and it lobbies for legislation recognizing that right.

Aiding the sick

Another major problem, he said, is



Editor's note: This is the fourth of an occasional series based on interviews with heads of Vatican offices. The articles describe the work of the agencies and the main challenges they face and briefly profile the people who head them.

posed by the AIDS pandemic, especially in Africa.

While the cardinal has been drawn into the debate over condoms — he insists that abstinence before marriage and fidelity within marriage are the best ways to prevent the spread of the disease — his focus is on getting people in developing countries access to the same drugs that save people with HIV/AIDS in wealthy countries.

He cajoles big pharmaceutical companies into lowering their prices, and he is not above begging for donations to the Vatican's Good Samaritan Foundation, which pays for antiretroviral treatment for the poorest AIDS patients.

In its two years of existence, the foundation has distributed almost \$300,000, with all the money used to buy antiretroviral drugs at a discounted price.

"The nuncio in Ghana told me Mother Teresa's sisters, who have a home for people with AIDS, were bringing him 21 people to bury each month," the cardinal said. "Now it is one a month because they have antiretroviral drugs."

Cardinal Lozano has estimated that Catholic religious orders and institutions are responsible for about 25 percent of all the treatment offered to people living with HIV/AIDS around the world.

Showing the church's action against the pandemic is the only way to fight the widespread prejudice that the church is doing nothing because it is not handing out condoms, he said.

Cardinal Lozano said that during a visit to Lithuania he was interviewed on television and was asked, "Why does the church want to control people's sex lives?"

"I said, 'Look, each person faces two paths. One leads to life and the other to death. I have an obligation to tell you which leads to death and which leads to life, then you have an obligation to choose,'" he said.



CNS PHOTO BY MICHAEL HOYT, CATHOLIC STANDARD

Mexican Cardinal Javier Lozano Barragan, president of the Pontifical Council for Health Care Ministry, greets patients at Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring, Md., in February 2003. The cardinal is a trained theologian and self-taught computer whiz who spends most of his time dealing with very technical medical questions.

Web of work

Cardinal Lozano was bishop of Zacatecas, Mexico, when he was appointed president of the council in 1996.

In the early days, he said, "I brought my own laptop (computer) to work" because the Vatican offices were not computerized.

In the 1980s, he personally put together a Web site for his diocese. His council was one of the first Vatican offices to have a Web site and it still functions independently of the Vatican site.

Although he managed to teach himself how to build a Web site, he said when he arrived in Rome he relied on books, assistants and consultants to educate him about health care issues.

"I had an obligation to study, to learn many things, and this is an obligation that continues," he said. "Otherwise, what good would I be doing? This is not an office concerned with fairy tales, but with real life-and-death issues."

MARY KAY®
give the girls
a call.

Looking for a fun way to enjoy a little girl time? Plan a Mary Kay party! Invite your girlfriends.

Enjoy free makeovers.

Exchange beauty tips. It's a beautiful way to bond! Call me to schedule the fun.

Mention this ad for 15% off web site orders!

Meredith Magyar

Independent Beauty Consultant
www.marykay.com/meredith126
704-236-4839

BINGO
it's here!!!

St. Matthew K of C
BINGO at the new
South Charlotte Banquet Center
every Monday evening

Doors open: 6 pm
BINGO starts: 7 pm sharp!

Food and refreshments available
NON-SMOKING FACILITY
CASH ONLY - ATM AVAILABLE

9009 Bryant Farms Rd.

Directions: from 485- exit Rea Road (south). Right on Ballantyne. Past St. Matthew, turn left on Elm Lane (which turns into Bryant Farms Road). K of C Banquet Center is approximately 2 miles on the left.



Groce
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

1401 Patton Ave. 72 Long Shoals Road
Asheville, NC Arden, NC
(828) 252-3535 (828) 687-3530

Pre-arrangements and obituaries on-line at www.grocefuneralhome.com

**Assuring
Absolute
Integrity**

Asheville's Catholic Funeral Directors
Dale Groce • John Prock

Toll-free (888) 874-3535

Enduring light of faith

A year after pope's death, people worldwide continue to show devotion

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — From starting prayer groups to cheering at the mention of his name, people around the world continue to show their devotion to Pope John Paul II.

A year after Pope John Paul's death, the Vatican still maintains a separate entrance to the grotto under St. Peter's Basilica where he is buried, and Pope Benedict XVI still cites his writings and example in his public speeches.

While the cause for Pope John Paul's canonization continues with interviews of people in Rome and Poland who were close to him, Pope John Paul prayer groups are springing up around the world.

Msgr. Slawomir Oder, the official promoter of the pope's sainthood cause, said the groups — one in Argentina calls itself "Juan Pablo Magno" (John Paul the Great) — not only support the cause with their prayers, but they study Pope John Paul's writings.

Pope Benedict does not appear jealous of the attention; in fact, from the beginning of his pontificate he has urged the church to continue to study the teachings of his predecessor.

Speaking to the Roman Curia in December, he said: "No pope has left us a quantity of texts equal to what he left us; no pope before him could visit the entire world like he did and speak directly to men and women of every continent."

"The Holy Father, with his words and his works, has given us great things;

but no less important is the lesson he gave us from the chair of suffering and silence," Pope Benedict said.

In addition to the television movies, documentaries and books on the life of Pope John Paul, an Italian work focused specifically on the suffering.

"Let Me Go: The Strength in Weakness of John Paul II" was released March 15 in Italy and featured reflections by the pope's longtime secretary, Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz of Krakow, Poland, and by Dr. Renato Buzzonetti, the pope's personal physician.

"He always demonstrated an attitude of profound interior serenity which — despite some moments of visible human disappointment and impatience — led him to accept sickness, physical pain and forced inactivity from the hands of God," the doctor said.

The title of the book comes from the pope's last words, murmured in Polish: "Let me go to the house of the Father."

In his contribution to the book, Cardinal Dziwisz said Pope John Paul's life "from the beginning was marked by suffering, which he transformed into an instrument for his apostolate."

The Krakow cardinal said Pope John Paul's obvious suffering in silence and his death were his "last catechesis," telling the world that "moments of suffering and death must be lived in the light of faith, with love and Christian hope, in complete abandonment to the will of God."

The way Pope John Paul lived and the way he died have led millions of



CNS PHOTO BY ALESSIA PIERDOMENICO, REUTERS

A young man in St. Peter's Square holds a photo of Pope John Paul II on the night the pope died, April 2, 2005.

people to his tomb.

Archbishop Angelo Comastri, the papal vicar for Vatican City State, said that until Pope John Paul died an average of 300 people a day went down to the grotto below St. Peter's to visit the tombs of the popes.

Now, he said in early March, the daily number is 10 times greater and often reaches 20,000 on Sundays and holidays.

Pope Benedict, one of Pope John Paul's closest aides as prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, obviously tries to connect with those devoted to his predecessor.

At the beginning of his pontificate, Pope Benedict seemed surprised when people would interrupt him — especially during a Mass homily — with applause and cheers.

When he would mention Pope John Paul, the reaction was immediate and predictable, and it did not take long for Pope Benedict to adjust his timing and, especially with young people, to emphasize his predecessor's name and let the crowds roar.

Private meetings, public appearances: A look at pope's first year

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Compared to Pope John Paul II's early years, Pope Benedict XVI appears to be going at a slower pace. All the same, his list of first-year accomplishments is impressive:

— In February, he named 15 new cardinals and convened them March 23 for a discussion on any topic they chose.

— Last fall, he embarked on a reconciliation effort with Lefebvrite traditionalists, meeting with excommunicated Bishop Bernard Fellay and convening top Vatican officials to discuss proposed solutions.

— In October, he opened up the Synod of Bishops to free discussion, joining in the debate at times on such topics as the priest shortage and priestly celibacy.

— In August, he presided over World Youth Day celebrations in Germany, winning the respect of young people with a serious demeanor and some thought-provoking talks. He also met with ecumenical leaders, Muslims, government ministers, bishops and seminarians.

— He has scheduled four foreign visits this year — to Poland, Spain, Germany and Turkey.

— Late last year, he reviewed the major documents of the Second Vatican Council 40 years after its close. Then, in a major talk to the Roman Curia, he explained the right way and wrong way to interpret the council's teachings.

— He moved quietly last summer to encourage the successful appointment of new Chinese bishops acceptable to both their government and the Vatican.

— Throughout the year, he presided over ecumenical liturgies and met with a number of ecumenical groups, pledging continued efforts toward Christian unity.

— He met several times with Jewish leaders, affirming the church's commitment to dialogue and reflecting on the Holocaust.

— In December, he named a new apostolic nuncio to the United States.



St. Thomas Aquinas Academy
Asheville, North Carolina

www.stthomasaquinasacademy.org

(828) 687-7714

Accepting applications for ninth, tenth and eleventh grades.

Member, National Association of Private, Catholic and Independent Schools

St. Thomas Aquinas Academy is a private school, independent of the Charlotte Diocesan school system.

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



Join us for the 8-week video series on
The Teachings of Fulton Sheen

Tuesday evenings at 7 pm,

Monroe Road store

AND

Don't miss upcoming

BOOK SIGNING

Monday, May 1st - 10 am

Monroe Road store

• Carl Olson, author of DaVinci Code Hoax and

Will Catholics Be Left Behind?

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)

maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

\$5 OFF
Any Purchase
of \$35 or More
Present coupon. Not valid with any
other offers. Expires 4/30/06

A Creative Later Life: A Gift To Be Cherished —

*a look at God's call to continue to
develop and share our talents and gifts*
Avila Retreat Center in Durham, NC

Presenter: Richard von Stamwitz, Licensed Professional Counselor

Are you considering retirement or already retired? All are welcome to come and share their concerns, hopes and plans. Explore how God is calling you to new beginnings of personal meaning and purpose.

May 1-3, 2006 — Monday, 10 am until Wednesday, 11 am

Cost: \$110 (\$150 couples) - Includes room and meals

For information call: R. von Stamwitz (336) 931-0577 or (919) 477-1285



**Please pray for the
following priests who
died during the month
of April:**

Rev. Msgr. Charles Gable	1977
Rev. Joseph J. Lash	1999
Rev. Samuel Orlando	2003

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

Opus Dei called 'complete opposite' of 'Da Vinci Code' portrayal

OPUS DEI, from page 1

occasion "to get the word out about who we really are," Finnerty told Catholic News Service in a phone interview.

He said one of the things the organization has done is provide a brief description of the real Opus Dei for a new Web site funded by the Catholic Communication Campaign, www.jesusdecoded.com.

"Opus Dei" is Latin for "God's work," and members often refer to it simply as "the Work."

And what is the Work really about?

"Coming closer to God and finding God in everyday life," Finnerty said.

While the novel portrays it as being in opposition to the world, "Opus Dei is about seeing the world as a place of encounter with Christ," he said.

Faithful members

Russell Shaw, a Washington-based Catholic journalist and former media spokesman for the National (now U.S.) Conference of Catholic Bishops, told CNS he joined Opus Dei in 1980 and it has helped him develop "a richer, deeper, more meaningful relationship with God."

He said that even when he first became aware of Opus Dei, perhaps 15 years or so before he joined, he was attracted to its concept of a lay vocation, of seeing one's work in the secular world as a form of service to God.

As an Opus Dei member, "I try to do that, I try to cultivate that intention underlying the work that I do. But it's difficult. It's not 100 percent (successful)," he said.

Catherine Hickey of Larchmont, N.Y., called Opus Dei "a wonderful thing in my life." Now 71, she said she learned of Opus Dei in her late 30s when her oldest boy got involved in a club run by some of its members.

"I was very impressed with the young people. I loved their joy and their spirit of giving," she said.

As a busy mother of seven, she said Opus Dei's message that lay people could be "contemplatives in the midst of the world" was a new idea to her. She joined at the age of 39.

For the past 15 years Hickey has worked at the Rosedale Center of the South Bronx Educational Foundation, begun by local Opus Dei members and others to improve the education of girls in the South Bronx, one of New York City's poorest areas.

Staff and volunteers mentor and tutor the inner-city grade-school and high-school girls one-on-one after school and teach classes on Saturdays and in special summer programs, she said. The foundation runs a similar program for boys nearby at the Crotona Center.

Opus Dei's Midtown Educational Foundation in Chicago runs similar programs for disadvantaged boys and girls there.

Criticisms and secrecy

Father John Wauck, an American

Opus Dei is about "coming closer to God and finding God in everyday life."

Founded in Spain in 1928, Opus Dei now has more than 87,000 members in more than 60 countries, including 3,000 in the United States.

Members seek to make their faith infuse all aspects of life, including their jobs. Members are expected to attend daily Mass and to pray the rosary and engage in mental prayer, spiritual reading and meditation every day.

About 70 percent of Opus Dei members are supernumeraries, those who are married or who plan to marry. The rest commit themselves to lives of celibacy.

Of those members, about two-thirds live in Opus Dei centers and are called numeraries; the other third, called associates, live in their own homes. More than half the members around the world are women.

Opus Dei priest who teaches at Opus Dei's Pontifical University of the Holy Cross in Rome, has a personal Web log, known as a blog, on Opus Dei and "The Da Vinci Code."

He predicts the cilice and whip will be what moviegoers vividly remember about Opus Dei when they leave the theater.

The cilice (pronounced SIL-is), which is a belt or chain with sharp points, and the whip are used by numeraries for bodily mortifications.

The priest says Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta, founder of the Missionaries of Charity, also used the whip, known as "the discipline," but "everyone knows that's not what the Sisters of Charity are all about. And it's not what Opus Dei's about either."

In contrast to the "heavy knotted rope" that the monk character named Silas uses in the book, Father Wauck said the whip used by Opus Dei numeraries is "small and light enough to carry in a closed fist."

Linda Ruf of Chicago, an Opus Dei member for more than 20 years, has led parish information sessions in the Midwest.

She also appeared on television to discuss the errors in "The Da Vinci Code" — not just errors about Opus Dei, but about Christianity itself, where author Brown constructs an elaborate two-millennium conspiracy theory that challenges fundamental Christian beliefs.

"I was astounded that women were having faith crises over this," she told CNS.

Of the criticisms of Opus Dei that the novel uses to fashion a picture of a secretive sect within the church, she



CNS PHOTO BY TODD PLITT

Catherine Hickey, an active member of Opus Dei, volunteers her time helping Crystal Rodriguez, 9 (left), and Stephanie Nunez, 13, at the Opus Dei-funded Rosedale Center March 21 in the South Bronx in New York City. Hickey called Opus Dei a "wonderful thing in my life."

said, "Opus Dei, I'm sure, has made some mistakes in the past with individuals, and we should learn from some of those possible mistakes."

She said a recent book titled "Opus Dei" by John L. Allen Jr., an American journalist and author who covers the Vatican, "does a pretty good job of saying what some of Opus Dei's problems are and what some of its strengths are," giving voice to the critics but also reporting the organization's response to those criticisms.

Some critics claim Opus Dei recruits people aggressively and excessively controls the lives of members, but Shaw and Hickey described their decisions to join as a free choice without pressure from members.

Hickey said that while her children were involved in the organization's clubs, they were never asked to join.

Many benefits

Bruce Lachenauer, 46, of Irvine, Calif., a father of five and a partner in a large executive search firm, said that as a student at Northwestern University he was invited to participate in activities at the nearby Opus Dei center. "There was

nothing high pressure about it," he said, and he didn't become interested until a couple of years later, after the center moved closer to campus.

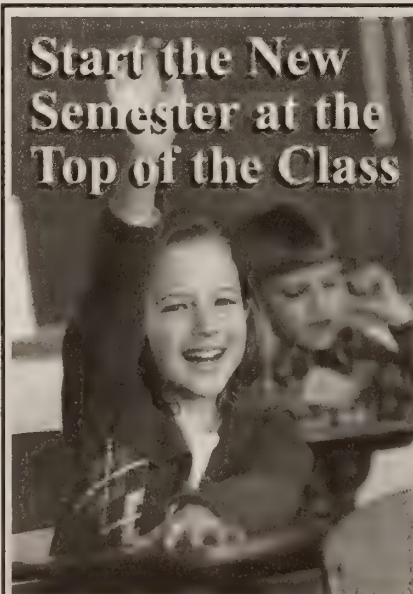
He described himself as "a product of the '60s" who went to public school and to parish religious education classes that didn't get much beyond "how Jesus loves us."

"One of the first things Opus Dei helped me with was a theology class, where I learned so much more about my faith," he said.

Lachenauer said as an Opus Dei member he finds his faith "woven into every aspect of life," from his work environment to his relationships with family and friends.

He said he has invited "many friends to participate" in retreats, talks, parenting seminars and other activities sponsored by Opus Dei because he thinks they will benefit from those experiences.

He said he has invited some people to consider joining Opus Dei, but to his knowledge none have joined, although several friends have become "cooperators" — nonmembers who support Opus Dei financially or volunteer their time for some of its projects.



Felicia Susi, Owner/Director
Parishioner, St. Matthew Catholic Church
& Parent, St. Matthew Catholic School student

South Charlotte
(704) 752-4234

www.camdenlearningcenter.com

**CAMDEN
LEARNING CENTER™**
is a personalized
educational center offering
specialized tutoring
for all ages in:

Reading • Phonics
Written Language • Math
Study Skills
SAT/ACT Preparation

Let Camden help.



In Rome, women discuss 'Da Vinci Code' depiction of Mary Magdalene

BY JOHN THAVIS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ROME — "The Da Vinci Code" came in for resounding criticism at a recent round-table discussion at the Marianum Pontifical Theological Faculty in Rome.

It was not a pick-it-apart session by church historians. Instead, four women spoke about Mary Magdalene and her distorted depiction in Dan Brown's book.

The moderator of the discussion, Marinella Perroni, a New Testament theologian, said "The Da Vinci Code" joins a list of books and other media treatments that exploit the figure of Mary Magdalene.

Perroni said caution is always needed when dealing with scriptural figures, but for some reason people feel free to take great liberties with Mary Magdalene.

Maria Luisa Rigato, a retired professor of exegesis at the Pontifical Gregorian University, said she found Brown's book entertaining fiction — but that it was clear to real scholars that Mary Magdalene was neither the wife nor the lover of Jesus.

The Catholic participants drew a sharp distinction between what is known about Mary Magdalene from the approved Gospels and what has been circulated for centuries in the so-called Gnostic gospels, rejected by the church long ago.

But a Protestant pastor, the Rev. Letizia Tomassone, said she thought the noncanonical gospels, although they are clearly later manuscripts, can be valid secondary sources of information.

In some of these later gospels, she said, Mary Magdalene appears as the "mediator of the resurrected Christ," which aligns with what the Gospel of St. John says about her being the first witness of the resurrection.

Mary Magdalene, Rev. Tomassone said, comes across as "one who knows how to heal the heart of a wounded community."

The experts generally agreed, however, that there is no scriptural evidence that Jesus and Mary were lovers, which is a key element in the plot of



CNS PHOTO FROM CROSIERS

"The Da Vinci Code."

Even the incomplete references in the Gnostic gospels about Jesus' special relationship with Mary Magdalene depict a "spiritual intimacy," not a sexual relationship, Rev. Tomassone said.

Rigato downplayed the impact of "The Da Vinci Code," saying it was "third-rate literature" compared to earlier treatments of similar subjects, like "The Last Temptation of Christ" by Nikos Kazantzakis.

"Dan Brown with his 40 million copies is nothing compared to the billions of copies of the Bible. It's something you consume and forget and will not affect the faith in the least," she said.

But Miriam Diezi Bosch, a Catholic journalist who lectures on communications, said it was disturbing that a book like "The Da Vinci Code" was succeeding so well. Similar books may follow, she said.

The good thing is that "The Da Vinci Code" has given Catholics a chance to explain themselves, she said. The bad part is that Catholics clearly need to be better instructed in their faith, she added.

She said the church in particular needs better catechesis and more widely published scholarship on the figure of Mary Magdalene — something more profound than presenting her as "the icon of the fallen woman."

WANT MORE INFO?

The U.S. bishops' Catholic Communications Campaign has established a Web site, www.jesusdecoded.com, to provide accurate information about the life of Jesus and to counter claims in "The Da Vinci Code."

Vatican officials quiet about 'The Da Vinci Code'

CODE, from page 1

necessary to provoke something stronger from the Vatican.

Last year, Italian Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, formerly No. 2 at the Vatican's doctrinal congregation, said it was "truly sad and terrible" that "The Da Vinci Code" had become such a popular book among Italian high school students.

What left him aghast was that young people were uncritically accepting the novel's premise that the Catholic Church had tried to obliterate the feminine aspect from the Gospel narratives and from the life of the church.

"There is nothing more false," Cardinal Bertone said.

He pointed to the importance the church gives to Mary and the attention given in the Gospel to Jesus' female disciples, including the women who announced to the male disciples that Jesus had risen from the dead.

"There is nothing more false than the need to rediscover a — how can I say it — an 'amazon' Mary Magdalene in order to recuperate the presence of women" in the church, he said.

The papal preacher, Capuchin Father Raniero Cantalamessa, also blasted "The Da Vinci Code" in one of his last sermons

to Pope John Paul II last year.

"In an unending stream of novels, films and plays, writers manipulate the figure of Christ under cover of imaginary and nonexistent new documents and discoveries. 'The Da Vinci Code' is but the last and most aggressive episode of the series. It is becoming a fashion, a literary genre," he said.

"The Da Vinci Code" is loosely based on writings called the Gnostic gospels, which the church rejected as part of the Christian canon many centuries ago.

It's unlikely that Pope Benedict XVI or most of the Vatican's top officials have even read the book. But if they went down to St. Peter's Square and looked in the backpacks of tourists and pilgrims, they'd probably be amazed at how many people are toting it around.

With the film version expected to reach an even bigger audience, some people think the Vatican may not be able to sit on the sidelines of this cultural battle. The strategy should be pro-active and not just defensive, they say.

"We need to point out the errors. But we also need to take advantage of the interest it's stirred up, to talk about real biblical scholarship and the real history of the church," said one Vatican official who works in communications.



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone of Genoa, Italy, speaks out against Dan Brown's novel, "The Da Vinci Code," in a March 15 interview with Vatican Radio. The cardinal called the book a "castle of lies" and urged Christians not to read or purchase the book.



The Catholic Conference Center
www.catholicconference.org

1551 Trinity Lane, Hickory, NC 28602
(828) 327-7441 or Toll-free (888) 536-7441
info@catholicconference.org

You, your family and friends of all faiths are invited to join us for an



**Information Meeting
on International
Adoption: Russia and China**

Saturday, April 8th 2 locations



10 am – noon Diocesan Center – 1123 S. Church Street, Charlotte

OR

2:30 pm – 4:30 pm Our Lady of Mercy Catholic School – 1730 Link Rd., Winston-Salem

Catholic Social Services provides licensed, professional adoption assistance for families of all faiths. For information: (704) 370-3232

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Ordinary inspiration

Author says McGivney bio could help restore respect for priests

BY JOHN THAVIS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ROME — Supporters of the sainthood cause of Father Michael McGivney are hoping he will become the first American-born parish priest to be canonized.

A new biography is introducing a wider audience to the 19th-century priest — and may also help restore respect for the many good priests in the United States, said one of the book's authors.

Julie M. Fenster, a historian who co-wrote "Parish Priest: Father Michael McGivney and American Catholicism," spoke about the book to U.S. priests and seminarians Feb. 27 at Rome's Pontifical North American College.

At a time when the image of the U.S. priest has been damaged by sexual abuse committed by a small minority of clergy, the book chronicles the good work of a priest who, after founding the Knights of Columbus, worked as a simple pastor until his death at age 38.

"I'm hoping this book might act as a gyroscope to reset some of the balance for people whose only exposure to parish priests is out of those headlines" on sexual abuse, Fenster said in an interview.

She said part of her motivation for writing the book was anger that so many good priests were being maligned because of the actions of a few.

Father McGivney, she said, provides a model for the kind of selfless pastoral work done by countless priests in the United States. His faith and Catholicism entered into every activity, whether preaching a sermon or playing baseball, she said.

"He believed that when you're having fun you should feel Catholic, too, not just when you're sitting in church," she said.

The book, released in January, has been on the New York Times extended bestseller list for six weeks.

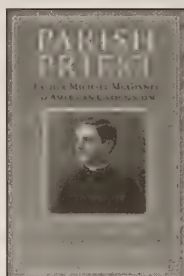
Fenster was impressed with Father McGivney's return to parish work in Connecticut after making an important mark on society through the Knights of Columbus.

"He chose to draw back into the life he really wanted, as parish priest. He gloried in these little details that other people can get distracted away from," she said.

Father McGivney's work is considered influential in animating lay Catholics through the Knights of Columbus, and at the same time helping to remove the widespread anti-Catholic bias in U.S. society.

The Knights, a Catholic men's fraternal benefit society, has grown to include 1.7 million members. The organization sponsors educational, charitable and religious activities around the world.

Father McGivney's sainthood cause is now being reviewed by the Vatican, said Dominican Father Gabriel O'Donnell, postulator for the cause. He said a



reported miracle of healing attributed to Father McGivney's intercession also has been submitted to the Vatican for study.

Father O'Donnell said he sees in Father McGivney's life an example of what Pope Benedict XVI described in his recent encyclical, "Deus Caritas Est" ("God Is Love").

"The obligation of the church to exercise charity is what Father McGivney was about," Father O'Donnell said.

One of Father McGivney's gifts, he said, was that he could speak to those at every level of society, relating well with the poor immigrant community of Catholics as well as those who were upwardly mobile, and forging connections between these groups.

Father O'Donnell said that, unlike saints of earlier centuries who were known for their extraordinary accomplishments, Father McGivney falls into the category of "the more modern saint, who is great because he did the ordinary things so well."

"He was humble, compassionate and charitable to a heroic degree, but only within the confines of an ordinary life," he said.

RELATED COVERAGE

See Antoinette Bosco's column on Father McGivney on page 15.

Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Charlotte 704-334-6421

Pineville 704-544-1412

Mint Hill 704-545-4864

Derita 704-596-3291

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: APRIL 9, 2006

April 9, Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)

Cycle B Readings:

- Mark 11:1-10
1) Isaiah 50:4-7
Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18a, 19-20, 23-24
2) Philippians 2:6-11
3) Gospel: Mark 14:1 to 15:47

A time to examine commitment to Jesus

BY DAN LUBY
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Shivering in the cold spring wind, the crowd buzzed all along the barriers marking the motorcade's route. Teenagers skipping school, grandmothers in old-world scarves and overcoats, VFW officers and union officials — they all crowded forward, hoping to get a glimpse of their hero and maybe obtain a handshake.

Off to one side, some college students stood smoking cigarettes, observing the commotion outside the university auditorium where the charismatic senator was speaking. In their accustomed pose of world-weary cynics, they smiled patronizingly at the crowd. You wouldn't see them getting so excited.

A roar went up when the limo turned the corner. The waiting faithful were galvanized, shouting, waving signs, calling out the senator's name. Suddenly, the college boys actually could see that famous face, feel the power of that megawatt smile.

To their amazement, they found themselves hoarse from cheering, jostling to the front of the barricade, feeling their hearts race and their hope rise just as much as any of the less sophisticated fans they'd mocked only minutes before.

It was a rush that left them excited for days.

Then the gravity of life began, imperceptibly, to pull them down. Friends smirked at their naive change of heart. The campaign meeting they'd vowed to attend turned out to conflict with a party. Exams loomed.

Before long, they were back to their old, jaded selves, wondering what had come over them.

Palm Sunday is the only day in the church's year that calls for two Gospels to be proclaimed — the glorious story of the cheering crowds greeting Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem and the heartbreaking narrative of his betrayal and execution.

The contrast is striking, as it's meant to be. It makes us examine the depth of our commitment to Jesus.

During this sacred and solemn week, may we reflect mindfully on our ongoing struggle against a divided heart and on Christ's example of fidelity.

Questions:

How can my observance of Holy Week deepen my commitment to the Gospel? What is one concrete way to maintain my enthusiasm for following Christ?

Scripture to be Illustrated:

"All of you will have your faith shaken" (Mark 14:27)

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 2-8

Sunday (Fifth Sunday of Lent), Jeremiah 31:31-34, Hebrews 5:7-9, John 12:20-33; **Monday (Lenten Weekday)**, Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62, John 8:1-11; **Tuesday (Lenten Weekday)**, Numbers 21:4-9, John 8:21-30; **Wednesday (Lenten Weekday)**, Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95, Daniel 3:52-56, John 8:31-42; **Thursday (Lenten Weekday)**, Genesis 17:3-9, John 8:51-59; **Friday (Lenten Weekday)**, Jeremiah 20; 10-13, John 10:31-42; **Saturday (Lenten Weekday)**, Ezekiel 37:21-28, Jeremiah 31:10-13, John 11:45-56.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 9-15

Sunday (Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion), Mark 11:1-10, Isaiah 50:4-7, Philippians 2:6-11, Mark 14:1-15:47; **Monday (Monday of Holy Week)**, Isaiah 42:1-7, John 12:1-11; **Tuesday (Tuesday of Holy Week)**, Isaiah 49:1-6, John 13:21-33, 36-38; **Wednesday (Wednesday of Holy Week)**, Isaiah 50:5-9, Matthew 26:14-25; **Thursday (Holy Thursday)**, Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, John 13:1-15; **Friday (Good Friday)**, Isaiah 52:13-53:12, Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9, John 18:1-19:42; **Saturday (Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil)**, Exodus 14:15-15:1, Romans 6:3-11, Mark 16:1-7.

We Love Blessed Sacrament Academy !!



Call now to guarantee your child's enrollment.
Space is LIMITED! 704-841-2292

Visit us on the web: www.blessedsacramentacademy.org

- ◆ A classical curriculum in the Catholic tradition
- ◆ Latin, French, Music & Art
- ◆ Grades K-8
- ◆ Excellent scores on standardized tests



Located behind Windsor Square in Matthews, NC. Independent of Charlotte diocesan schools. Member of NACIS.

Jazz pianist, composer to receive Laetare Medal

NOTRE DAME, Ind. (CNS) — Jazz legend Dave Brubeck has been named winner of the 2006 Laetare Medal presented by the University of Notre Dame.

The 85-year-old jazz pianist and composer is scheduled to receive the medal at the university's May 21 commencement.

Brubeck's art "helps us apprehend the fullness of creation," said Holy Cross Father John Jenkins, Notre Dame president.

"His life and his music splendidly interweave the celebration of beauty with the imperative to worship," he said.

The award, first given in 1883, honors a Catholic "whose genius has ennobled the arts and sciences,

illustrated the ideals of the church, and enriched the heritage of humanity."

Brubeck became known for his innovations as a piano player and composer. Among his compositions are ballets, a musical, an oratorio, cantatas and a Mass.

In 1951, Time magazine described Brubeck as "the most exciting new jazz artist at work today."

Earlier in March, Brubeck was given the Christopher Life Achievement Award by the Christophers, a nonprofit organization promoting Christian values in the mass media.

Previous medal recipients include Cardinal Joseph L. Bernardin of Chicago.

Compendium of catechism goes on sale in paperback

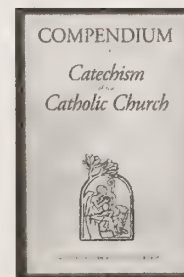
WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, a 200-page synthesis of the 1992 catechism, is available in paperback from USCCB Publishing, the publishing office of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Both the paperback version and a hardcover edition to be published soon will be available in English and Spanish.

The compendium, made up of 598 questions and answers, echoes to some degree the format of the Baltimore Catechism, which was standard in many U.S. Catholic parishes and schools from 1885 to the 1960s.

It also includes two appendices — a list of Catholic prayers in English or Spanish, side by side with the Latin versions, and a list of "formulas of Catholic doctrine," including the Ten Commandments, the beatitudes, the theological and cardinal virtues, and the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.

Msgr. Daniel Kutys, USCCB deputy secretary for catechesis, said members of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Catechesis have recommended that the compendium "be used as a standard reference companion



to which teachers and catechists refer their students in much the same way they use Bibles for instruction."

"It is not meant to replace religion textbooks, but to augment and complement them," he added.

Pope Benedict XVI has said the compendium "contains, in concise form, all the essential and fundamental elements of the church's faith."

Editor's Note: The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church may be ordered online at www.usccbpublishing.org, or by phone at (800) 235-8722.

St. Patrick Cathedral

The Very Rev. Paul Gary
Rector

Rev. Robert Conway
Parochial Vicar

Rev. Mr. Nicholas Fadero
Deacon

Rev. Mr. Carlos Medina
Deacon

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Tuesday, April 11, 11 am

Chrism Mass: Blessing of the Holy Oils

Bishop Peter J. Jugis, celebrant

Holy Thursday, April 13, 7:30 pm

Mass of the Lord's Supper

Bishop William G. Curlin, celebrant

Good Friday, April 14, 3 pm

Stations of the Cross

Good Friday, April 14, 7:30 pm

Sacred Liturgy and Veneration of the Cross

Bishop William G. Curlin, celebrant

Holy Saturday, April 15, 8 pm

Easter Vigil Mass

Bishop William G. Curlin, celebrant

Easter Sunday Masses

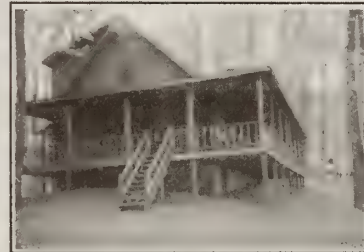
8 am, 9:30 am

11 am, Bishop William G. Curlin, celebrant

12:30 pm



1621 Dilworth Road East
Charlotte, NC 28203 (704) 334-2283
Visit our Web site at www.stpatricks.org



Escape to relax in comfort!

LOG HOME FOR RENT
with a 70-mile mountain view!

Just 2 hours and 15 minutes from
Charlotte, and 38 miles from Boone —

3 Bedrooms with 2.5 baths Wrap around front porch
Stone fireplace Washer and dryer

Available: April 10-17 and May 15-22
\$590/week (includes cleaning fee)

Info: Call 704-545-9609

In the Blue Ridge Mountains of NORTH CAROLINA

CAMP
KAHDALEA
FOR GIRLS

CAMP
CHOSATONGA
FOR BOYS

Two mountain camps, in the heart of the Blue Ridge, surrounded by national forest, offering:

Rock climbing • swimming • drama • horseback riding • mountain biking • whitewater canoeing and kayaking • arts and crafts • archery • tennis • guitar • nature • riflery • backpacking • field sports • awesome staff • and more...

A place where a child can explore and reach fullest potential. A challenging environment for building self-esteem, self-confidence and improving skills within a framework of Christian ideals.

Ages 8-17 • Session lengths 2,3,5,9 weeks
MASS AT CAMP ON SUNDAYS

Kierne & David
Anne and David Trufant
Catholic Owners and Directors

For information and a free video visit our website:

www.kahdalea.com

(828) 884-6834

2500 Morgan Mill Road Brevard, NC 28712

We are also seeking
faithful college (+ up) staff



www.kahdalea.com

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels.

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooreville
704-663-1065

Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT

SALES REPRESENTATIVE: J.S. Paluch Co., est. 1913, the nation's oldest Catholic Publisher, is now interviewing for the position of Sales Representatives for parish church bulletins. Realistic earnings potential of 40K+, health insurance, paid vacation, 401K. Some travel required. Self motivation a must. Bilingual helpful in some areas. To arrange an interview call Les Black at 800-432-3240. Seniors welcome to apply. EOE

FOR RENT

GREAT HOUSE: Only 2 years old! 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Wonderful condition and a nice neighborhood. Located in Charlotte only minutes from Belmont Abbey and 485. Call 828-327-4558

NEW LAKE LURE CABIN: Stay while touring the HGTV Dream Home! 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished. Off-season rates. 828-299-3714

Classified ads bring results! Over 135,000 readers! Over 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

BOOKKEEPER

Large Catholic church seeks full-time bookkeeper. Proficiency in Excel required, experience in ACS software a plus. Must have associate's degree or better, and 3 years' experience. Send resume as well as references to: Susie Barnes, St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church, 2715 Horse Pen Creek Rd, Greensboro, NC 27410; fax (336) 294-6149; e-mail sbarnes@stpaulcc.org.

Principal - Holy Redeemer Catholic School

The Archdiocese of Atlanta seeks a principal for Holy Redeemer Catholic School. The principal is the administrator and educational leader of this elementary School, including students, faculty, and staff; and is accountable for implementation of the mission of Catholic education in the School. **MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES:** provide leadership and manage School staff; develop long- and short-range plans for the School; provide communication and support for teachers, students, chaplains, pastors, and boards; mentor and provide mediation and conflict resolution among staff, students, and external sources; represent the Archdiocese in matters related to the School; and assure compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws and codes. **REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE:** Active membership in a Catholic parish; degree in education or a related field; state endorsement in teaching and school administration or eligibility for endorsement; central educational office experience preferred; teaching, administrative and supervisory experience; participative management style; excellent interpersonal, written, and verbal communication skills; strong supervisory and managerial skills; some travel required.

TO APPLY: Send resume, transcripts, licenses and other credentials, references, and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811-5018
Email: mruprecht@cpinternet.com
Telephone: 218-727-5150



HOLY ANGELS THE HARDEST JOB YOU'LL EVER LOVE!

**DIRECT CARE PROFESSIONALS -
Weekend Relief (every other weekend) - 1st, 2nd & 3rd Shifts**

Required: High School/GED. Prefer individuals with 2-3 years work experience, preferably in healthcare and/or working with children/or adults with developmental disabilities. Responsible for physical care, goal implementation, and associated duties for assigned residents. Training provided for all positions. Be sure to bring your resume with job history and references.

APPLY AT: Holy Angels, 6600 Wilkinson Blvd., Belmont, NC.

www.holyangelsnc.org

704-825-4161

PRINCIPAL ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Principal of St. Thomas More School, a practicing Catholic, is the administrator and educational leader of St. Thomas More of the Archdiocese of Atlanta with approximately 500 students and approximately 40 faculty and staff. Appointed by the Archbishop and reporting to the Chancellor, the Principal is accountable to the Archbishop through the Chancellor, for implementation of the mission of Catholic education in St. Thomas More School. The Principal is also responsible for providing leadership and managing the School staff; mentoring and providing mediation and conflict resolution among staff, students, and external sources; developing long and short range plans for the grade School; providing communication and support for teachers, students, chaplains, pastors, and boards; representing the Archdiocese in matters related to St. Thomas More School; and assuring compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws and codes. Some travel required. Send resume, credentials, references and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht,
140 West Myrtle Street,
Duluth, MN 55811-5018
Telephone 218-727-5150
E-mail mruprecht@cpinternet.com



Superintendent - Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta seeks a superintendent of schools. In cooperation with Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory, the superintendent is the chief administrator and educational leader of 18 Catholic schools, being responsible for their overall spiritual and academic quality, in keeping with the Archbishop's vision and the Church's mission. **MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES:** managing the Office of Catholic Schools and its staff; developing long- and short-range plans for schools; providing direction and support for local school leadership, pastors, religious congregations, principals, and boards; recruiting, hiring, supervising, and supporting principals; representing the Archdiocese in matters of education; creating, monitoring, updating, and enforcing archdiocesan policies; and ensuring compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws and codes. **REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE:** Active membership in a Catholic parish; doctorate degree in education or a related field; state endorsement in teaching and school administration or eligibility for endorsement; five to ten years' recent experience in Catholic schools or at the diocesan level; participative management style; excellent interpersonal, written, and verbal communication skills; excellent managerial skills with attention to detail. Some travel required.

TO APPLY: Send resume, transcripts, licenses and other credentials, references, and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811-5018
Email: mruprecht@cpinternet.com
Telephone: 218-727-5150



AROUND THE DIOCESE

ATTENTION READERS! HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?

Do you have a faith-based story that you think would be of interest to our readers? Please contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans at (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

DIOCESAN REGIONAL COORDINATORS (OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION)

Charlotte Diocese seeks two persons with master's degrees in Religious Ed/allied field, and five years of demonstrable successful experience in parish/diocesan work. Well-rounded in catechist formation skills. Collaborative. Sensitive to cultural minorities. Good written/oral communication skills. Spanish a plus. Office locations: one in Maggie Valley, NC and the other in Greensboro, NC.

For copy of Job Description, e-mail paonaindia@charlottediocese.org.

Please send resume, salary requirements and three letters of recommendation to:

Dr. Cris V. Villapando, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203-4003 or

cvvillapando@charlottediocese.org.

Application deadline is April 30, 2006.

Earthbound ANGELS...

POSITIONS AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY
HOME HELPERS, COMPANIONS & CNA'S



Join our team of people who make a real difference in the lives of seniors —

Home Instead Senior Care is seeking friendly and dependable people in the Mecklenburg County area to provide home care assistance and companionship to seniors.

Call 704-344-9739

8 AND 12 HOUR SHIFTS AVAILABLE
Part Time, Full Time, AM/PM and Weekend Hours
Position requires a vehicle.

Home Instead
SENIOR CARE

Exploring the science of education

Belmont Abbey College hosts educators, students at annual physics conference

BELMONT — Nearly 200 participants — professors, teachers and students from North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia who have a passion for physics — recently attended a joint conference at Belmont Abbey College.

The 11th annual meeting of the North Carolina and Southern Atlantic Coast Chapters of the American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT) and the Society of Physics Students was held at the college March 24-25.

"The purpose of this conference is to share new ideas with educators who specialize in the field of physics," said Dr. Rajive Tiwari, conference coordinator and professor of physics at Belmont Abbey College.

"We want to meet the needs of physics educators in our region and further an interest in education in this field, its research, the applications of technology; and assist in overall teaching effectiveness," said Tiwari.

Speakers included Paul Hewitt, author of "Conceptual Physics," and Dewey Dykstra, professor of physics at Boise State University.

In addition to student projects and special sessions, there also were hands-on workshops such as techniques in photographing the night sky and using satellite imagery and software for environmental physics.

The AAPT presented special



COURTESY PHOTO

Belmont Abbey College's Monte Monteleone accepts corporate gift sponsorship from Duke Energy's Richard Jiran during the 11th annual physics conference March 24-25.

recognition awards for students and teachers to highlight excellence in the field of physics.

"We are pleased to provide an opportunity for these professionals to share their insights and experience with peers and assist in the growth and development of individuals who will design future energy sources," said Richard Jiran of Duke Energy, one of the conference sponsors.

Founded in 1876, the college is inspired by the Benedictine monastic tradition. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the college and Abbey Basilica greet thousands of visitors yearly.



The Catholic Shoppe **AT BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE**

Rosaries, Statues, Artwork, Crosses, Medals, Jewelry,
Prayer Cards and so much more!

Online store available: www.BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu
Call for store hours: 704-461-5100

Join us Friday, April 22nd
from 2pm to 6pm
for our Abbey Experience
open house event!


**BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE**

THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED

RSVP by calling 1.888.222.0110, emailing admissions@bac.edu or logging onto

BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu



Conveniently located on campus
I-85 exit 26

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Easter and the art of being yourself

Harmonizing with God's plan brings truth, fulfillment

The resurrection teaches us about the purpose of creation. Easter points us in the direction of eternal joy.

When Christ taught us to love one another, he was inviting us to become part of the kingdom of heaven. Hold on to this awesome thought.

The supreme law of love teaches us that the best thing we can do with our life is give it away. This is our fundamental purpose in life.

Jesus calls each one of us to himself, "Come to me all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest," (Mt 11:28). When we come to him we come to the source of our being.

The Bible describes God as the Spirit of peace, love and joy. Jesus recommends that we connect with our Maker to find out who we are.

God intended you to be yourself, which means that you must first find your purpose.

Not to know your purpose would put you at a great disadvantage. What profit would there be in gaining the whole world if on your deathbed you came to the stark realization that during your whole life you had been moving in the wrong direction?

Take time to be your true self.

You came from God, and you will one day return to him. In Genesis 1:26 we learn that we were made in God's image. Our purpose therefore is to be like him, manifesting his love and joy always and everywhere.

Love and joy are two sides of the same coin. The kingdom of God is within you. No matter how low you may have fallen, you are still the same miraculous child of God you were when you were an innocent infant. Get up and be your true self.

The art of being yourself is the art of harmonizing with God's plan for you. Staying connected to him enables you to transcend the limitations of life and the bad experiences of the past.

Do not entertain negative thoughts. Keep to your purpose. Reject fear in all its forms. Let nothing disturb you, let nothing cause you fear.

Do not let bad feelings stop you from attaining your goal. In spiritual matters, feelings are not facts. Faith can move mountains.

You are the child of the King of Heaven, and he loves you. Be your true self.

Everything you need in order to fulfill your destiny is already within you. Align your thoughts with your source,

Spirituality for Today

FATHER JOHN CATOIR
CNS COLUMNIST



and decide to become an instrument of his love, peace and joy. (For more on this concept visit my Web site: messengerofjoy.com).

Stay in tune with your purpose. You will then become a better, happier human being.

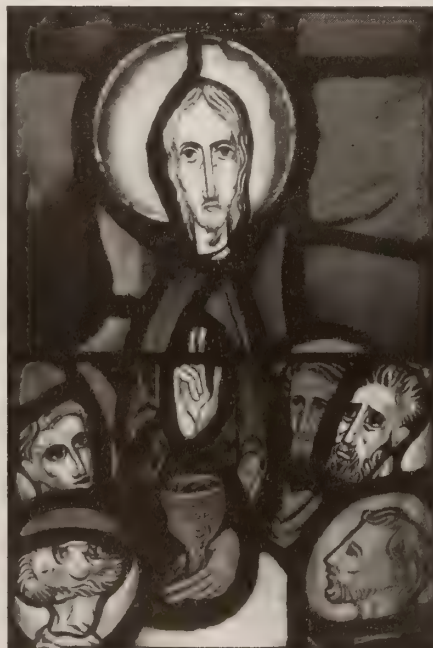
Choose to magnify God's love in this world. Be kind. Be generous. God loves a generous giver. A sense of well-being will unfold you.

The recipients of your kindness will grow in grace and feel blessed by God. You will become more yourself, a healer rather than a victim.

Jesus said, "If you love me, feed my lambs, feed my sheep." You can do this. Be an inspiration to others from now on, not a disappointment.

Choose to be joyful. Behold God's beauty in everything, and learn to reflect God's inner glow of joy.

Pray with Mary, the humble handmaid of the Lord, who by the grace of God was able to say, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior."



Pope says belief in Jesus leads to communion with God, people

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Belief in Jesus Christ should lead people both to a deep communion with God as well as to unity with all men and women, Pope Benedict XVI said.

"Communion with God and communion among us are inseparable," the pope said March 29 at his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square.

If people are not in communion with the God who created them, "the root or source of unity among us is destroyed," he said. And if people forget that they are all brothers and sisters, "our living in communion with the triune God is not real or true."

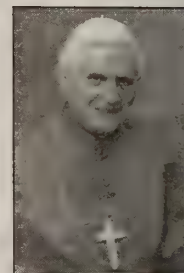
Pope Benedict was continuing a new series of audience talks about the apostles and the church, following his prepared text only briefly as he explained that it is through the apostles and their successors that the church continues to be a saving communion.

"This life of communion with God and among us is the aim of the proclamation of the Gospel, the aim of conversion to Christianity," he said.

Pope Benedict told the estimated 37,000 people gathered in St. Peter's Square that the Eucharist nourishes communion with God and with all who

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



gather around the Lord's table throughout the world.

"This network of unity which embraces the world is the anticipation of the world to come in Christ Our Lord," he said.

In a world where "solitude threatens everyone," the pope said, the communion experienced in the church "makes us participants in the love which unites us with God and, therefore, unites us with one another."

"Despite all the human frailties" seen in the church throughout the centuries, he said, the church is "a marvelous creation of love."

"In the church, the Lord remains with us. In the Scriptures the Lord does not speak of the past, but speaks in the present tense. He speaks to us today. He gives us his light. He shows us the path of life. He gives us communion and, in that way, opens us to peace," he said.

Letter to the Editor

Column reiterates importance of knowing Scripture

In Father John Catoir's column, "Faith alone" is not enough" (March 17), he makes our Catholic position on faith and action crystal clear — and he does it through Scripture.

Like Father Catoir stated, I, too, "love our separated brethren." Many of them are convinced that Catholics believe we have to work our way into heaven, but that is not the case. What Father Catoir explains clearly is that if we have faith, this faith empowers us into action.

We need more Scripture-based teaching by our clergy on a regular basis so that we can all be effective Catholic apologists. We need to tell our separated brethren with confidence that we are

more fundamental, relative to Scripture, than the so-called "Fundamentalists."

Catholics take Scripture very seriously, but unfortunately, we do not study Scripture seriously enough. As David tells us in Psalm 103, "Forget not all your benefits." We Catholics — because of ignorance of Scripture — cannot name many benefits.

— Joe Massi
Charlotte

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letters or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

Father McGivney and the death penalty

Priest fought to save young man's life

A new book has been getting enormous coverage in ads and reviews, and rightly so. It is called "Parish Priest, Father Michael McGivney and American Catholicism."

The book is the story of the young Connecticut priest who founded the Knights of Columbus and whose canonization cause has now been introduced.

Moved by seeing the pain of severe poverty and the deaths of too many overworked fathers who died too young, Father McGivney struggled to develop practical ways to ensure financial assistance to families should a breadwinner die.

The Knights of Columbus was formed in 1882 to help such families. The Knights now report an international membership of 1.7 million men.

I long have been intrigued by the amazing story of this priest, who died Aug. 14, 1890, at age 38. The reason for this lies partly in the fact that I live in Connecticut, not too far from the parishes where Father McGivney served.

Now that I have read Father McGivney's story, I will pray ever harder for his canonization because I truly believe in his sainthood. There was a surprise in the book that underscored that for me.

In an era in America when the death penalty was in full force, Father McGivney tried to save a young man

The Bottom Line

ANTOINETTE BOSCO
CNS COLUMNIST



from being executed.

The killing by the young man was a headliner. An unemployed 21-year old named James "Chip" Smith, drinking and carousing one late December night, showing off by shooting a pistol near a saloon, was apprehended by a policeman named Dan Hayes.

When the officer, also holding a gun, tried to get Smith's gun away from him, one of the guns went off, hitting the officer, who died a few hours later.

At trial in 1881, Smith was convicted of murder in the first degree and sentenced to be executed. Father McGivney, a regular visitor to the jail in New Haven who offered spiritual support to the prisoners, began to visit and counsel Smith often.

There were appeals on the grounds that this was not a "premeditated" shooting, but since it was a policeman who had lost his life, judges threw these

appeals out.

On the Sunday before the execution, Father McGivney, "broken with emotion," as a reporter put it, celebrated a Mass for Smith.

The priest told his people, "I trust that all of you will offer up fervent prayer to the throne of grace that God will strengthen and prepare us to perform that awful duty which we shall be called upon to perform before this time next Sunday.

"To me this duty comes with almost a crushing weight. If I could consistently with my duty be far away from here next Friday, I should escape perhaps the most trying ordeal of my life, but this sad duty is placed my way by providence and must be fulfilled.

"If we receive your prayers, Mr. Smith and I shall be sustained by the supreme power in the hour of our great trial."

Our Catholic bishops have put out a very strong statement calling for the end of the death penalty, asking "the Catholic community to bring about an end to the use of the death penalty in our land."

I find myself praying to Father McGivney in heaven to help us all in this so important respect-life action.

RELATED COVERAGE

Read the "Parish Priest" book review on page 10.

What is the 'seamless garment'?

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



Idea has helped right-to-life concept

Q. In articles about abortion recently I've seen reference to a "seamless garment" and a "consistent ethic of life." I recently became Catholic and am not familiar with these names, which as I understand it come from the Catholic Church. What do they mean? (New York)

A. Both terms have approximately the same meaning: All issues involving respect for the dignity and sacredness of human life weave together. They support each other, and none can be ignored or minimized without undermining all of them.

The first to use the phrase "consistent ethic of life" was probably the late Cardinal Joseph Bernardin. The beauty of such an ethic, he once said, "is that it provides an overall vision, and it shows how issues are related to each other, even though they remain distinct."

While he did not use those exact words, no one, I believe, has given a more clear description of this important concept than the late Pope John Paul II in his January 1999 message for the World Day of Peace, and at greater length in the encyclical "The Gospel of Life."

In the first document, titled "Respect for Human Rights: The Secret of True Peace," he repeated that the right to life is inviolable. A culture of life, he wrote, "guarantees to the unborn the right to come into the world. In the same way it protects the newly born, especially girls, from the crime of infanticide. ...

"To choose life involves rejecting every form of violence: the violence of poverty and hunger, which afflicts so many human beings; the violence of armed conflict; the violence of criminal trafficking in drugs and arms; the violence of mindless damage to the natural environment. ... No offense against the right to life, against the dignity of any single person, is ever unimportant" (No. 4).

As the pope indicated, the first of all basic rights is the right to life. For the past 20 years, the seamless garment idea has helped our bishops and all of us better to understand and protect that right.

Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen, Box 5515, Peoria, IL 61612, or e-mail him at jjdietzen@aol.com.

Coping with the news of war

Through faith we learn of everlasting peace

I was a child during World War II. Every night the radio commentator Gabriel Heater would start, "It's a bad night tonight, folks."

Early on in the war, soldiers, sailors, the air force and especially the merchant marines were taking bad beatings.

Although the Iraq and Afghanistan wars are not all-out wars like World War II, almost every night the news we hear echoes Heater's "It's a bad night tonight, folks." The effect this is having on Americans may not be as obvious as was the effect of World War II, but my guess is that it is reaching a critical point.

These wars aren't going to disappear. In fact, they show signs of escalating and unsettling us for the rest of our lives.

How do we cope with their traumatic effects?

A good place to start is to reflect on our habit of watching the news. If we are watching the news at night and also catching glimpses of it during the day, it might be good to break this habit.

I have found that when I must go out at night and miss the news, I tend to sleep better and am much calmer the next day. Several friends have told me that they actually censure out the news from time to time to clear their minds and relax.

Another helpful exercise is to read

history. If we are young, we tend to feel this is the first time wars like this have occurred. This tends to make us feel we are alone in this experience.

But history teaches that we're not alone. Others have gone through the same thing and not only have survived, but became stronger because of the experience.

In fact, wars often have brought out amazing courage in people that they never knew they possessed.

History also teaches us that war is spawned by jealousies and resentments, and that these qualities continue unabated in the world. Perhaps war won't be always with us, but its presence surely is persistent.

Our faith contains our best means for coping by pointing us to a gentle, peaceful Christ who was crucified. His unjust crucifixion is testimony to the evil that exists on earth, which even God had to endure.

It also points us to the Eucharist where we celebrate Christ's sacrificial death and — so important for our lives — his resurrection.

Through our faith, we learn that even though this world doesn't enjoy complete peace, there is another world that offers eternal peace. Our present life

The Human Side

FATHER EUGENE HEMRICK
CNS COLUMNIST



is only a very small part of a bigger life.

To the degree that we do our small part trying to make this life more peaceful, we will achieve eternal peace.



PARISH PROFILE

St. Joseph Church embodies spirit of worship and good works in mountain community

BRYSON CITY — St. Joseph Church is located in Swain County, at the foot of the Great Smoky Mountains in western North Carolina. In the 1930s, before the parish was established, a priest 34 miles from Waynesville would travel to Bryson City to celebrate Mass in various homes and at the Fryemont Inn.

As the Catholic community grew, a need for a Catholic church in the area became evident. Land was purchased at the east end of Bryson City's Main Street and construction of St. Joseph Church began.

The church, built at a cost of \$11,568, was dedicated by then-Bishop Eugene McGuiness of Raleigh in September 1941 and was a mission of St. John the Evangelist Church in Waynesville.

At that time, St. Joseph Church was the only Catholic church west of Waynesville and is the oldest church in that area of North Carolina.

The church building was constructed with stone from Swain County and wood native to the area was used whenever possible. At the time of the dedication, there were 20 members at St. Joseph Church.

In 1955, Glenmary priests took responsibility for the parish. A nearby training center for Glenmary priests provided an ideal situation for both parishioners and priests. While the priests were able to get hands-on experience dealing with parish life, St. Joseph Church was able to maintain a generous supply of enthusiastic priests.

In the late 1960s, St. Joseph Church was transferred from being a mission of St. John the Evangelist Church in Waynesville to a mission of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Franklin.

On Sept. 8, 1972, St. Joseph Church became an independent parish. Today,



PHOTO BY GEORGE COBB

St. Joseph Church in Bryson City embodies the Christian spirit of worship and good works found throughout the Diocese of Charlotte.

the church has its own mission, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Cherokee.

Three Glenmary priests served as pastors of St. Joseph Church after its establishment as a parish in 1972: Fathers Donald Levernier, Frank Gardner and Tom Field.

When Father Field retired in 2002, the Glenmary presence at St. Joseph Church ended.

Father Frank Seabo, a diocesan priest, served as administrator between July 2002 and July 2003. In 2003, Father Shawn O'Neal became the administrator.

The parish is involved with SAFE, a center for victims of domestic violence; Habitat for Humanity; Meals on Wheels and it actively collects food for the Bryson City Food Pantry.

In 1983, the church purchased property and began a thrift shop. Now the small shop has grown into one the

largest ecumenical charities in the area. In fact, parishioners of St. Joseph Church and other area churches have kept the shop so stocked with donated goods that there has never been a need to go outside the area for donations.

"Our thrift shop volunteers consist of both longtime parishioners and recent arrivals to our area," said Father O'Neal. "No matter when they came, though, they understand the need for providing a place where members of our community can obtain goods at affordable prices."

Due to an influx of retirees moving to Bryson City, land values have been pushed to artificially high levels, said

St. Joseph Church
316 Main St.
Bryson City, N.C. 28713
(828) 488-6766

Vicariate: Smoky Mountain
Administrator: Father Shawn O'Neal
Number of Households: 70 year-round, 30 additional seasonal



Father Shawn O'Neal

Father O'Neal.

"Many local residents need as many affordable purchasing options as they can find, because this area suffers from the terrible combination of low wages, high unemployment," he said.

According to Father O'Neal, many local residents can barely afford to remain in Bryson City, where their families have lived for many generations.

"The physical presence on Main Street of both the church and thrift shop helps us to understand the economic crisis of the region, because the people most affected by the crisis come to our doorstep," Father O'Neal said. "Our parishioners respond to local needs with compassion that truly brings the Gospel to life."

Contributing to this story was Staff Writer Karen A. Evans.

WALK WHERE JESUS WALKED ON A DIOCESAN-SPONSORED PILGRIMAGE TO

THE HOLY LAND

September 5 - 14

with Fr. James Hawker, Diocesan Vicar of Education and Pastor, St. Luke Church

Deepen your understanding of our Catholic faith and watch the pages of the Bible come alive as you experience daily Mass at many of the historical sites of our faith.

Highlights include:

- Tiberias, Mt. Carmel, Sea of Galilee area
- Mt. Tabor, Cana, Nazareth - Jesus' boyhood area
- Capernaum, Mount of Beatitudes, River Jordan
- Jerusalem area: Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Via Dolorosa, Lord's Tomb at Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Mount Zion, Upper Room, Dormition Abbey, Wailing Wall
- Dead Sea (excavations and scrolls), Masada, Holocaust memorial
- Bethlehem's historic sites - PLUS much more!



Price: \$2,499 from Charlotte (\$2,599 after June 22) includes airfare, most meals, first-class hotels and all tours. Airport taxes/fees, tips and insurance are extra.

Call Cindi Feerick at 704/370-3332 for a brochure with complete details or Pentecost Tours 800/713-9800 for registration.

Only 4 spaces left! Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise — "The Footsteps of Paul" Greece and Turkey — May 11-21, 2006

Space is limited—register now!



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,949 for inside cabin — includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

Istanbul — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace

Mykonos — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels

Patmos — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation

Kusadasi & Ephesus — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites

Rhodes — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith

Crete — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion

Santorini — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.

Roman Catholic
Diocese of Charlotte



Established Jan. 12, 1972
by Pope Paul VI

APRIL 7, 2006

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 15 No 26

Parish Profile:

Holy Trinity Church
provides spiritual home
in Taylorsville

| PAGE 16

To welcome the stranger

IMMIGRATION BILL PROVISIONS
ANALYZED BY BISHOPS'
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — The immigration bill approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee March 27 addresses many of the Catholic Church's concerns, although it also needs work, according to statements from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and other church representatives.

An April 3 letter to senators from Bishop Gerald R. Barnes of San Bernardino, Calif., chairman of the bishops' Committee on Migration, detailed what legislative proposals for immigration the bishops support and which

See BILL, page 13

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

Charlotte Diocese in compliance with charter to protect children

NEW AUDIT FINDS NEAR-TOTAL
COMPLIANCE OF DIOCESES
WITH SEX-ABUSE POLICIES

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — The Diocese of Charlotte was found to be in compliance with all provisions of the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People" during its third annual audit.

The diocese is among the 98 percent of the 195 U.S.

See CHARTER, page 8

Impelled by Christ



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Bishop Peter J. Jugis carries a monstrance during a eucharistic procession as part of the diocesan Youth Pilgrimage to Belmont Abbey April 2.

Youths gather for prayer, reflection at Abbey

PILGRIMAGE OF LIFE SHOULD
LEAD TO GOD, SAYS BISHOP

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

BELMONT — The gold of the monstrance glistened in the afternoon sun, and the reverent prayers of the rosary were heard as the pilgrims followed the Blessed Sacrament.

Amid the afternoon heat, youths from high schools and colleges across the diocese, as well as youth ministers, other adults, diocesan priests, monks from Belmont Abbey and women religious, followed Bishop Peter J. Jugis as he led the eucharistic procession around Belmont Abbey College.

It was part of the diocese's second annual Lenten Youth Pilgrimage to Belmont Abbey April 2.

"As we were processing with the Blessed Sacrament through the college campus,

See PILGRIMS, page 5

A 'faith-filled endeavor'

Mission trip to Bolivia builds hope, faith

BY SUSAN DEGUZMAN
CORRESPONDENT

WINSTON-SALEM — Prayers abounded between Winston-Salem and Bolivia as St. Leo the Great Church in Winston-Salem embarked on simultaneous missions.

A group of 22 people, led by Father Thomas Kessler, pastor, traveled to this poorest country in South America on a one-week medical and spiritual

mission. Their destination was El Torno, a small city 40 miles south of Santa Cruz and the location of St. James the Apostle Church, where Father Kessler was pastor in the early 1990s.

The mission trip March 5-11 was simultaneous with a Lenten mission at the parish, which involved anointing of the sick, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, a Habitat for

See MISSION, page 7



COURTESY PHOTO BY THE BOLIVIAN MISSION TEAM

Dr. Mary Claire O'Brien, a parishioner of St. Leo the Great Church in Winston-Salem, examines a patient while on a mission trip to El Torno, Bolivia in March.

Confession's healing power

Absolution, penance
lead to joy

| PAGE 9

Culture Watch

Show chronicles
seminarians; 'Take
the Lead' review

| PAGES 10-11

Perspectives

Bishop's letter on Holy
Thursday rite; the names
for God ****

| PAGES 14-15

CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930

UNC
NC COLLECTION

#420836#

S35 P1

#BXNPDVQ.....3-DIGIT 275

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

SPRINTING WITH SPIRIT



CNS PHOTO BY CHRIS SHERIDAN

Father Jorge Fernandez jogs outside Our Saviour Church March 8 in the Bronx section of New York. Less than a year after he was beaten by teenagers while jogging, Father Fernandez was honored as the Runner of the Year by a New York runners club.

Priest running, winning again after recovery from severe beating

NEW YORK (CNS) — Less than a year after he was attacked and beaten by a gang of teenagers while jogging in a Bronx park, a New York priest is not only up and running again, he's racing, winning and recently collected a top award of the city's premier running organization.

Father Jorge Fernandez, a member of the Yarumal Missionaries and a parochial vicar at Our Saviour Church, was honored in March by the New York Road Runners Club as the Runner of the Year in his age group.

"Thank God, I recovered very well," said Father Fernandez.

"I got a lot of solidarity and prayers from the people, and I started to run with more optimism and motivation than before the attack," he said. "I was running much better."

Father Fernandez, 42, came out first among the seven runners in his group — men ages 40-44 — who were nominated for the annual Runner of the Year Award. To qualify, a runner must be a member of the New York Road Runners Club and have completed at least six fully scored races across a range of distances.

The priest, who spent nine days in the hospital and two months recovering from the attack last May 2, began running again last July and by September was again competing in races.

"Sometimes there are a lot of parish

activities and I can't participate in races," he said. "But when I do get the chance, I perform very well."

The priest, who has been running since high school, said that he runs every morning, beginning at 6 a.m. and covering anywhere from six to 15 miles in parks and on the streets of the Bronx.

It was on one of those morning jogs that he was attacked by a gang of about seven or eight youths who began kicking and punching him in what appeared to be a random act of violence.

"They didn't try to rob me; I had no money," Father Fernandez said. He underwent surgery to repair a broken jaw and was treated for pain, swelling and bruising.

Four teenagers were indicted on gang assault and other charges in the attack and face prison terms of up to 10 or 25 years, depending on their age, if convicted. Their cases are in pretrial proceedings in State Supreme Court in the Bronx.

Father Fernandez said that when he began running in earnest as a young man he received several offers from universities to run on their teams.

He decided to stay with his original goal of becoming a priest, however, entering a Colombian missionary order for his seminary training.

"Running is a way to get good health and be in good shape," he said, "but the most important thing for me was my vocation. So I decided to run for Christ."

Christian convert, in Italy, thanks pope for appealing on his behalf

ROME (CNS) — After fleeing to Italy, an Afghan man who faced the death penalty for converting to Christianity thanked Pope Benedict XVI for appealing on his behalf.

"In Kabul they would have killed me, I'm sure of that," Abdul Rahman said after he was granted refugee status in Italy on grounds of religious persecution.

Speaking to Italian reporters March 30, Rahman, 41, thanked a number of people who pressed for his release; the first person he mentioned was the pope.

Rahman, arrived in Italy from Afghanistan in secrecy. He said he intended to stay in the country and find work.

Pope Benedict and others had appealed for Rahman's release, urging Afghan authorities to show respect for freedom of religion. The authorities complied, despite demands from Muslim leaders that Rahman be barred from leaving the country.

Rahman told reporters that he had been estranged from his family after his conversion. He left a wife and two

children in Afghanistan.

"I am worried for them because they are my children and could have problems on my account," he said.

On March 25, the Vatican said the pope had urged Afghan President Hamid Karzai to see that the case against the convert was dismissed.

"I am certain, Mr. President, that dropping the case against Mr. Rahman would bestow great honor upon the Afghan people and would raise a chorus of admiration in the international community," said the pope.

Rahman was jailed after declaring his conversion to police officers, and the Afghan Supreme Court had said he could face the death penalty unless he reverted to Islam. He reportedly became a Christian several years ago, after working for a Christian aid agency in Pakistan.

Christians are a tiny minority in Afghanistan, numbering only a few thousand. An estimated 99 percent of the population is Muslim.

Diocesan planner

BOONE VICARIATE

NORTH WILKESBORO — A *Catholic Scripture Study* group meets at St. John Baptiste de La Salle Church, 275 CC Wright School Rd. For more information, go online at www.catholicscripturestudy.com. Classes meet Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m. Please call Rob Hicks at (336) 957-7193 for more information or if you plan to attend.

SPRUCE PINE — A *Rosary of Intercession for Priests* is recited each Friday at St. Lucien Church, 695 Summit St., before the 9 a.m. Mass. Prayers are offered for bishops, priests and deacons, and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. For more information, call the church office at (828) 765-2224.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., will have a *Polish-language Mass* on Palm Sunday, April 9 at 3:30 p.m. in the Daily Mass Chapel. Confessions will be available in Polish beginning at 2 p.m. For more information, please call Elizabeth Spytkowski at (704) 948-1678.

CHARLOTTE — The *Divine Mercy Novena* will be recited at St. Gabriel Church's Daily Chapel, 3016 Providence Rd., beginning on Good Friday, April 14, at 6:30 p.m. and Holy Saturday, April 15, at 6:30 p.m. All following days the novena will be recited at 7:30 p.m. Our Lord said to St. Faustina, "By this novena, I will grant every possible grace to souls." (Diary, 796) If you are not familiar with this devotion, please come and pray. We will have brochures available with the intentions our Lord has asked us to bring to

Him during this novena. For more information, call Tina Witt (704) 846-7361.

CHARLOTTE — Dr. Warren Carroll will speak on "*The Growing and Indestructible Church*" at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Park Rd., April 18 at 7:30 p.m. For more information and to RSVP, call Estelle Wisneski at (704) 364-9568 or e-mail jfwisneski@cs.com.

CHARLOTTE — *Theology on Tap*, a dynamic speaker series designed to provide young adults in their 20s and 30s with the opportunity to discover more about their faith in a relaxed open environment, will meet Tuesdays, April 18-May 9, at 6:30 p.m. at Pepperoni's Pizza in Park Road Shopping Center. These interactive events will explore the issues and challenges that Catholic young adults face in the 21st century. Contact Catrina at (704) 665-7374 or c_lconway@hotmail.com for more information.

MINT HILL — *G.E.M.S. Daily* is a prayer/support group for mothers of children with disabilities. The group meets the second Wednesday of each month, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., at St. Luke Church, 13700 Lawyers Rd., to share concerns, praise and prayers. For details, call Michelle Roth at (704) 321-1717.

CHARLOTTE — The *Young Widowed Group* meets at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month in the Fellowship Hall of St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, contact facilitator Sister Therese Galligan at (704) 362-5047, ext. 216.

CHARLOTTE — The *50+ Club* of St. John Neumann Church, 8451 Idlewild Rd., meets the second Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. with a program and lunch in the parish hall. For reservations and more information, call Elaine at (704) 847-2835.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — *Theology on Tap*, a speaker

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

APRIL 7, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 26

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Pope says people do not need to be perfect to be called to a vocation

'Human frailties' are not obstacles, says pope

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — One does not have to be perfect to be called to a vocation in the priesthood or religious life, but one must recognize that God calls each person to repentance and holiness, Pope Benedict XVI said.

"Human frailties and limits do not represent an obstacle" to having a vocation, "as long as they contribute to making us more aware of the fact that we need the redeeming grace of Christ," the pope said in his message for the 2006 World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

The day dedicated to praying for vocations to the priesthood and religious life will be celebrated May 7 in most countries; the pope's message for the day was released March 30 in Italian.

From Jesus' time, Pope Benedict

said, God has called individuals to dedicate their lives totally to serving God and their brothers and sisters.

God's call is not addressed to the perfect, but to those open to God's love, which changes human hearts and makes them capable of communicating the love of God to others, the pope said.

"The church is holy even if its members need to be purified so that holiness, a gift of God, can shine through them in all its brightness," he said.

Pope Benedict asked for special prayers for vocations to the priesthood, a ministry that is essential for the celebration of the sacraments and, therefore, for the ongoing life of the church.

"It is not surprising that where people pray with fervor, vocations flourish," he said.

series for Catholics in their 20s, 30s and 40s, will meet at Coopers Ale House, 5340 West Market St., April 19 and 26, May 3 and 10 at 7 p.m. Theology on Tap is a casual forum where people gather to learn and discuss the teachings of the Catholic Church. A service project will take place May 13 at Mary's House in Greensboro. For more information, visit www.triadcatholics.org or call Deb at (336) 286-3687.

GREENSBORO — If you have a special need for prayers, or would like to offer your time in prayer for others' needs, please call the *Prayer Chain* at Our Lady of Grace Church. The Prayer Chain is a sizable group committed to praying for your needs and the needs of your family and friends on a daily basis. To request a prayer or to participate in the Prayer Chain, call the church office at (336) 274-6520, ext. 10 and leave your name, address and phone number.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

MAGGIE VALLEY — A *Rachel's Vineyard Retreat for Post-Abortion Healing* is a confidential opportunity for anyone struggling with the emotional or spiritual pain of abortion. The retreat is designed to help you experience the mercy and compassion of God. It is also an opportunity to surface and release repressed feelings of anger, shame, guilt and grief. This will help you to grieve the loss of your unborn child, to receive and accept God's forgiveness, and to forgive yourself. The next retreat is April 21-23 at the Living Waters Catholic Reflection Center, 103 Living Waters Lane. For further information, call Shelley at (828) 670-8192 or (828) 230-4940, e-mail sglan1234@aol.com or visit the web site at www.rachelsvineyard.org.

MURPHY — A *Charismatic Prayer Group* meets Fridays at 3:45 p.m. in the Commons of St. William Church, 765 Andrews Rd. join us for praise music, witness, teaching, prayers and laying on of hands for those in need. For more

details, call Gery Dashner at (828) 494-2683.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

WINSTON-SALEM — Spirit of Assisi, a Franciscan Center, 221 W. Third St., will host read and reflect "brown-bag" gatherings April 26 and May 3, 10, 17, 12-12:45 p.m. We will discuss "An Introduction: Thomas Merton" by William Shannon. Be inspired by Merton's deep spirit of prayer, passion for peace, openness to all whom he encounters, and keen wit. Bring your own lunch. Coffee and tea will be provided. For more information, call (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portuicula@bellsouth.net.

CLEMMONS — A *Charismatic Prayer Group* meets Mondays at 7:15 p.m. in the eucharistic chapel of Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd. Join us for praise music, witness, teaching, prayers and petition. For more details, call Jim Passero at (336) 998-7503.

CLEMMONS — The *Knitting Ministry* of Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd., meets Monday evenings, 6:30-8 p.m., to pray, learn to knit, reflect on life's lessons and reach out to others in our community. Opportunities exist for the beginner to the experienced as we knit and purl Prayer Shawls, Premie Blankets or Squares for Survivors. Please contact Rosemary at (336) 766-2315 or Carmel (336) 766-0650 for more information.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

April 11 — 11 a.m.
Chrism Mass
St. Patrick Cathedral, Charlotte

April 17 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
Holy Cross Church, Kernersville

April 19 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. James the Greater Church, Hamlet

April 22 — 10 a.m.
Ordination to the priesthood of
Benedictine Father Agostino
Fernandez
Belmont Abbey, Belmont

April 24 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. John Neumann Church, Charlotte

Papal preacher says obeying God brings inner peace

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Obeying God means living out God's plan, which then brings inner peace and serenity, said the preacher of the papal household.

God wants his flock to be obedient, not because he wants to rule his underlings, but because it means "we are carrying out God's will" and aiming for the same things God wants, said Capuchin Father Raniero Cantalamessa.

The more people conform their lives to what God has planned, the more they will be bathed in the light of truth and, as a result, in peace, the preacher said in a Lenten reflection offered March 31 to Pope Benedict XVI and senior Vatican officials.

The Capuchin said a reflection on the importance of obedience could help contribute to a "good spiritual climate in the church and the Curia" every time one is faced with the possibility of job or personnel changes.

Father Cantalamessa said retirement and bringing one's career to an end was one example of the difficulty of obedience.

Someone once joked that serving in high office was its own cross, but sometimes the hardest thing is not to take up

the cross, but to come down and be removed from it, he said.

Obeying, however, and letting go most resembles the example of Christ in his passion, said Father Cantalamessa.

With his ultimate sacrifice, "Jesus cut off his teachings, broke off all activities," without worrying what would happen to his apostles, his mother, his wisdom — "entrusted as it was to just the poor memory of a few fishermen," the papal preacher said.

No concern or worry could keep him from his desire to fulfill God's will, he said. The faithful are to run questions by him in prayer before making decisions.

It is not necessary to get an audible answer from God before one acts, Father Cantalamessa said; what is important is that "I have stripped myself of my will, I have renounced deciding on my own, and I have given to God the possibility to intervene, if he wants, in my life."

People can also gain God's spiritual guidance from reading the Bible or listening closely to scriptural readings at Mass. Often a page or verse will jump out and illuminate the situation, he said, and show the person what to do.

Remembering Pope John Paul II



CNS PHOTO BY CHRIS HELGREN, REUTERS

Members of Chicago's Polish community attend the Sunday Angelus of Pope Benedict XVI in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican April 2. Tens of thousands of people from around the world flocked to the Vatican to mark the first anniversary of the death of Pope John Paul II.

FOR MORE ON POPE JOHN PAUL II'S LEGACY, READ TONY MAGLIANO'S COLUMN ON PAGE 15.

PRIEST ASSIGNMENTS

Bishop Peter J. Jugis announces the following priest assignments:

EFFECTIVE MARCH 27, 2006

Augustinian Father Joseph O'Connor, as parochial vicar of St. John Neumann Church, Charlotte.

EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2006

Father Luis S. Osorio, as parochial vicar of St. Michael Church, Gastonia.

Father Christopher A. Roux, as parochial administrator of Holy Infant Church, Reidsville.

Soaring Comets



COURTESY PHOTO

The Comets, the boys' varsity basketball team at St. Pius X School in Winston-Salem, took first place by defeating Our Lady of Lourdes School in Raleigh 46-23 in the Shamrock Basketball Tournament held in Charlotte in February. To win, the Comets, coached by Bob Edmonds, had to first defeat several teams from schools in North Carolina, Georgia and Virginia. The win was the team's first Shamrock championship. Tournament all-stars were Aaron Toomey and Matt Bednar. Jonathan Spain was awarded the tournament's Most Valuable Player.

Enjoying a Lenten tradition



COURTESY PHOTO BY DORICE NARINS

Parishioners enjoy a soup and bread supper before participating in Stations of the Cross at Sacred Heart Church in Brevard in March. The Stations and suppers, organized by the parish's community life commission, have been a Lenten tradition at the church since 1995.

Approximately 70 people attend the weekly gatherings, which feature a variety of soups and breads. Participants may also donate to Catholic Relief Service's Operation Rice Bowl Lenten offering program.



St. Thomas Aquinas Academy
Asheville, North Carolina
www.stthomasaquinasacademy.org

(828) 687-7714

Accepting applications for ninth, tenth and eleventh grades.

Member, National Association of Private, Catholic and Independent Schools
St. Thomas Aquinas Academy is a private school, independent of the Charlotte Diocesan school system.



COURTESY PHOTO

Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School's girls' basketball team is pictured on its way to the state championship game in Chapel Hill in March. The team won the game 54-31.

Villains crowned state champions

KERNERSVILLE — The girls' basketball team at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville recently took home the state championship.

The Lady Villains basketball team capped a perfect 31-0 record with an impressive 54-31 win against Southeast Halifax High School in the N.C. High School Athletic Association's 1-A division championship game held at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill March 11.

This is the first time Bishop McGuinness had competed in the public school league and emerged as champions.

On their way to the championship, the Lady Villains also beat four-time defending state champions Thomasville High School.

In USA Today's "Super 25 girls' basketball rankings," the Lady Villains were ranked No. 24 in the nation and

No. 4 in the South.

Coach Brian Robinson said he was "very proud" of the team.

"We are very excited for what we've just accomplished. We realize how hard it is to be a state champion, much less an undefeated state champion," he said.

The team is composed of juniors Katheryn Lyons, Sarah Fouroudi and Margaret Minton; sophomores Maggie Ronan, Megan Rembielak and Mackenzie Wheaton; and freshmen Erinn Thompson, Gina Simmons, Anna DeFrancesco and Brittany Cox.

Several teammates previously had played together at Our Lady of Mercy School in Winston-Salem.

"When they come to Bishop McGuinness, they have an idea of how to play basketball at a very competitive level," said Robinson.

In the Blue Ridge Mountains of NORTH CAROLINA

CAMP
KAHDALEA
FOR GIRLS

CAMP
CHOSATONGA
FOR BOYS

Two mountain camps, in the heart of the Blue Ridge, surrounded by national forest, offering:

Rock climbing • swimming • drama • horseback riding • mountain biking • whitewater canoeing and kayaking • arts and crafts • archery • tennis • guitar • nature • riflery • backpacking • field sports • awesome staff • and more...

A place where a child can explore and reach fullest potential. A challenging environment for building self-esteem, self-confidence and improving skills within a framework of Christian ideals.

Ages 8-17 • Session lengths 2,3,5,9 weeks
MASS AT CAMP ON SUNDAYS

Kenne & David
Anne and David Trufant
Catholic Owners and Directors



For information and a free video visit our website:

www.kahdalea.com

(828) 884-6834
2500 Morgan Mill Road Brevard, NC 28712

We are also seeking
faithful college (+ up) staff

www.kahdalea.com

FROM THE COVER

Youths gather for prayer, reflection on Eucharist

PILGRIMS, from page 1

I was thinking how much our daily lives in the world are like that procession," said Bishop Jugis.

"In our eucharistic procession we were contemplatives in action, keeping our attention fixed on God as we moved along through the campus toward our eventual destination of celebrating the vespers liturgy in the Abbey Basilica," said Bishop Jugis.

"So also, as we go about our lives in the world, we keep our attention fixed on God, always trying to do his work,

"The holy Eucharist accompanies us along the way of our pilgrimage as nourishment for our journey."

— Bishop Peter J. Jugis

remembering that we are on pilgrimage to our eventual destination of the liturgy of praise and worship of God in heaven," said the bishop.

"The holy Eucharist accompanies us along the way of our pilgrimage as nourishment for our journey," he said.

That pilgrimage, a day of prayer and reflection, was part of the diocese's preparation for the second diocesan Eucharistic Congress, themed "The Love of Christ Impels Us," to be held in Charlotte Oct. 6-7.

The theme is also Bishop Jugis' motto, taken from St. Paul's second letter to the Corinthian Church.

"The love of Christ, which is really present in the Mass, transforms us and becomes an interior force impelling us to live for Christ," said the bishop. "The eucharistic love of Christ informs our lives and makes us become more like him."

Many found the pilgrimage to be spiritually enriching.

"So many of our students didn't have experiences like this growing up," said Gloria Schweizer, Catholic campus minister at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee.

"It increases their awareness and appreciation for the Eucharist," she said.

"A living faith is a deeply rooted faith. Exposure to and active, personal involvement in the various traditions are



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Bishop Peter J. Jugis carries a monstrance during a eucharistic procession as part of the diocesan Youth Pilgrimage to Belmont Abbey April 2.

vital dynamics in the development of committed, devout, faithful Catholics," said Paul Kotlowski, director of diocesan youth ministry.

"We're not dealing with something like a spectator sports event when it comes to our life in Christ. He calls us each by name into an intimate encounter," said Kotlowski. "Personally, I can't think of a better way to facilitate this encounter than time with the Real Presence (of Jesus), with the one exception being the Mass itself."

The pilgrimage included exposition of the Eucharist, evening prayer and Benediction.

"The time spent in eucharistic adoration today should help us grow in our spiritual union with the Lord, and should lead ultimately to our sacramental union with him in holy Communion at Mass," the bishop told the youths.

"We have come to honor our Lord, and to worship him really present in the Blessed Sacrament," he said.

Adam Trufant, 18, a parishioner of St. Barnabas Church in Arden, who helped carry the canopy over the monstrance during the procession.

"I was honored to walk with Jesus," he said. "Walking step by step with Jesus is a beautiful gift."

"Christ established the Eucharist as a means to remain with us, to live in us and for us to live in him," said Kotlowski.

"In the Eucharist — under the sacramental signs of bread and wine — Christ, the mystery of God, is revealed," he said. "He is our nourishment, our medicine and our comfort."

Contact Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail kemurray@charlottediocese.org.

WANT MORE INFO?

More information about the diocesan Eucharistic Congress is available online at www.goeucharist.com.



**Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center**

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels. 

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooreville
704-663-1065

Featuring Blue Diamond Exclusively



Malak Jewelers

At the Arboretum (St. Matthew parishioners)

We extend to you the very finest in Jewelry and Service...

Largest Selection - Best Quality & Prices Guaranteed

Certified Loose Diamonds
Platinum, Gold, Fine Jewelry
Sterling silver and watches
Estate Jewelry - Buy & Sell

26 years of Integrity and Experience!

(704) 341-1188 www.malakjewelers.com
8042-800 Providence Rd., Charlotte



Now featuring special
sterling silver medallion
of Pope John Paul II -
complimentary with
purchases over \$50
(one per purchase)

Paving the way



COURTESY PHOTO

Father Michael Buttner, pastor of Holy Family Church in Clemmons, stands with members of the Knights of Columbus and spouses beside a new street sign indicating "Father McGivney Way" March 25.

The Knights of Columbus Bishop Charles P. Greco Council 9499 was asked to help pave the road — named after Father Michael McGivney, the 19th century priest who founded the Knights of Columbus — that leads to the church's picnic and play area. The sign was built by knight Bob Smith (left of Father Buttner).

Beef & Beer

Join us at St. Ann's Parish Hall
Park Road at Hillside Avenue, Charlotte
Saturday, April 29 – 7 to 11pm

Entertainment by Wax Museum of Charlotte
Beach Music – Oldies – Rock & Roll

Only \$15 per person – includes hot roast beef sandwiches, beer and a great evening!
(Proceeds benefit Charlotte Diocesan seminarians and other Hibernian charities)



Ladies and Men's Ancient Order of Hibernians

Advanced Reservations: Maureen Eckl - 704 362-5718
or Janice Donahue - 704 948-3528
(Limited seating so call now for reservations!)

Providing Help. Creating Hope. Changing Lives.

Catholic Social Services The Diocese of Charlotte

Executive Director: Elizabeth Thurbee (704) 370-3227

Refugee Office: Cira Ponce (704) 370-6930

Justice & Peace: Joe Purello (704) 370-3225

Family Life: Gerard Carter (704) 370-3228

Charlotte Region: 1123 South Church Street, Charlotte, NC 28203
Area Director: Geri King (704) 370-6155

Western Region: 50 Orange Street, Asheville, NC 28801
Area Director: Debra Braese (828) 255-0146

Piedmont-Triad: 621 W. Second Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27108
Area Director: David Harold (336) 727-0705
Greensboro Satellite Office (336) 274-5577
High Point Satellite Office (336) 884-5858

For information on specific programs,
please call your local office.

1123 South Church Street, Charlotte, NC 28203
www.cssnc.org



ADVERTISEMENT

Regional Stewardship Conference has something for everyone



Whether your parish is just starting to promote stewardship as a way of life or has been actively involved for years, the fifth Regional Stewardship Day Conference will feature something for you. The conference, sponsored by the dioceses of Charlotte, Charleston, Raleigh, Savannah and the Archdiocese of Atlanta, will be held on April 29th at the Embassy Suites in Cary, N.C.

The U.S. bishops' pastoral letter, "Stewardship: A Disciple's Response," is the document that defines stewardship, inspires us and challenges us to embrace a way of life that includes the giving of our time, talent, and treasure out of gratitude for God's gifts to us.

Our keynote speaker, Dan Conway, will use the pastoral letter as well as the apostolic letter of Pope John Paul II, "The Church in America," as he highlights ways that a commitment to stewardship can be countercultural in U.S. society today.

Dan comes from a rich background in the stewardship arena. He has served on the faculty of the International Catholic Stewardship Council's Winter and Summer Institutes in addition to directing stewardship and development efforts in the archdioceses of Chicago, Louisville and Indianapolis.

Dan is president of RSI, Catholic Service Group. His talk, "Stewardship in America: A Countercultural Way of Life," will be both challenging and inspiring. Dan's breakout session on the spirituality of stewardship will include practical suggestions on living stewardship as a way of life for individuals, families and parish communities.

The six breakout sessions will cover a wide array of topics and provide some concrete ideas for promoting stewardship in your parish. Each session will be offered twice during the three breakout time

slots. Just in case your parish cannot send participants to all six of the breakouts, a notebook of materials from all sessions will be provided for each registrant.

The South is truly a melting pot of cultures which carries its own challenges to promoting stewardship in our parishes. Enrique Gomez-Palacio of St. Thomas More Church in Chapel Hill, N.C. will address "Stewardship in a Multicultural Parish."

If you are looking for some new ideas to promote stewardship of time and talent through ministry fairs, then Joel Gray of St. Brigid Church in Alpharetta, Ga. will share his experiences during his session.

Stewardship efforts at St. Pius X Church in Greensboro have touched the lives of everyone in the parish, from children to the elderly. Pastoral associates Pat Spivey and Tracy Welliver will team with stewardship committee chairperson Patti Dunning to present a profile of stewardship in their parish.

Margo Truett of St. Anne Church in Columbus, Ga. has developed a dynamic stewardship leadership retreat. She will present her ideas in a practical and inspirational breakout on "Developing Leaders of Stewardship."

Pastors will be delighted to hear Very Reverend John McGee, OSFS, VF, pastor of Holy Infant Church in Durham speak about his role in promoting stewardship in the parish.

This year a closing panel discussion will bring all of the presenters together for one final opportunity to answer questions, clarify ideas and send us forth with an enthusiasm for promoting stewardship in our parishes. It is the hope of conference planners that participants will return to their own parishes with a renewed emphasis on living and promoting stewardship as a way of life – a life of real Christian discipleship.

For additional information on the Regional Stewardship Day or to receive a registration brochure, contact Jim Kelley at (704) 370-3301 or jkkelley@charlottediocese.org or Barbara Gaddy at (704) 370-3302, bagaddy@charlottediocese.org.

The Oratory Religion Camp

- Two separate one-week sessions at Camp York in Kings Mountain State Park the weeks of July 9-15 and July 16-22, 2006
- Boys and girls under 12 who will enter grades 2-6 in September can apply for consideration.
- Swimming, crafts and religious activities.
- The fee is \$125.

For information and application: www.oratorycamp.com

Visit us online at
www.rockhilloratory.com

The Oratory Religion Camp, P. O. Box 11586, Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586.
Volunteer counselors (16 or older) can write for an application.

MISSION WORK

Mission trip to Bolivia builds hope, faith

MISSION, from page 1

Humanity project and prayers for the success and safety of all those involved in the mission work.

"A great deal of advance planning went into the trip," said Dr. Hernan Fabio, a parishioner of St. Leo the Great Church.

Fabio traveled to Bolivia on a scouting mission last October with Father Kessler and fellow parishioners Roy Benson and Graziano Camastra. Fabio, a native of Puerto Rico, coordinated the medical preplanning with Dr. David Paz, a key leader in the El Torno community.

The four also worked closely with other Bolivian leaders to arrange for housing, technology and other anticipated needs of the missionaries.

The missionaries to Bolivia were comprised of seven facilitators, four translators, three nurses/medical support staff, seven physicians and Father Kessler. Many were parishioners of St. Leo the Great Church.

The medical team set up practice for five days in the clinic run by Paz, who in the weeks prior to their arrival, encouraged the locals to make appointments for free medical attention.

During the week, the team doctors saw 446 patients, performed 14 surgeries and 16 infiltrations to reduce joint pain.

Two members of the medical team were Dave O'Brien and Mary Claire O'Brien, both physicians and parishioners of St. Leo the Great Church.

Dave O'Brien trained one of the Bolivian doctors at the clinic to perform the infiltrations himself.

"It was much more difficult than I ever thought it would be. I didn't anticipate the great emotional toll it would take on me," admitted Mary Claire O'Brien.

"You feel like you're trying to empty an ocean with an eyedropper. But it's the idea that the parish cared enough to be physically present that meant so much to the Bolivian people," she said.

"Our trip to Bolivia was just short of miraculous."

— Father Tom Kessler

She described the people of El Torno as open and generous.

"As important as it is for us to give to them, they are giving to us in the same measure," she said. "I hope we are able to sustain a liaison with them."

Free medications were also made available to the patients. Mary Beth Phillips, a nurse and parishioner of St. Leo the Great Church, worked in the clinic's pharmacy, filling 420 prescriptions. Fellow parishioner Sandra Clapp and two translators from Bolivia, one a college student from Santa Cruz who heard about the mission and took a week off from school to help, assisted.

Translations were provided by team photographer and journalist Luis Paez, a native of Colombia; Deacon Carlos Medina, permanent deacon at St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte and a native of Nicaragua; Sister of St. Joseph Joan Pearson, Hispanic ministry coordinator for the Salisbury Vicariate; and Benson, who served as a U.S. Army Green Beret in Central America for six years.

Donations from parishioners of St. Leo the Great Church helped provide medications and medical equipment — 32 suitcases' worth — as well as improvements to St. James the Apostle Church's property and library, which Father Kessler helped build more than a decade ago.

After the missionaries repainted the library's interior, Benson installed two computers with Internet access, a printer, a scanner and a telephone line.

New educational materials and schoolbooks, selected with the help of several educators in El Torno, were purchased for a local school. Guitars were also purchased, one for the church's choir and eight for the school in conjunction with a



COURTESY PHOTO BY THE BOLIVIAN MISSION TEAM

Father Thomas Kessler, pastor of St. Leo the Great Church in Winston-Salem, greets residents of El Torno, Bolivia after Mass at St. John the Apostle Church in Bolivia in March.

promise from El Torno's mayor to provide a music teacher.

Donations also funded the construction of a 7-foot-high brick security wall around the church's library and cultural center during that week.

The missionaries also visited several locations around El Torno, including a center for the elderly, where a donation was made to help grow produce for the residents; a school and clinic staffed by Dominican Sisters, where a computer and related equipment were donated; and a dermatology hospital run by the Daughters of Charity.

During the trip, Father Kessler concelebrated Mass with Father Erwin Graus, pastor of St. James the Apostle Church. The Mass, attended by the missionaries and El Torno residents, was followed by a fiesta at which awards were presented to various team members.

Benson said the missionaries were

part of a larger team.

"None of this could have happened without the generous support of the entire community of faith that we know as the parish of St. Leo the Great," he said.

"We had money to get the job done, but we also felt the prayers and concerns of each and every member of the community," said Benson.

"Our trip to Bolivia was just short of miraculous," said Father Kessler. "Everything went incredibly well in that the missionaries, as well as the Bolivians, were all very much touched by God."

"I'm very grateful to almighty God for his many blessings in this faith-filled endeavor," he said.

WANT TO READ MORE?

Roy Benson chronicles the mission to Bolivia at <http://eltorno.homestead.com/bolivia.html>.

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



Join us for the 8-week video series on
The Teachings of Fulton Sheen

Tuesday evenings at 7 pm,
Monroe Road store
AND

Don't miss upcoming

BOOK SIGNING

Monday, May 1st - 10 am

Monroe Road store

• Carl Olson, author of *Da Vinci Code Hoax* and
Will Catholics Be Left Behind?

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)

maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

\$5 OFF
Any Purchase
of \$35 or More
Present coupon. Not valid with any
other offers. Expires 4/30/06

St. Patrick Cathedral

The Very Rev. Paul Gary
Rector

Rev. Mr. Nicholas Fadero
Deacon

Rev. Robert Conway
Parochial Vicar

Rev. Mr. Carlos Medina
Deacon

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Tuesday, April 11, 11 am

Chrism Mass: Blessing of the Holy Oils
Bishop Peter J. Jugis, celebrant

Holy Thursday, April 13, 7:30 pm

Mass of the Lord's Supper
Bishop William G. Curlin, celebrant

Good Friday, April 14, 3 pm

Stations of the Cross

Good Friday, April 14, 7:30 pm

Sacred Liturgy and Veneration of the Cross
Bishop William G. Curlin, celebrant

Holy Saturday, April 15, 8 pm

Easter Vigil Mass
Bishop William G. Curlin, celebrant

Easter Sunday Masses

8 am, 9:30 am

11 am, Bishop William G. Curlin, celebrant
12:30 pm



1621 Dilworth Road East
Charlotte, NC 28203 (704) 334-2283
Visit our Web site at www.stpatricksc.org

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

Diocese in compliance with charter

CHARTER, from page 1

dioceses and Eastern-rite eparchies in implementing every applicable article of the U.S. bishops' policies to prevent clergy sex abuse of minors as of Dec. 31, 2005, according to an independent audit released March 30.

The statistics are contained in the 2005 annual report on the implementation of the charter. The U.S. bishops' Office of Child and Youth Protection prepared the report for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the National Review Board, appointed by the bishops to monitor compliance with the charter.

The all-lay review board approved the report before it was sent to the USCCB.

The charter was approved by the bishops in 2002 and calls for an annual compliance report.

This was the third consecutive year that on-site audits were done in dioceses, with much of the data based on self-reporting by church officials. While the charter requires the child protection office to issue annual compliance reports, it does not stipulate how to gather the data for the report.

Because the Diocese of Charlotte was in compliance with the audit conducted in

2004, the audit for 2005 was self-reported. To complete the audit, the diocese responded to a questionnaire from the investigation and security firm The Gavin Group of Winthrop, Mass.

"It is gratifying that we continue to be found in compliance with the charter," said Bishop Peter J. Jugis. "I will continue my daily prayers for all victims of abuse in our society."

Local statistics

During the reporting period for the 2005 audit, the Diocese of Charlotte received no new allegations of sexual misconduct with children. The diocese provided \$14,215 in ongoing financial assistance to or on behalf of victims, all of which was for counseling services.

As in the past, none of the funds came from parish savings or the Diocesan Support Appeal.

In the nearly four years since the implementation of the charter, 36,017 members of the clergy, diocesan employees, volunteer religious education teachers, other parish volunteers and students have received safe environment training that describes inappropriate behavior and explains what steps to take when the behavior is witnessed.

During the 2005 audit period, the diocese conducted background checks on 7,684 members of the clergy, diocesan employees, volunteer religious education teachers and other parish volunteers.

The cost of the safe environment

training programs, the background checks and other measures associated with compliance was \$88,928 during the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2005.

The diocese is committed to both the training and the background checks on an ongoing basis.

"Here in the Diocese of Charlotte, we have policies, programs, people and,

most importantly, prayer to address this problem," said Bishop Jugis. "Prayer is the primary response for the people of God when confronted with something as evil as sex abuse."

Director of Communication David Hains and Catholic News Service contributed to this story.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2005 REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH SEX ABUSE NORMS

BY AGOSTINO BONO
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Following are the major findings of the 2005 report on the implementation of the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People" adopted by the U.S. bishops in 2002 and revised in 2005:

— Almost nine in 10 of the participating dioceses and eparchies were in full compliance with the charter.

— Twenty-one dioceses and eparchies were noncompliant regarding the completion of child sex-abuse prevention training for clergy, employees, volunteers and children.

— Five dioceses and eparchies were noncompliant regarding the background checks of clergy, employees and volunteers.

— Almost 95 percent of the 7.7 million people needing child sex-abuse prevention training, including 5.8 million children, received training.

— More than 98 percent of the

1.7 million people needing background checks were checked.

The report is based on independent audits of dioceses and Eastern-rite eparchies conducted by the Gavin Group, based in Boston. This information was supplemented by data collected by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, based at Georgetown University in Washington, on the number of new allegations against clergy and on the amount of money spent on sex abuse-related activities.

The Gavin Group audited 191 of the 195 U.S. dioceses and Eastern-rite eparchies. CARA received responses from 94 percent of the dioceses and eparchies and 67 percent of the 221 religious communities.

The report, released in Washington March 30, was prepared by the bishops' Office of Child and Youth Protection, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the all-lay National Review Board responsible for monitoring compliance with the charter.

African-American Affairs Ministry of the Diocese of Charlotte

Calendar of Events

Adult Retreat "God's Message From Scripture"

Rev. Mr. Curtiss P. Todd – Facilitator

This weekend is designed to enlighten and help us to understand how God speaks to us through the Holy Scriptures.

Living Waters Catholic Reflection Center, Maggie Valley, NC.

Friday, May 5 - Sunday, May 7, 2006

\$100 per person (includes lodging & meals on Saturday and Sunday)

Register by April 30, 2006

To register or to request additional information, contact Dale Brown, 704 375-4339, Freddie Dewalt at 704 383-0809 or Mary Turner at 336 723-2202 in Winston Salem, NC.

Kujenga-Viongoz

These two Swahili words mean "To Build Leadership." The purpose of the program is to develop leadership skills among high school aged youth in the African American Catholic tradition with Christ at the center and encourage them to attain knowledge about the role of people of African descent in the story of the Catholic Church.

We are sponsoring our first Kujenga Retreat Weekend on June 16-18, 2006. \$60 per person

The program is conducted over a weekend in the format of a retreat. It provides a unique opportunity for all youth to share parish and community experiences with their peers and elders. This leadership conference (retreat) targets African American young people, but ALL young people are welcome!

To register or for further information call Willis Joseph at (704) 568-3813, email: wjoseph2@carolina.rr.com or Angella Brown at (336) 794-0804, e-mail: angellawin@aol.com

Application forms and information may be obtained through the Diocese of Charlotte website: www.charlottediocese.org - go to Multicultural Ministries and then the African American Affairs Page and then Bulletin.



MEN'S RETREAT

The Search for Moral Goodness
- A Man's Journey

April 28 - 30 (Call or email by April 25)

Retreat guides: Fr. Vince Alagia, SJ and Mr. Kevin Bezner, Ph.D.

Jesuit House of Prayer

Hot Springs, North Carolina (50 miles from Asheville)

828-622-7366 ; or vpaul@madison.main.nc.us

SENIORS' SPRING FLING

Sponsored by CSS Elder Ministries

Two dates and locations to choose from!

Thurs., April 20th - St. Aloysius, Hickory
9 am to 3:30 pm: Closing Mass with Bishop Curlin
Registration deadline: April 11th

Thurs., April 27th - St. Mark, Huntersville
10 am to 4 pm: Closing Mass with Bishop Jugis
Registration deadline: April 18th

Your day will be filled with fellowship, Mass, lunch with friends, chair massages, line dancing and yoga, crafts, bingo, door prizes and more!

Call Sandra Breakfield (704) 370-3220 or Sherill Beason (704) 370-3228.

Cost: \$12 includes lunch. Limited space available. Register NOW!



Confession's healing power

Absolution, penance lead to Christ, joy, says evangelist

BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH
CORRESPONDENT

HENDERSONVILLE — "Here's the question that comes up whether you're Catholic or not: Why do we have to go to confession?" Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio asked the audience. "Why can't we just say to God that we're sorry?"

D'Ambrosio, founder of The Crossroads Initiative, a Catholic renewal and evangelization group, spoke on the topics "Who Needs Confession" and "Making Lent Count" at Immaculate Conception Church in Hendersonville March 25.

The Asheville Vicariate sponsored the program: "Awake, Heal, Reconcile."

"I loved it," said Kay Lantrip of Immaculate Conception Church. "Having a speaker like this really helps to build our Catholic life."

"Sin is not just a sin on the law books somewhere," D'Ambrosio said. "Sin doesn't damage God; it damages us. There is no private sin, even in private (such as viewing pornography alone)."

A gift from God

D'Ambrosio spoke of the healing power of the sacrament of reconciliation.

"Confession is a gift from God to heal us," he said. "Baptism is the original healing, but when we're old enough to make choices we mess up."

Confession is mandatory for anyone who believes he or she has committed a serious (mortal) sin. But venial (light) sins can pile up, weighing a person down. Frequent reconciliation relieves the burden, said D'Ambrosio.

"You wouldn't wait to go to the

doctor until you're on your deathbed," he said. "We do preventive maintenance. The same is true with confession."

For the sacrament of reconciliation, what's needed, he said, are contrition and penance.

Contrition is sincere sorrow for the sin, evidenced by a willingness to change and to avoid near occasions of sin — those tempting circumstances or situations.

D'Ambrosio suggested examining one's conscience by reading Scripture, such as the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:1-12), and meditating on how one is living the Beatitudes.

Then there's 1 Corinthians 13. D'Ambrosio suggested substituting your own name for the word "love," which appears frequently throughout the chapter, and reflecting on how patient, kind and so forth you have been.

"One of the values of reconciliation is hearing the words of absolution," said D'Ambrosio.

Next comes penance.

"Penance is not to earn salvation; Jesus already redeemed the world," D'Ambrosio said. "Penance is therapy to regain wholeness, just as physical therapy heals. Penance is to get rid of the poison in your life. It should be helpful, real therapy, not just rote prayers."

He told how in reconciliation he confessed that he had made some nasty remarks about a man he didn't like. His penance: pray for the man for five minutes every day. After a couple of weeks of this, he began to see good qualities in the person and actually came to like him.



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio speaks at "Awake, Heal, Reconcile" at Immaculate Conception Church in Hendersonville March 25.

"Who needs confession?" asked D'Ambrosio. "Only people who want to be free, who want to change, to not just get by but have a real relationship with Christ, people who want joy."

Seeking forgiveness

But forgiveness isn't limited to the reconciliation room or confessional.

"We need to develop a Catholic culture in our families that we need to ask forgiveness of anyone we've hurt and to give forgiveness," he said.

And sometimes the hardest person to forgive is oneself.

"Forgiving ourselves — it's not about feelings but is a decision: 'Lord, I forgive myself and I thank you for forgiving me.' Also, imagine Jesus looking at you lovingly," D'Ambrosio said.

During the two-hour lunch break, at least six priests from the Asheville Vicariate were stationed around the church to hear confessions.

Radical ideas

On "Making Lent Count," D'Ambrosio said "Lent is a time for the church to grow — to fast and pray for others as well as ourselves."

During the early Catholic Church, Lent's 40 days were a time of intense preparation as candidates prepared for baptism. The whole church prepared with them, he said.

"We need to capture the original meaning of Lent: praying for those being baptized or received into the Church," D'Ambrosio said.

"Also, we need to be thinking of ways not just to give up things but about renewal," he said. "A lot of people have

special disciplines for Lent but drop them as soon as Lent is over. Lent is a time to form new patterns that keep growing after Lent."

It can even mean giving up good things if they get in the way of one's relationship with God.

"Good things become a little bad when we become attached to them," he said. "Satan can't invent an ounce of pleasure, but he can invent ways that are out of context with God's will. Fasting says, 'God, you're first with me.'"

Many things are not bad in themselves. For instance, television and gourmet coffee are OK — up to a point.

"Fasting also frees up time and money," D'Ambrosio said. "A lot of Americans waste a lot of money on junk. There are a lot of ministries out there that could flourish on the dollar a day we could give up."

His suggestion?

"Get really radical. Try living without TV or radio for the next few weeks," he said.

And while get getting ready for and driving to church, "don't just fast from food before Mass, fast from the media," he said. "We've got to empty ourselves out if we're going to be filled with the feast of faith. Fasting prepares us for feasting."

"There's a lot to be said for that," Immaculate Conception parishioner Mark Cordaro said. "It's a responsibility that we have to accept. In today's society there are so many distractions."

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail jnell@dnet.net.

**Join our Oratorian Congregation to
SERVE GOD AS PRIEST OR BROTHER**

*As priests and lay men, our community lives without
vows and serves God's people numerous ways, including:*

Parishes	Youth Camps	Nursing
Retreats	Campus Ministry	Hospital Chaplains

Find out more about serving God with us:
Fr. Ed McDevitt, CO The Oratory
P O Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586

**Let stairs be our
problem... not yours!**

Ask about our Stairway lifts.

- Easily attached to steps (not walls)
- Folds out of the way
- Fits most stairways (straight & curved)
- Very affordable (rent or buy)
- We install

Chair & Equipment Rentals & Sales, Inc.
800 Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC • (800) 333-8431
Member of St. Thomas Aquinas

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

'God or the Girl'

A&E chronicles vocational call of four men

BY HARRY FORBES
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW YORK — It's finally happened: Reality TV has found religion.

In the A&E cable channel's new five-part "God or the Girl," four young men with a calling to the priesthood must decide whether to enter the seminary or serve God as laypeople.

The series will air, appropriately enough, during Easter week, with the first two episodes premiering on Easter, April 16. (The third and fourth hours debut April 17, with the finale April 23.)

Apart from the slightly sensational title — actually a misnomer as none of these devout men would ever consider abandoning God — the series offers a surprisingly reverential treatment of a profound life passage.

The series is as serious-minded as a public television documentary on the subject, albeit fitted out with all the trappings of "Survivor."

The four are a varied bunch.

There's Joe Adair, a 28-year-old procrastinator from Ohio who has already been in the seminary twice but can't decide about a lifelong commitment, particularly when there's a warm and attractive girl who could be waiting for him in Germany.

There's Steve Horvath, a 25-year-old Virginian who chucked his lucrative consulting job and girlfriend to become a university campus missionary.

Horvath is the most emotional of the four, his quivering sensitivity coming to the fore when he reluctantly accepts the challenge to go solo to Guatemala.

The 24-year-old Mike Lechniak from Scranton, Pa., felt a calling at age 17, but has such a natural rapport with sympathetic girlfriend Aly that it's clear why he's highly conflicted.

And finally there's Dan DeMatte, a 21-year-old Ohio Dominican University student with an obvious talent for youth ministry who lives with nine other celibate young men in a house they call "Fort Zion."

His relationship with girlfriend Amber is as amiable as Mike's is with Aly. The tug between collar and wedding ring promised by the title seems most vivid with Mike and Dan.

At one point, we see Dan organize a demonstration at an abortion clinic during which he engages in a lively debate with a couple of young women who support legalized abortion.

The series careens among all four, as Joe sets out for World Youth Day in Germany, hoping to contact 24-year-old Anne — though once there, days go by before he calls her.

Later in the series, he'll set off on a "pilgrimage" to Niagara Falls with not a dime in his pocket, and charm waitresses into feeding him, sometimes in return for doing odd jobs.

Though his housemates are

skeptical, Dan — on the advice of his mentor, a Dominican priest, to "seek the Lord in a radical way" — embarks on a project to build and then carry a wooden cross for 20 miles.

The sincerity of all four is never in doubt even if their respective worldviews sometimes border on the naive, as when Mike describes his occasional yearning to hug his girlfriend as "sick and disgusting."

The program touches only lightly on the sex abuse shadow. "Everyone will think you're a child molester," remarks Steve at one point, anticipating outsiders' reactions.

We won't ruin the surprise of which of the four (if any) actually decides to enter the seminary, but the filmmakers have done all in their power to hook viewers, with standard pre-commercial teases and cliffhanger closes.

And if those methods build a large audience for such an atypically religious-based series, then why not?

The filmmakers shot footage on a fifth subject who will appear on the forthcoming DVD version only.

An occasional crass expression and a few sexually related words and innuendo are the only flags among otherwise unobjectionable content.

Forbes is director of the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

WANT TO WATCH?

The first two episodes premiere on Easter, April 16, 9-11 p.m. EDT. The third and fourth hours debut Monday, April 17, 9-11 p.m. EDT. The finale premieres Sunday, April 23, 10-11 p.m. EDT.

NEW COVENANT BOOKSTORE

- Books
- Cards
- Videos
- Jewelry
-and more!

336-760-1673

304 Upton St.
Winston-Salem, NC
www.newcovenantbookstore.com

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: APR. 16, 2006

Sunday Scripture Readings: April 16, 2006

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Acts 10:34, 37-43
Psalms 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23
- 2) Colossians 3:1-4, or 1 Corinthians 5:6-8
- 3) Gospel: John 20:1-9

We must make Christ visible to others

BY SHARON K. PERKINS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

As a child I had one of those little instruction books on how to be a secret agent. This was the heyday of "007" and the "Man from U.N.C.L.E.," before modern wireless electronic devices.

One of my favorite and most ingenious spy skills was writing with "invisible ink" made from ordinary household substances such as onion juice. (For the faint of nose and eyes, milk worked just fine.)

Using a small watercolor brush, I'd paint my message on a white sheet of paper, let it dry and leave it for an "accomplice spy" to find, whereupon that person would hold it over a flame until the message magically appeared.

The beauty of this technique was that the communicate on that nondescript piece of paper — highly significant for global security, of course — was hidden even while in plain sight. Of course, the

message was of no use unless another person made it visible to the eye.

Practically the entire world knows the story of Easter — of Jesus, once crucified and buried, now raised to new life. For Christians especially, it is the event that changes our human situation forever.

But all too often the danger of familiarity is invisibility. It's like the secret message, there in plain sight, ineffective unless decoded or made visible.

In the New Testament, the word "witness" is translated from the Greek "martyros" — the root of our word "martyr." Witnesses were not only those who saw the resurrected Christ with their own eyes, but, more important, they were the ones who made this same Christ visible to others in their speech and actions, sometimes at risk of death.

We, too, are witnesses to the risen Lord, often in cultures that are indifferent or hostile to his message. The miracle of Easter is that his death-conquering love, bursting anew from an empty tomb, invites and enables our hearts to burst into the flame that makes him clearly evident in our own lives.

In Paul's letter to the Colossians, he writes: "For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ your life appears, then you too will appear with him in glory."

The great paradox is that Christ's appearance depends upon us, his witnesses, making him visible to others. Then will his glory be manifested to all the world.

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 9-15

Sunday (Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion), Mark 11:1-10, Isaiah 50:4-7, Philippians 2:6-11, Mark 14:1-15:47; **Monday (Monday of Holy Week)**, Isaiah 42:1-7, John 12:1-11; **Tuesday (Tuesday of Holy Week)**, Isaiah 49:1-6, John 13:21-33, 36-38; **Wednesday (Wednesday of Holy Week)**, Isaiah 50:5-9, Matthew 26:14-25; **Thursday (Holy Thursday)**, Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, John 13:1-15; **Friday (Good Friday)**, Isaiah 52:13-53:12, Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9, John 18:1-19:42; **Saturday (Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil)**, Exodus 14:15-15:1, Romans 6:3-11, Mark 16:1-7.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 16-22

Sunday (Easter Sunday), Acts 10:34, 37-43, 1 Corinthians 5:6-8, John 20:1-9; **Monday (Easter Monday)**, Acts 2:14, 22-33, Matthew 28:8-15; **Tuesday (Easter Tuesday)**, Acts 2:36-41, John 20:11-18; **Wednesday (Easter Wednesday)**, Acts 3:1-10, Luke 24:13-35; **Thursday (Easter Thursday)**, Acts 3:11-26, Luke 24:35-48; **Friday (Easter Friday)**, Acts 4:1-12, John 21:1-14; **Saturday (Easter Saturday)**, Acts 4:13-21, Mark 16:9-15.



Making your will?

Request a free Wills Kit from Catholic Relief Services.

It will help you practice good stewardship and create a lasting legacy to help the poor overseas.

1-800-235-2772 ext.7318



Construction has begun and we're on our way!

It's a new year, full of resolution and hope for the future. It's also a new beginning at Pennybyrn at Maryfield, for you and your retirement future. Construction has started on what will be the area's most sought-after retirement address. Don't hesitate to inquire about this enriching lifestyle offering unparalleled services and amenities as well as the security of on-site health care. Soon, Pennybyrn will be a reality—a new beginning for you and your retirement future—act now!

Call (336) 886-4103 or toll-free (866) 627-9343 to learn more about the exciting developments at Pennybyrn at Maryfield.

PENNYBYRN
at MARYFIELD
A Continuing Care Retirement Community

Sponsored by the Sisters of The Poor Servants of The Mother of God

1315 Greensboro Road, High Point, NC 27260
www.maryfieldliving.org



NP/CNH-Groundbreaking

Positive themes, great acting 'Take the Lead' in dance flick

BY KEVINE E. MURRAY
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — Making positive choices and believing in oneself are among the themes that dance off the screen in "Take the Lead."

The film, debuting today, April 7, was inspired by events in the life of instructor Pierre Dulaine, who brought the positive effects of ballroom dance to urban high school students in New York.

In addition to committed performances from Antonio Banderas (as Dulaine) and a young cast of unknown actors, the film carries a strong message about how dance can impart trust, dignity and respect. There is also the appeal of kids succeeding after being consigned to failure.

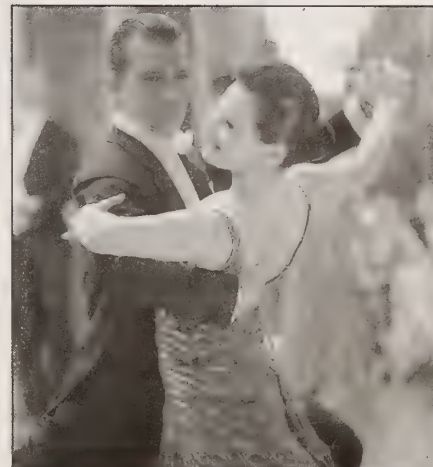
The story follows Dulaine as he gets permission from Augustine James (Alfre Woodard), the principal of a New York inner-city high school, to teach ballroom dancing to the troubled students.

The kids are much more interested in rap and hip-hop than Gershwin or Porter. But the film cleverly keeps an even balance between the two disparate sounds, starting with the opening credits that meld a Lena Horne standard with rap.

You just know the narrative will lead to a fusion of musical — and dancing — styles.

Slowly but surely, the students fall in step (literally), with some amusingly mismatched pairs working together in reasonable harmony. Some of the teachers object to Dulaine's methods, but his strong convictions prevail.

The film's climax is the citywide ballroom competition where the students compete against the dance studio snobs. Their lively steps — traditional ballroom dancing at times combined with improvised hip-hop moves — inspired authentic cheers and applause from viewers at the advance screening in Charlotte, as if they were attending the actual competition.



CNS PHOTO BY NEW LINE

Antonio Banderas and Anna Dimitrie Melamed dance in "Take the Lead."

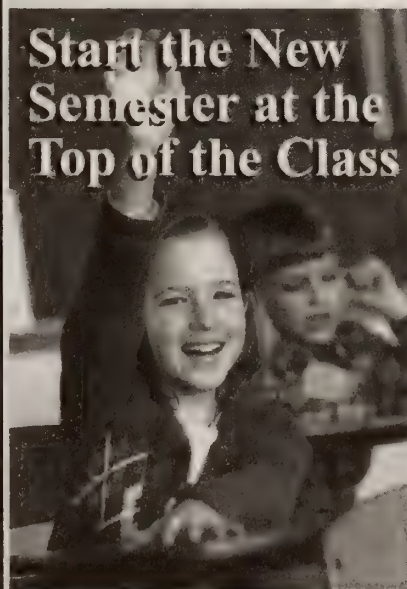
The language is sometimes salty as befits the tough inner-city milieu, and there's a smattering of violence, as one student struggles to overcome his environment. But, apart from this cautionary note, this is a feel-good film with genuine laughs, tears and a great message that young people should see.

The film contains some crude language and expressions, implied prostitution, an amorous advance to a minor, a vulgar gesture, violent car vandalism and gunplay, which preclude viewing by younger adolescents.

The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

Contributing to this story was Harry Forbes, director of the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Start the New Semester at the Top of the Class



Felicia Susi, Owner/Director
Parishioner, St. Matthew Catholic Church
& Parent, St. Matthew Catholic School student

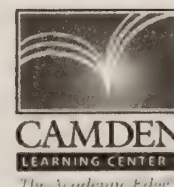
South Charlotte
(704) 752-4234

www.camdenlearningcenter.com

CAMDEN LEARNING CENTER™
is a personalized educational center offering specialized tutoring for all ages in:

Reading • Phonics
Written Language • Math
Study Skills
SAT/ACT Preparation

Let Camden help.



Classifieds

SERVICES

COUNSELING SERVICES: Individuals. Couples. Family. Lucille Moses. BSN, M.Ed. North Carolina Licensed Professional Counselor. 1801 East 5th Street, 108-B, Charlotte. 704-366-6507 or 704-942-4334.

FOR RENT

GREAT HOUSE: Only 2 years old! 3 bed-

rooms, 2 bathrooms. Wonderful condition and a nice neighborhood. Located in Charlotte only minutes from Belmont Abbey and 485. Call 828-327-4558

OUTER BANKS, NC: Private home, 4BRS, 3BA, decks. Sleeps 10. Walk to private beach. New gas BBQ, new appliances. NO smoking/pets. \$600-\$1075/week. Military, Senior Citizens, Law Enforcement, Fire & EMS discounts. 845-628-5057.

Classified ads bring results! Over 135,000 readers! Over 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

PRINCIPAL

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic School, Winston-Salem, NC, seeks candidates for principal, beginning July 1, 2006. Salary is negotiable based on qualifications and experience.

QUALIFICATIONS: Must be a practicing Catholic. Must have a Master's Degree in Educational Administration or a Master's Degree in Education with a focus on Curriculum or Instruction, PLUS 18 hours of administrative coursework. Must have or be eligible for NC Principal's Certification. A minimum of 10 years' teaching experience required. Middle school experience is necessary.

Our Lady of Mercy is a Pre-K - 8th grade school with approximately 290 students and a faculty and staff of 32. Please send resume, transcripts, and references to:

Friar William Robinson, OFM Conv.
1730 Link Road
Winston-Salem, NC 27103

Visit our web site - www.ourladyofmercyschool.org.



Principal - Holy Redeemer Catholic School

The Archdiocese of Atlanta seeks a principal for Holy Redeemer Catholic School. The principal is the administrator and educational leader of this elementary School, including students, faculty, and staff; and is accountable for implementation of the mission of Catholic education in the School. **MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES:** provide leadership and manage School staff; develop long- and short-range plans for the School; provide communication and support for teachers, students, chaplains, pastors, and boards; mentor and provide mediation and conflict resolution among staff, students, and external sources; represent the Archdiocese in matters related to the School; and assure compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws and codes. **REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE:** Active membership in a Catholic parish; degree in education or a related field; state endorsement in teaching and school administration or eligibility for endorsement; central educational office experience preferred; teaching, administrative and supervisory experience; participative management style; excellent interpersonal, written, and verbal communication skills; strong supervisory and managerial skills; some travel required.

TO APPLY: Send resume, transcripts, licenses and other credentials, references, and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811-5018
Email: mruprecht@cpinternet.com
Telephone: 218-727-5150



ATTENTION READERS! HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?

Do you have a story that you think would be of interest to our readers? Call (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

BOOKKEEPER

Large Catholic church seeks full-time bookkeeper. Proficiency in Excel required, experience in ACS software a plus. Must have associate's degree or better, and 3 years' experience. Send resume as well as references to: Susie Barnes, St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church, 2715 Horse Pen Creek Rd, Greensboro, NC 27410; fax (336) 294-6149; e-mail sbarnes@stpaulcc.org.

Principal Christ Our King-Stella Maris School Mt. Pleasant, SC

Christ Our King-Stella Maris School, a K-4 through 8th grade Catholic School with an enrollment of 675 students, is accepting applications for principal. Located in Mt. Pleasant, near Charleston, South Carolina, our school enjoys an excellent reputation as thoroughly Catholic and academically excellent.

The successful candidate must be a practicing Catholic who is able to continue the spirit of academic achievement and provide essential leadership in maintaining a vigorous Christian environment. Candidate must hold a Master's Degree in Administration and have at least five years of teaching experience.

Salary will be commensurate with degree and experience. Position is available for the 2006-2007 school year. A curriculum vitae and references may be submitted to: Christ Our King-Stella Maris Search Committee, Christ Our King Catholic Church, 1149 Russell Drive, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464, or by email to coksmprincipalsearch@christourking.org. These items must be received by Friday, May 5, 2006.

Superintendent - Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta seeks a superintendent of schools. In cooperation with Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory, the superintendent is the chief administrator and educational leader of 18 Catholic schools, being responsible for their overall spiritual and academic quality, in keeping with the Archbishop's vision and the Church's mission. **MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES:** managing the Office of Catholic Schools and its staff; developing long- and short-range plans for schools; providing direction and support for local school leadership, pastors, religious congregations, principals, and boards; recruiting, hiring, supervising, and supporting principals; representing the Archdiocese in matters of education; creating, monitoring, updating, and enforcing archdiocesan policies; and ensuring compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws and codes. **REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE:** Active membership in a Catholic parish; doctorate degree in education or a related field; state endorsement in teaching and school administration or eligibility for endorsement; five to ten years' recent experience in Catholic schools or at the diocesan level; participative management style; excellent interpersonal, written, and verbal communication skills; excellent managerial skills with attention to detail. Some travel required.

TO APPLY: Send resume, transcripts, licenses and other credentials, references, and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht
140 West Myrtle Street
Duluth, MN 55811-5018
Email: mruprecht@cpinternet.com
Telephone: 218-727-5150



FROM THE COVER

Bill analyzed by U.S. bishops

BILL, from page 1

ones they oppose.

The letter lauded provisions of the

bill approved by the Judiciary Committee that would allow the 12 million undocumented immigrants the chance to legalize their status, establish a temporary worker program and reorganize legal immigration procedures

to reduce the backlog of applications for family reunification visas.

Bishop Barnes praised the committee bill for including legislation known as the Agricultural Jobs, Opportunity, Benefits and Security Act, or AgJOBS, and the Development, Relief and Education of Alien Minors Act, known as the DREAM Act.

AgJOBS would allow several hundred thousand agricultural workers already in the United States to legalize their status and seek permanent residency visas.

The DREAM Act would create a way for students who were brought illegally to the United States by their parents to legalize their own status while getting a college education at in-state resident rates.

The letter also expressed appreciation for amendments to the committee bill that would exempt from criminal prosecution church and other humanitarian workers who provide social, medical and other types of service to undocumented immigrants.

It currently is a violation of civil law to be in the country without permission.

Among provisions that concern the bishops are those that would expand the definition of an aggravated felony, which would make "many deserving aliens ineligible for immigration relief."

Also troubling are provisions that would increase the use of "indiscriminate, mandatory and indefinite detention" and expand the use of expedited removal, he said.

Those changes "might return refugees, asylum seekers, unaccompanied children, trafficking victims, battered spouses and other vulnerable populations to situations where they may face harm," he said.

Bishop Barnes objected to provisions limiting judicial review "at a time when the judiciary has leveled unprecedented charges that the immigration court system is making unjust decisions," and that would empower state and local law enforcement agencies to enforce federal civil immigration laws.

PRINCIPAL

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Principal of St. Thomas More School, a practicing Catholic, is the administrator and educational leader of St. Thomas More of the Archdiocese of Atlanta with approximately 500 students and approximately 40 faculty and staff. Appointed by the Archbishop and reporting to the Chancellor, the Principal is accountable to the Archbishop through the Chancellor, for implementation of the mission of Catholic education in St. Thomas More School. The Principal is also responsible for providing leadership and managing the School staff; mentoring and providing mediation and conflict resolution among staff, students, and external sources; developing long and short range plans for the grade School; providing communication and support for teachers, students, chaplains, pastors, and boards; representing the Archdiocese in matters related to St. Thomas More School; and assuring compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws and codes. Some travel required. Send resume, credentials, references and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht,
140 West Myrtle Street,
Duluth, MN 55811-5018
Telephone 218-727-5150
E-mail mruprecht@cpinternet.com



DIOCESAN REGIONAL COORDINATORS (OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION)

Charlotte Diocese seeks two persons with master's degrees in Religious Ed/allied field, and five years of demonstrable successful experience in parish/diocesan work. Well-rounded in catechist formation skills. Collaborative. Sensitive to cultural minorities. Good written/oral communication skills. Spanish a plus. Office locations: one in Maggie Valley, NC and the other in Greensboro, NC.

For copy of Job Description, e-mail paonaindia@charlottediocese.org.

Please send resume, salary requirements and three letters of recommendation to:
Dr Cris V. Villapando, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203-4003 or
cvsillapando@charlottediocese.org.

Application deadline is April 30, 2006.



The Catholic Shoppe

AT BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

Rosaries, Statues, Artwork, Crosses, Medals, Jewelry,
Prayer Cards and so much more!

Online store available: www.BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

Call for store hours: 704-461-5100

Join us Saturday, April 22nd
from 2pm to 6pm
for our Abbey Experience
open house event!



THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED

RSVP by calling 1.888.222.0110, emailing admissions@bac.edu or logging onto

BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu



Conveniently located on campus
I-85 exit 26

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Each year at this time, we receive inquiries at the diocesan Pastoral Center regarding the Holy Thursday evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, specifically about whether or not the particular directive in the Sacramentary regarding the washing of men's feet has changed.

There has not been any directive from Rome regarding a change for the Holy Thursday Mass in that regard.

A change in practice from that which is given in the Sacramentary for the Holy Thursday liturgy requires the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops to request a "recognitio" from the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of Sacraments, as outlined in canon 838§3 and "Redemptionis Sacramentum" nn. 27, 28.

The washing of feet ceremony at the Holy Thursday Mass is an option that the celebrant is allowed to exercise if it is deemed advisable or recommended for pastoral reasons ("ubi ratio pastoralis id suadeat").

I will remember all of you in my prayers as we approach the Easter Triduum.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *Peter J. Jugis*

Most Rev. Peter J. Jugis, J.C.D.
Bishop of Charlotte

Christian community needs commitment to truth, Gospel, says pope

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — The love and unity that are essential marks of a truly Christian community cannot endure without a strong commitment to truth and fidelity to the Gospel, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Those who believe in Christ and want to live in communion with his church have "a precise obligation" to "interrupt communion with those who have moved themselves away from the doctrine that saves," the pope said April 5 at his weekly general audience.

Differences and divisions have marked the history of the church since its beginning, he said, "and we should not be surprised that it exists today as well."

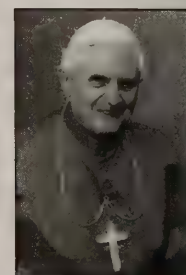
Preserving the unity of the church requires a firm commitment to loving others and to holding fast to the truth, the pope said during an audience talk marked by repeated departures from his prepared text.

"Truth and love are two sides of the same gift that comes from God and is preserved in the church thanks to the apostolic ministry," he said.

With some 30,000 people gathered in a windblown St. Peter's Square, Pope Benedict explained that, while the church was born of the Holy Spirit and lives by the Spirit's grace, Jesus also gave the church a structure with the apostles and their successors, the bishops, to be "authentic custodians and witnesses of

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



the deposit of truth."

The First Letter of John, he said, contains the Bible's strongest admonition about the obligation of believers to love one another, but it also "addresses with drastic severity those adversaries who were once members of the community, but are no longer."

"The family of the children of God, in order to live in unity and peace, need someone who safeguards them in truth and guides them with wise and authoritative discernment," the pope said.

The bishops are called to protect and promote the truth while also serving as "ministers of love — they always must be aware of the inseparability of this double service of truth and love," he said.

Pope Benedict ended his main talk in Italian by asking his audience to pray for their bishops and for him, asking God to ensure that through their ministry "the light of truth and love will never be extinguished in the church and the world."

The names for God

Q. When and why was the word "Yahweh," the name for God, practically eliminated from the Bible? What is the meaning of the terms "God" and "Lord" and "Jesus Christ," which seem to substitute for it? Are they more ancient than "Yahweh"? (Indiana)

A. First of all, the name of God expressed by our word "Yahweh" was never eliminated from the Bible. It is, in fact, the name by which God is called more than any other in the Hebrew Bible, our Old Testament.

The problem arises from the fact that this divine name was so revered by the Hebrew people that it was normally never pronounced or written, especially after the destruction of the Jerusalem temple in A.D. 70.

In fact, even to this day there is no certainty about how the name should be pronounced.

An author would write only the four consonants of the name, YHWH. When

the name was spoken, the reader used instead the name "Adonai," Lord.

In writing, the combination of YHWH and the vowels of Adonai (a-o-a) resulted in the composite Jehovah, which appeared centuries later in English Bibles. In modern times, scholars have concluded that the most apt pronunciation of the name is Yahweh.

In addition to "Adonai," the Scriptures give other names to God, like "El" and "Elohim." The name YHWH, however, predominates over all others put together, appearing more than 6,700 times.

When Jewish scholars eventually translated their Bible into Greek, YHWH became "o theos," the God, or "o kyrios," the Lord; then later in English usually God or Lord.

The background of the word "Yahweh" is not clear. Scholars offer numerous interpretations, but one now accepted as perhaps most likely was suggested first by the renowned Scripture scholar W.F. Albright.

"Yahweh," he believed, was the first word of the full Hebrew title "yahweh aser yihweh" — "He brings into being all that comes into being."

Whatever its original meaning, however, there is no doubt that this sa-

cred name declared the unique relationship Israel had with its God, the God who was always with them.

While they never developed a complex theology about God's name or his nature, he was the divine Being infinitely beyond all other gods who brought all things into existence, who revealed himself through an irrevocable covenant with them as a people, who brought them through the exodus, who is always their protector and savior.

For Christians, this is the God Jesus knew and proclaimed as his — and our — Father. He is the divine Son, the Christ, the anointed one who became human and, in his person and life, reveals totally the nature and life of his Father Yahweh.

As he tells the disciples at the Last Supper, "Whoever has seen me has seen the Father" (Jn 14:9).

Communion at two Masses daily

Q. May a person who attends two Masses in a day receive Communion at both Masses? I thought we could, but one catechism I searched said we could

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN
DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



receive a second time only at baptisms, weddings, funerals, confirmations or similar occasions. What is right? (Iowa)

A. Church law states that anyone who has received the Eucharist may receive it again on the same day, but only within a Mass in which the person participates (Canon 917).

Later, in 1984, the Vatican Commission for the Interpretation of Canon Law explained that, even at Mass, Communion should not be received more than twice a day. No special occasion is required for the second Communion, but it must be within a Mass.

The rule is meant to encourage reception of Communion whenever we attend Mass, but also to prevent abuses in receiving multiple Communion out of superstition or mistaken devotion.

Learning from John Paul the Great

Late pope marked papacy with courageous action

It's hard to believe that one year already has gone by since Pope John Paul II passed on. In many ways it's as if he never left us.

How could we possibly forget this great soul? His multifaceted, far-reaching papacy so deeply influenced both church and world. Generations yet to be born will benefit from the faith-filled life of Karol Wojtyla.

The church's first Polish pope hit the ground running. Just months after his election he was standing in the shadow of the U.S. Capitol, proclaiming:

"We will stand up every time that human life is threatened. When the sacredness of life before birth is attacked, we will stand up and proclaim that no one ever has the authority to destroy unborn life!"

After hearing those words, I knew that the man then standing in the shoes of the fisherman was a dynamic leader. A truly a prayerful man, John Paul marked his papacy with action — bold, challenging, courageous action!

Everywhere he went and in everything he did, he proclaimed the Gospel's liberating power. John Paul proclaimed that Christ came to free us from sin and every form of oppression, and that it was the church's task to continue his liberating work.

He was a powerful foe of abortion,

infanticide, euthanasia, embryonic stem-cell research and cloning. With equal zeal he denounced the inhumanity of war and military preparations.

Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said, "The pope's basic position rests on this premise: War in the 21st century is not the way to resolve problems." The conditions justifying war are in the modern age "so rare that they are almost nonexistent!"

The late pope wrote in his Jan. 1, 2000, World Day of Peace message that "war is a defeat for humanity. Only in peace and through peace can respect for human dignity and its inalienable rights be guaranteed."

He called for an end to the death penalty. He urged us to be faithful stewards of the Earth.

And he condemned the greed of market-driven capitalism, which overwhelmingly favors the rich while often crushing the poor.

He asked, "How can we fail to consider the violence against life done to millions of human beings, especially children, who are forced into poverty, malnutrition and hunger because of an unjust distribution of resources between peoples and between social classes?" ("The Gospel of Life," 10).

Pope John Paul II was unconditionally pro-life!

Making a Difference

TONY
MAGLIANO
CNS COLUMNIST



For our own growth in holiness, as well as for the good of our church and world, we should commit ourselves to reading, reflecting, dialoguing and praying over the writings and example of John Paul the Great.

Like St. Thomas More, he was "a man for all seasons." His life has much to teach us.

Bishops and priests can better learn from him to lead passionately and relentlessly in the defense of life and human dignity.

Educators can learn to be completely consistent in teaching respect for people in every stage of existence.

Legislators can learn to promote legislation courageously that protects all life and promotes the full development of the world's peoples.

Each of us can learn to do more to build the kingdom of God — a kingdom of justice, peace and love.

How those who are gone live on in us

The Human Side

FATHER
EUGENE HEMRICK
CNS COLUMNIST



"The real question before our death, then, is not, 'How much can I still accomplish?' or 'How much influence can I still exert?' but, 'How can I live so that I can continue to be fruitful when I am no longer here among my family and friends?'"

In this quote, the noted spiritual writer Father Henri Nouwen gave us much food for thought about the true meaning of our existence. How do we live on in others after we are gone?

No doubt books, movies and outside events have played a role in making our life fruitful. But when it comes to the most lasting influences, isn't it true that there were particular persons who continue to touch us deeply even though they are dead?

In my case, my mom, dad and grandparents still live on in me. During World War II, all Americans were encouraged to conserve. I remember my parents and grandparents driving this home to me when I was a young child.

They taught me the value of a victory garden where we grew our own vegetables. We saved everything that could be saved, and we turned out the lights whenever they weren't needed.

Every Sunday we walked to Mass, and when novenas were conducted at the basilica, we took the streetcar to attend them. During Holy Week we visited all the churches in the old Italian neighborhood.

Though my parents and grandparents are dead, they continue to enrich my life. I grow my own vegetables, save whatever can be saved and turn out the lights.

I love devotions, walking to church and taking public transportation.

Outside my family, others also continue to enrich my life, even though they are gone. Thanks to a history professor who visited Europe each summer and returned with spellbinding stories of his travels, I have traveled to Europe, often immersing myself in its history.

Thanks to a teacher who taught us the history of music, I have a collection of classical music I love.

During the early days of my priesthood, I lived with priests who taught me that we priests are human beings and not glorified idols on a pedestal. They were always on the same level with the parishioners, and they had a great sense of humor.

They are dead now, but their down-to-earth spirit lives on in me.

And even though he is dead, Father Nouwen continues to enrich us by reminding us that those who added splendor to our lives while living continue to do so; they lived a fruitful life. He reminded us that as long as we breathe, the meaning of our life deepens when we make it as fruitful as possible for others.

Our good, enriching, supportive and wholesome example immortalizes us.

Marriage after the first years

When romance fades, deeper intimacy needed

I've watched Cinderella 10 times this week.

My 2-year-old is obsessed with the fairy tale. It might be the fantastic dress or the glass slippers, but it's probably prince charming and the idea of "happily ever after."

At 2, she may not be ready for a frank talk about marriage (how commitment and devotion have more to do making love last than a magical spell), but I think it's crucial for her to learn the truth at some point because too many young adults go into marriage believing in the "happily ever after" myth.

As I approach my 10-year wedding anniversary, I don't mean to sound like the grim reaper, suggesting that marriage is all work and no fun.

But let's face it: Sitting down at the breakfast table with my husband day after day for years on end loses a bit of its initial excitement; children and a combined "to-do" list hold hostage some of the spontaneity and romance of those first few years.

Most of us have to work at keeping the flame burning.

Biologically speaking, there is a reason for this. When the first sparks of romance fly, the brain is flooded with a

neurotransmitter called dopamine. Dopamine creates the intense feelings, the exhilaration, that have you wanting to spend every waking moment with your loved one.

But like a drug, the brain adapts to the neurotransmitter, and the neurons need more and more of it to produce the high.

In long-term relationships, successful couples have learned how to stimulate and sustain production of oxytocin, a hormone that promotes feelings of connection and bonding.

According to anthropologist Helen Fisher, married couples can do things to help production of oxytocin like massage and making love.

Knowing marriage has stages can be helpful to the young couple getting ready to say "I do."

"Love changes," says Les Parrott III, co-author of "Saving Your Marriage Before It Starts."

"There is an ebb and flow to it. When romance is present, life is wonderful. But we cannot demand this of love or of our partner," he said.

Parrott blames the tragedy of so many failed marriages on the "happy ever after" myth we are sold in childhood.

Our Turn

THERESE J.
BORCHARD
CNS COLUMNIST



When the romance fades, it's critical for couples to hang in there and to communicate as best they can until they find a new place of cooperation and comfort, and a real happiness that is different — and better — than what the myth promised.

If they can make it through the disillusionment period, they eventually will encounter a deeper intimacy with their partner in which they accept weaknesses and strengths together, and make good on their wedding vows.

Moreover, knowing that the good stuff comes with sticking it out can help when you wake up one morning and find your mate is no prince charming.

Mountain mission provides spiritual home for Alexander County Catholics

ACTIVE YOUTH GROUPS, OUTREACH PROGRAMS A PART OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

TAYLORSVILLE — Holy Trinity Church lies nestled in the heart of the Brushy Mountains just southeast of Hickory. In 1984, the church was established as a mission of St. Aloysius Church in Hickory.

With the combined efforts of St. Aloysius Church pastor Msgr. Eugene Livelsberger and Catholic families in Taylorsville, a farmhouse on a 6.7-acre lot was purchased and two rooms were renovated to make a chapel for the growing community.

The first Mass in Taylorsville was celebrated Easter Sunday 1984. Msgr. Livelsberger, who retired shortly after that first Mass, said he wanted the mission to be one of the crowning points of his final year in the priesthood.

The first few weeks, about 22 families attended Masses and four children were enrolled in Sunday school. That fall, religious education classes were begun, consisting of two teachers and eight children together in one classroom.

The mission family was growing rapidly and a necessary expansion of the chapel area was completed in 1988. Less than a year later, Father Joseph Waters, minister to migrants for western North Carolina, began using Holy Trinity Church as living quarters and became the mission's administrator.

In 1990, the mission had outgrown the farmhouse chapel and a capital campaign was begun to provide funds for a new facility. Catholic families



PHOTO BY GEORGE COBB

Holy Trinity Church in Taylorsville serves about 500 Catholics living in the heart of the Brushy Mountains in Alexander County.

worked long hours on the project, building everything from the framework to the stained glass window behind the altar.

The building, which seats 180 people and is located behind the original parish farmhouse, was dedicated March 22, 1992.

In 2000, Holy Trinity Church was

reassigned as a mission of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Lenoir.

In 2003, administration of Holy Trinity Church was once again transferred, this time to St. Philip the Apostle Church in Statesville.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

A mission of St. Philip the Apostle Church, Statesville

1039 NC Highway 90 West
Taylorsville, N.C. 28681
(828) 632-8009

Vicariate: Hickory
Administrator: Father James Byer
Number of Households: 62

In recent years, Holy Trinity Church has continued to grow. While the first few months of Masses in 1984 had an average attendance of 35, today nearly 300 Catholics worship at two Masses each Sunday. Usually 80 to 100 people attend the English-language Mass, and more than 200 Hispanics fill the church to standing room only at the Spanish-language Mass.

The religious education program now has 60 students registered, most of whom are Hispanic.

The church currently has an active parish council, youth group, Hispanic ministry and youth group, food closet and soup kitchen, and an outreach ministry program.

Members of Holy Trinity Church also minister to the inmates at Alexander Correctional Institute in Taylorsville.

As one of the younger Catholic communities in the Diocese of Charlotte, Holy Trinity Church continues to succeed because of the pioneering spirit of its members and the insightful leadership of its clergy.

Contributing to this story was Staff Writer Karen A. Evans.

WALK WHERE JESUS WALKED ON A DIOCESAN-SPONSORED PILGRIMAGE TO



THE HOLY LAND

September 5 – 14

with Fr. James Hawker, Diocesan Vicar of Education and Pastor, St. Luke Church

Deepen your understanding of our Catholic faith and watch the pages of the Bible come alive as you experience daily Mass at many of the historical sites of our faith.

Highlights include:

- Tiberias, Mt. Carmel, Sea of Galilee area
- Mt. Tabor, Cana, Nazareth – Jesus' boyhood area
- Capernaum, Mount of Beatitudes, River Jordan
- Jerusalem area: Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Via Dolorosa, Lord's Tomb at Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Mount Zion, Upper Room, Dormition Abbey, Wailing Wall
- Dead Sea (excavations and scrolls), Masada, Holocaust memorial
- Bethlehem's historic sites - PLUS much more!

Price: \$2,499 from Charlotte (\$2,599 after June 22) includes airfare, most meals, first-class hotels and all tours. Airport taxes/fees, tips and insurance are extra.

Call Cindi Feerick at 704/370-3332 for a brochure with complete details or Pentecost Tours 800/713-9800 for registration.

Only 4 spaces left! Join Fr. Mo West for a pilgrimage cruise — "The Footsteps of Paul" Greece and Turkey — May 11-21, 2006 Space is limited—register now!



Join Fr. Mo West for a very special pilgrimage to explore the wonders of Greece and Turkey as you deepen your understanding of Church history.

Starting from \$2,949 for inside cabin — includes air fare from Charlotte, ship/hotels, all tours, most meals (taxes, port charges, tips, insurance are extra)

Highlights include full tours of St. Paul's sites in ATHENS and CORINTH, plus the 7-day cruise to:

- Istanbul** — Hippodrome, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace
- Mykonos** — beautiful picturesque island, quaint chapels
- Patmos** — where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation
- Kusadasi & Ephesus** — House of the Virgin Mary, St. Paul's preaching sites
- Rhodes** — medieval village of Lindos, ancient ruins of Rhodes, Mt. Smith
- Crete** — Knossos excavations of Minoans, Museum of Heraklion
- Santorini** — breathtakingly beautiful, active caldera perhaps site of Atlantis?

For information, call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald: (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours: (800) 713-9800.



Gathered in faith and service

Bishop, priests
rededicate ministry
during chrism Mass

**HOLY OILS BLESSED FOR USE
THROUGHOUT DIOCESE OF
CHARLOTTE**

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Our priests are the fulfillment of the ancient prophecies of Isaiah, said Bishop Peter J. Jugis.

"My brother priests, Isaiah prophesied ... you yourselves shall be called priests of the Lord, ministers of our God," said Bishop Jugis.

The bishop offered these words during the chrism Mass, one of the Catholic Church's most solemn Masses, at St. Patrick Cathedral April 11.



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

A unified voice

**THOUSANDS RALLY IN
WINSTON-SALEM FOR
IMMIGRATION RIGHTS**

BY DEACON GERALD
POTKAY
CORRESPONDENT

WINSTON-SALEM — In cities across the country, hundreds of thousands of people carrying American flags joined rallies, marches and prayer services April 9-10 to call attention to the contributions of immigrants and to ask for changes in immigration law and policies.

At Corpening Plaza in downtown Winston-Salem, more than 3,000 people gathered at a peaceful rally themed "Justice for Immigrants: A Journey of Hope"

See RALLY, page 7

See CHRISM, page 9

TORN TO PIECES

**Families survive
deadly tornadoes,
shocked by scenes
of destruction**

BY ANDY TELLI
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

GALLATIN, Tenn. — Last year, Jennifer Trahan helped a family relocate to Gallatin after they lost their New Orleans home in Hurricane Katrina.

Now Trahan and her family have found themselves with nothing after their house was destroyed by a tornado, one of several that killed 12 people in Tennessee April 7.

See TORNADO, page 17

Bishop Peter J. Jugis and other diocesan priests distribute Communion to permanent deacons and worshippers during the chrism Mass at St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte April 11.

Christmas in Africa

Priests, volunteers bring hope, gifts to orphans

BY JOANITA M.
NELLENBACH
CORRESPONDENT

MAGGIE VALLEY — At first, nurse Tierney Echelmeier was afraid. She'd never seen anyone as thin as Sipho.

Approaching Sipho, "skeletal in every sense of the word," Echelmeier wrote:

"I felt grace come over me to give me the strength to go to his bedside first. We communicated as best we could with the

language barrier and I was able to make him smile after we spent 20 minutes brushing his teeth, something that had not been done for him in several days. And he smiled."

Augustinian Fathers Francis Doyle and Jim Wenzel, both from the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova in Philadelphia, spent Christmas week with Echelmeier, 26, and five other Augustinian

See AFRICA, page 5



PHOTOS COURTESY OF FATHER FRANCIS DOYLE

A Villanova University student on semester break plays with a youngster in St. Theresa's Orphanage in Kwa-Zulu-Natal, South Africa.

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

RING OF FAITH



CNS PHOTO COURTESY OF MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY

Pictured on the hand of Debbie Squicciarri is the \$15,000 engagement ring recovered by Ron Bledsoe, a plumber at Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Md. Squicciarri's ring slipped off her finger and vanished into the toilet and believes Bledsoe's efforts, and St. Anthony's intercession helped find it.

Plumber rescues \$15,000 ring with help from St. Anthony

EMMITSBURG, Md. (CNS) — As a plumber at Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg for 24 years, Ron Bledsoe has recovered all kinds of items accidentally dropped down sinks and washed away in the sewer system.

Calls for help usually involve saving lost contact lenses or the occasional cell phone.

But on Feb. 20, Bledsoe faced his most challenging rescue mission ever: finding a \$15,000 engagement ring that disappeared down a toilet at Cogan Student Union Building.

Debbie Squicciarri, a high school teacher from Ramsey, N.J., was visiting Mount St. Mary's when she went to the ladies room. After blowing her nose and tossing the tissue into the toilet, the diamond engagement ring slipped off her finger and vanished when the automatic-flushing system kicked in before she could grab it.

"I immediately freaked out," said Squicciarri, who had received the ring only six weeks earlier on Christmas night.

Bledsoe turned off the water and removed the toilet from the wall in a failed attempt to find the ring. A few weeks later, he took all the pipes apart, but still couldn't track it down.

Acting on a hunch that the ring may have traveled through the underground plumbing system to a bend under the

fourth manhole cover from the Cogan building, Bledsoe began checking the spot twice a week.

On March 20, the determined plumber saw the glistening ring resting under an inch of murky water.

The ring was returned to its elated owner March 27.

"Not only did he continue looking for it, when he found it he was honest enough to return it," said Squicciarri, who gave Bledsoe a cash reward for his efforts. "He's a very kind, honest and humble man."

Bledsoe said he was driven by the sad expression on Squicciarri's face when she lost the ring.

"Just the way she looked that day made me want to find it," he said. "She was devastated."

While the plumber did the grunt work, Squicciarri is convinced he received heavenly assistance. After losing the ring, Mary Battaglini, Squicciarri's aunt, started a prayer chain consisting of six people praying to St. Anthony, the patron saint of lost items.

Did the intercessor make a difference? "Absolutely," said Squicciarri.

As soon as she returned home from Mount St. Mary's, Squicciarri went to the jeweler to have round balls soldered into the band so that it won't fall off again.

At Catholic prayer breakfast, bishop urges battling moral relativism

WASHINGTON (CNS) — From commonly used language to societal priorities, the "moral relativism" decried by Pope Benedict XVI often seems to be the only way to cope with modern times, said Bishop Robert C. Morlino of Madison, Wis., urging participants at the National Catholic Prayer Breakfast April 7 to work against that tide.

In a program that also included remarks by President George W. Bush and the Vatican's representative in Washington, Bishop Morlino's keynote address warned about the "dictatorship of relativism" and described the enforcement mechanisms employed in maintaining that dictatorship.

He said the mass media and "those who pander to polls" keep society focused on relativism. They employ inconsistency between civil laws and practices and the use of language that hides the true meaning of certain activities to keep people from applying the moral standards of natural law

to everyday life, he said.

Bishop Morlino gave the example of protests by some people against "warrantless surveillance" by government agencies in pursuing terrorists, while other U.S. groups encourage warrantless surveillance of people's garbage bins, to ensure they are following local laws about recycling.

One type of surveillance is considered "politically incorrect," he said, while the other is "politically correct" and accepted by the same people who decry the other type of surveillance.

"Redefinitions, euphemisms and anomalies" are among the language games he said people use to make what under natural law would be morally unacceptable to everyone become an accepted part of the normal life, Bishop Morlino said.

"Language games are very dangerous," Bishop Morlino said.

Diocesan planner

ASHEVILLE VICARIATE

ASHEVILLE — The *St. Martin de Porres Dominican Laity Chapter* meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the rectory building at the Basilica of St. Lawrence, 97 Haywood St. Inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Beverly Reid at (423) 638-4744 or bebereid@adelphia.net.

HENDERSONVILLE — The *St. Francis of the Hills Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order* meets the fourth Sunday of each month, 2:30-4:30 p.m., at Immaculate Conception Church, 208 7th Ave. West. Visitors and inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Joanita Nellenbach, SFO, (828) 627-9209 or jnell@dn.net.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — Dr. Warren Carroll will speak on "The Growing and Indestructible Church" at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Park Rd., April 18 at 7:30 p.m. For more information and to RSVP, call Estelle Wisneski at (704) 364-9568 or e-mail jfwisneski@cs.com.

MINT HILL — Deacon Jeff and Barbara Evers will lead a workshop, "Exploring the Image of God," April 29 at St. Luke Catholic, 13700 Lawyers Rd. Video and discussion will begin at 3 p.m. in the St. Luke Family Life Center. Mass will be celebrated at 5 p.m., followed by a "Bring a Dish" dinner and discussion. To register, call Bob McHugh at 753-2012 or Mary Adams at (704) 545-1224.

CHARLOTTE — *Theology on Tap*, a dynamic speaker series designed to provide young adults in their 20s and 30s with the opportunity to

discover more about their faith in a relaxed open environment, will meet Tuesdays, April 18-May 9, at 6:30 p.m. at Pepperoni's Pizza in Park Road Shopping Center. These interactive events will explore the issues and challenges that Catholic young adults face in the 21st century. Contact Catrina at (704) 665-7374 or c_l_conway@hotmail.com for more information.

CHARLOTTE — The *Semi-Annual Rosary Rally* will be held May 7, at 3 p.m. at St. Patrick Cathedral, 1621 Dilworth Rd. East. This 31-year diocesan tradition will include recitation of the rosary, a eucharistic procession and Benediction. For more information, call Tina at (704) 846-7361.

HUNTERSVILLE — A *Mass to Honor Deceased Loved Ones* is celebrated the last Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. St. Mark Church, 14740 Stumptown Rd. For more information, call Pam Schneider at (704) 875-0201.

CHARLOTTE — A *Support Group for Caregivers of a Family Member with Memory Loss* meet the last Monday of each month, 10-11:30 a.m., at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, contact Suzanne Bach at (704) 376-4135.

CHARLOTTE — The *Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians*, St. Brigid Division 1, an Irish-Catholic group of women dedicated to their faith, country and Irish heritage, meet the third Wednesday of each month. Anyone interested in membership, call Jeanmarie Schuler at (704) 554-0720.

GASTONIA VICARIATE

BELMONT — *First Saturday Devotions* take place on the first Saturday of each month at Belmont Abbey Basilica, 100 Belmont-Mt. Holly Rd. Devotion begins at 9:30 a.m. with the recitation of the rosary, followed by

—THE— CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

APRIL 14, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 27

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Scientific progress must not come at cost of human dignity, says pope

Pope: Universities can play key role in sustaining values

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Scientific and technological progress must never come at the cost of the life and dignity of people, Pope Benedict XVI told participants of a Vatican conference on higher education.

He said universities and other institutions of higher learning can play a key role in sustaining the ideals and values that uphold and protect humanity while still pursuing scientific advancements.

The pope made his remarks in an April 1 meeting with educators and government ministers who took part in a seminar sponsored by the Vatican's Congregation for Catholic Education.

The international gathering focused on the cultural heritage and academic values of European universities.

Universities have always stood out

for their "love of knowledge and search for the truth," the pope said in his address.

But educators and university heads must clarify the purpose of institutions of higher learning: Are they at the service of individuals caught up in their own special interests or at the service of those who are "open to solidarity with others in the search for the true meaning of existence?" the pope asked.

He said universities must never just pass on knowledge to students, but also must be concerned with educating new generations by "appealing to the heritage of ideals and values" upon which Europe was built.

The humanistic tradition was founded on Christian values, he said, making European universities "authentic laboratories for research" and deepening knowledge.

Pope urges students at Opus Dei conference to share their faith

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Meeting with some 5,000 university students attending an Opus Dei-sponsored conference, Pope Benedict XVI encouraged them to deepen their friendship with Christ so they can share their faith with their friends.

The UNIV 2006 Conference brought students from some 200 universities in 32 countries to Rome for a week of study and exchanges on faith and modern life, focusing especially on the mass media.

Meeting the students April 10, the pope said it was obvious that the mass media do not always promote "personal relations, sincere dialogue and friendship among people," and they do not always help people cultivate their relationships with God.

The only way to combat the negative influence of the media, he said, is to "keep Jesus as one of your dearest friends, rather your best friend. Then

you will see how friendship with him will lead to you opening yourselves to others."

Pope Benedict reminded the students that St. Josemaria Escriva de Balaguer, the founder of Opus Dei, used to preach about the "apostolate of friendship," which involved being a true friend to others and sharing faith with them.

"Every Christian is called to be a friend of God and, with his grace, to attract one's friends to him," the pope said.

The pope told the students that through prayer and the sacraments, especially the Eucharist and penance, they would grow in friendship with Jesus and become a "new generation of apostles."

Anthony Njubi Gichiki from the Opus Dei-related Strathmore University in Nairobi, Kenya, spoke on behalf of the students, first of all in conveying their best wishes to the pope for his 79th birthday April 16.

reconciliation and Mass. For more information, call Phil or Terri at (704) 888-6050.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — *Theology on Tap*, a speaker series for Catholics in their 20s, 30s and 40s, will meet at Coopers Ale House, 5340 West Market St., April 19 and 26, May 3 and 10 at 7 p.m. Theology on Tap is a casual forum where people gather to learn and discuss the teachings of the Catholic Church. A service project will take place May 13 at Mary's House in Greensboro. For more information, visit www.triadcatholics.org or call Deb at (336) 286-3687.

GUILFORD COUNTY — The *Ancient Order of Hibernians* Guilford County Division, the oldest and largest order of Irish Catholic men, is looking for more Irish Catholic men to join them for meetings, educational seminars and social events. Contact Michael Slane at (336) 665-9264 for time and location.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

MAGGIE VALLEY — A *Rachel's Vineyard Retreat for Post-Abortion Healing* is a confidential opportunity for anyone struggling with the emotional or spiritual pain of abortion. The retreat is designed to help you experience the mercy and compassion of God. It is also an opportunity to surface and release repressed feelings of anger, shame, guilt and grief. This will help you to grieve the loss of your unborn child, to receive and accept God's forgiveness, and to forgive yourself. The next retreat is April 21-23 at the Living Waters Catholic Reflection Center, 103 Living Waters Lane. For further information, call Shelley at (828) 670-8192 or (828) 230-4940, e-mail sglan1234@aol.com or visit the web site at www.rachelsvineyard.org.

SYLVA — A four-part series, "Prayer of the Church," will be presented at St. Mary Church, 22 Bartlett St. The sessions will meet 10-11 a.m., April 22, May 27, June 24 and July 22. Please call the

church office at (828) 586-9496 to pre-register.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

WINSTON-SALEM — Spirit of Assisi, a Franciscan Center, 221 W. Third St., will host read and reflect "brown-bag" gatherings April 26 and May 3, 10, 17, 12-12:45 p.m. We will discuss "An Introduction: Thomas Merton" by William Shannon. Be inspired by Merton's deep spirit of prayer, passion for peace, openness to all whom he encounters, and keen wit. Bring your own lunch. Coffee and tea will be provided. For more information, call (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

WINSTON-SALEM — Spirit of Assisi, a Franciscan Center, 221 W. Third St., will host a book discussion on "Humility of God: A Franciscan Perspective" by Ilia Delio, O.S.F. This book deals with the theology of divine humility and God's relationship to the world, while at the same time tackling some tough questions. The group will meet April 24; and May 1, 8 and 15, 6-7:30 p.m. For more information, call (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

WINSTON-SALEM — St. Benedict the Moor Church, 1625 East 12th St., hosts a 12:15 p.m. prayer service, *Veni Sanctus Spiritus*, the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. All are welcome to reflect on God and refresh the spirit in the middle of a day. For more information, call Sister Larretta Rivera-Williams at (336) 725-9200.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Papal birthday



CNS PHOTO BY L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO

A young woman presents a birthday cake with a grand piano made of dark chocolate to Pope Benedict XVI at the end of an audience with some 5,000 university students at the Vatican April 10. The pope celebrates his 79th birthday April 16.

DIOCESAN REQUIREMENTS FOR REPORTING MINISTRY-RELATED SEXUAL ABUSE OF A MINOR

1. Any individual having actual knowledge of or reasonable cause to suspect an incident of ministry-related sexual abuse is to immediately report the incident to the Chancery.
2. The Chancery will then report the incident to the proper civil authorities. The individual reporting the incident to the Chancery will be notified of the particulars regarding the Chancery's filing of the incident with civil authorities.
3. This reporting requirement is not intended to supersede the right of an individual to make a report to civil authority, but is to ensure proper, complete and timely reporting. Should an individual choose to make a report to civil authority, a report is still to be made to the Chancery.

CORRECTION — MARCH 31

In the "Advising change" article, Francisco Risso was misquoted about joining the Governor's Advisory Council on Hispanic/Latino Affairs. He was quoted as saying, "I asked to be on the council." He actually said, "I was asked to be on the council."

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

April 17 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
Holy Cross Church, Kernersville

April 19 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. James the Greater Church, Hamlet

April 22 — 10 a.m.
Ordination to the priesthood of Benedictine
Father Agostino Fernandez
Belmont Abbey, Belmont

April 24 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. John Neumann Church, Charlotte

Celebrating stewards

PARISH DINNER HIGHLIGHTS STEWARDSHIP EFFORTS

ARDEN — St. Barnabas Church in Arden recently celebrated its fifth anniversary of stewardship efforts in the parish.

A spaghetti dinner, prepared by the Knights of Columbus, was held in the parish hall March 25 as a way to acknowledge and thank parishioners who have given of their time, talent and treasure.

Father Roger Arnsparger, pastor, and Deacon Art Kingsley, permanent deacon

at the parish, helped serve the dinner.

"St. Barnabas' stewardship program has become a way of life for its parishioners with the many ministries that are provided for their participation," said Cathie Stout, coordinator of volunteers at St. Barnabas Church.

Parish ministries include family and community life, youth, respect life, eucharistic adoration and evangelization.

"Parish life benefits from this participation as the parishioners give freely and generously," she said.



COURTESY PHOTO

Father Roger Arnsparger (right) and Deacon Art Kingsley serve spaghetti and meatballs during a dinner celebrating the parish stewardship program at St. Barnabas Church in Arden March 25.

Warming donations



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Jonathan Piscitelli, promotions assistant for a local radio station in Charlotte, delivers coats to the Catholic Social Services Refugee Resettlement Office at the Pastoral Center in Charlotte March 21. About 90 coats were distributed through CSS case managers and English as a Second Language teachers. According to Mary Jane Bruton, volunteer coordinator for the refugee office, almost all of the coats were given out by the following day.

Knights and LAMBs assist least among us



COURTESY PHOTO

The Knights of Columbus from several councils recently presented donations to organizations that assist people with intellectual disabilities at a disbursement dinner held at Holy Family Church in Clemmons March 30.

Pictured (from left): Bobby Page, LAMB director, Council 2829; Dave Shepherd, treasurer and LAMB director, Council 8509 for 2006; Bob Nicolosi, district deputy and LAMB director; Dave Thomas, LAMB director, Council 8509 for 2005; Brian Sternecker, grand knight, Council 9499; Butch Tomlinson, LAMB director, Council 10504; and Bill Dillard, grand knight, Council 10504.

Councils award funds to assist local organizations

CLEMMONS — The Knights of Columbus of North Carolina's District No. 11 recently awarded more than \$40,000 to organizations that assist people with mental disabilities.

The funds were distributed to 21 organizations during a dinner held at Holy Family Church in Clemmons March 30. Approximately 135 people attended the dinner, catered Holy Family Church volunteers.

Councils participating in the fundraising were Santa Maria Council 2829, Holy Cross Council 8509, Bishop

Greco Council 9499 and Our Lady of Mercy Council 10504.

A total of \$40,804.24 was raised through the Knights' Operation LAMB (Least Among My Brethren) campaign. Most of the funds were raised through the councils' annual Tootsie Roll drives at supermarkets, industrial complexes and restaurants.

Since 1973, \$15.5 million has been raised by the Knights to assist individuals with mental disabilities throughout North Carolina.

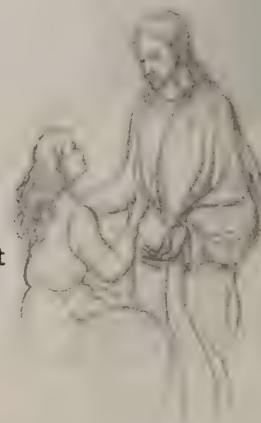
Seeking healing and forgiveness after an abortion?

Experience God's love and compassion once again —

The Charlotte Diocese Respect Life Office of Catholic Social Services offers both men and women help, in confidence, at 704-370-3229.



You may also want to visit Rachel's Vineyard Web site at www.rachelsvineyard.org for helpful articles, retreat information and other direction to new hope and meaning for your future.



FROM THE COVER

'They are rich in love, in sharing whatever they have.'

Priests, volunteers bring hope to Africans

AFRICA, from page 1

volunteers, as well as Augustinian friars and nuns in Kwa-Zulu-Natal, a rural region in South Africa.

The volunteers, mostly recent college graduates, spend a year ministering in various locations in the United States, Mexico, Peru and South Africa. Like Echelmeier, the other Kwa-Zulu-Natal volunteers have written Lenten reflections about working in St. Theresa's Orphanage.

After Mass on March 26, Father Doyle, pastor of St. Margaret of Scotland Church in Maggie Valley, greeted members of the parish's youth faith formation group and their parents with "Sawubona," Zulu for "hello."

The youngsters' attention was locked on Father Doyle as he told about his visit to the orphanage and the nearby Our Lady of Mercy Church and St. Leo's School.

St. Leo's wasn't like the schools they attend in Haywood County. It has nine classrooms for its 390 students but no electricity to light the rooms on dark, rainy days.

"Don't they have candles?" Christopher Peterson, 13, asked.

"No," Father Doyle replied. "No candles. Nothing."

When it's windy, sand and dirt blow through the unscreened windows, bringing eye and skin irritation and a parasite that gets under the children's skin. Not fatal, but extremely irritating.

"Imagine your attention or lack of attention (if you were scratching at these



PHOTO COURTESY OF FATHER FRANCIS J. DOYLE

Augustinian Father Ed Hatrick (right) and Cecilia (in background), a volunteer from Our Lady of Mercy Parish in South Africa, visit a Zulu family at Christmas. They are standing outside their mud-walled home.

parasites)," Father Doyle said.

Father Doyle visited 14 orphaned children living in a hut, three hours' walk from the school. They leave at 4:30 a.m. each day to attend classes at St. Leo's School.

They come to school hungry. For some, lunch is the day's only meal.

St. Theresa's Orphanage has its own school, but not necessarily much food.

A friar there told Father Doyle that one day he noticed a group of children around a fire in a nearby vacant lot. When he investigated, he found that they had shot a bird out of the air and were cooking it.

Celebrating Christmas

The Augustinian sisters, whose convent is in France, have been in Kwa-

Zulu-Natal for 100 years. They staff the orphanage, and the Augustinian volunteers are working with them and at the school. Some have asked to stay at Kwa-Zulu-Natal another year.

The volunteers, Father Doyle said, "were the light in the darkness for me. I was so touched by their dedication."

While Fathers Doyle and Wenzel were there, 16 Villanova University students arrived to spend two weeks of their Christmas break at the orphanage, painting buildings and playing with the children.

On Christmas day, Cecilia, a parish volunteer, took the priests to visit four families in their unfurnished mud houses. Well, not entirely unfurnished — one house did have a bed for the five people who live there.

The visitors brought food to the families, who apparently wanted to save it for later.

"Do you know what one family had for Christmas dinner?" Father Doyle asked the youth faith formation group at St. Margaret of Scotland Church.

The children shook their heads. "Tea," he said. "They boiled water and their entire Christmas dinner was tea."

At one house in South Africa, the children were each given a Christmas present but had no idea what to do with them. They simply held the wrapped packages until told to open them.

Restoring dignity

Several years ago, the nuns asked for a priest to come to minister. The first to volunteer was Augustinian Father Ed Hatrick, now 76. He had been stationed in Japan for 40 years, but moved to Kwa-Zulu-Natal, where he learned the Zulu language.

Father Doyle asked him why he transferred to South Africa.

"I'll never forget what he told me," said Father Doyle, his voice filled with awe. "He said he wanted to spend his last years doing the works of mercy."

Father Hatrick contacted wealthy Japanese friends who had funded building Our Lady of Mercy Church, where worship is joyful.

"I was there for Mass in Zulu and it was so spirit-filled I couldn't believe it," Father Doyle said. "People were singing and swaying."

Apartheid, which kept blacks separate from whites, officially ended in 1994, but is still a factor. A wealthy parish about five miles away ignores the nearby poverty.

"That's why we're there," Father Doyle said of the Augustinian presence.

He reminded those indignant over the neglect that this happens in other places, too, including the United States.

St. Margaret of Scotland Church children and parents wanted to know what they could do to help the people in Kwa-Zulu-Natal.

He asked the parents to get together to decide how they would like to help.

"It isn't just material poverty," he said. "That's one issue. 'It's also a poverty of human dignity, but they are rich in love, in sharing whatever they do have.'"

"It's just horrible to hear about (the poverty)," Christopher Peterson said after the presentation.

"I think it's good for the kids to hear this," his mother, Carol Peterson, said. "I want them to know there are kids whose needs aren't always met. It's a humbling experience to know that we're not the center of the world and (for them) to maybe do something when they're college graduates, and to do something now."

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail jnell@dnet.net.

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



Join us for the 8-week video series on
The Teachings of Fulton Sheen

Tuesday evenings at 7 pm,

Monroe Road store
AND

Don't miss upcoming
BOOK SIGNING

Monday, May 1st - 10 am

Monroe Road store

• Carl Olson, author of DaVinci Code Hoax and
Will Catholics Be Left Behind?

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

\$5 OFF
Any Purchase
of \$35 or More
Present coupon. Not valid with any
other offers. Expires 4/30/06

Earthbound ANGELS...

POSITIONS AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY
HOME HELPERS, COMPANIONS & CNA'S



Join our team of people who make a real
difference in the lives of seniors —

Home Instead Senior Care is seeking friendly
and dependable people in the Mecklenburg
County area to provide home care assistance
and companionship to seniors.

Call 704-344-9739

8 AND 12 HOUR SHIFTS AVAILABLE
Part Time, Full Time, AM/PM and Weekend Hours
Position requires a vehicle.

Home Instead
SENIOR CARE

'The young church of today'



COURTESY PHOTO

Young Hispanic men and women, including 50 from the Diocese of Charlotte, take part in a procession as part of a regional youth encounter in Atlanta March 24.

Hispanic youths gather in Atlanta to examine life in America

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

ATLANTA — Nearly 600 Hispanic young adults recently worked together to prepare a document examining the situation of Hispanic youth and young adults in the Southeast episcopal region.

Fifty young Hispanic men and women from the Diocese of Charlotte traveled to Atlanta March 24 to take part in the Regional Youth Encuentro de la Red March 24.

The goals of the encuentro (encounter) were to identify the needs and aspirations of Hispanic youths; develop a common vision and pastoral principles; create pastoral models and practices; create strategies to improve pastoral action; and provide leadership training and promotion.

Throughout the United States, Hispanic young adults have spent the past year participating in a grassroots study of their lives as young Catholics in the country.

"Anyone observing these young adults could not help but admire them for their diligent work ethic and sincere desire to give of themselves completely to the task at hand," said Grey Nun of the Sacred Heart Sister Eileen Spanier, young adult director for the Diocese of Charlotte.

"These young men and women are strong leaders who possess a wide array of skills for competent, collaborative leadership," she said. "They are willing to contribute what they are and have to build the kingdom of God."

The grassroots process has been used by the National Hispanic Ministry office three times in the last 35 years: in 1972, 1977 and 1985. The U.S. bishops' National Hispanic Pastoral Plan published in 1987 was the result.

This year marks the first time the

process has been used specifically with youth and young adults. Materials and simultaneous translation were available in English and Spanish to facilitate the participation of non-Spanish-speaking Hispanic youths and for non-Hispanic youths and adult observers at the meeting.

"It is my hope that what we are accomplishing here will be shared with other ethnic populations to build a strong base for the Catholic Church," said Sister Spanier. "A church that is inclusive and dependent on the shared gift of all, a church that will truly reflect 'unity in diversity.'"

"The Hispanic young people's enthusiasm and desire to help one another has always been an inspiration to me, and it was evident among the 600 participants in Atlanta," said Franciscan Sister Andrea Inkrott, director for Hispanic Ministry for the Diocese of Charlotte.

Juan Jose Rodriguez, the Southeast Pastoral Institute for Hispanic Ministry's youth director will edit the results from 60 groups into a regional document that will be taken to the national encuentro in Notre Dame, Ind., June 8-12.

Thirty delegates from the Diocese of Charlotte will represent the diocese, along with Ricardo Veloz, diocesan Hispanic youth and young adult coordinator.

"There are 45 million Hispanics in the United States, and half of them are younger than 27," Piarist Father Mario Vizcaino, Southeast Pastoral Institute director, said in a gathering of the region in October 2005. "They are not the church of tomorrow; they are the young church of today."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

Rallies, prayers and marches show nationwide support for immigrants

BY CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — From Los Angeles to St. Louis, and from Jackson, Miss., to Washington, D.C., hundreds of thousands of people nationwide put on white shirts and picked up American flags to join rallies, marches and prayer services April 9 and 10.

The events were part of the National Day of Action for Immigrant Justice, to call attention to the contributions of immigrants and to ask for changes in immigration law and policies.

In several cities, Catholic bishops gave speeches and led prayers. Many participants were encouraged to join the activities at their churches.

Crowds estimated to be as large as 500,000 in Dallas April 9 and in Washington April 10 blocked city streets and surprised even organizers with their size.

At an April 10 vigil at Our Lady Queen of Angels Church in downtown Los Angeles, Cardinal Roger M. Mahony prayed in Spanish to "the God of one and all" to help members of Congress not be exclusionary, and he asked for the intercession of Mary, an immigrant who fled to Egypt with her son, Jesus.

In St. Louis the day before, Archbishop Raymond L. Burke said, "It is not right to make immigrants the scapegoats of social and political problems of our nation. It is profoundly unjust to place the blame for the acts of terrorism perpetrated by a few at the door of all immigrants."

On a stage where he was joined by Protestant, Jewish and Muslim leaders, he said: "Our presence here today expresses the teaching common to our different religious traditions which instructs us to receive immigrants as true brothers and sisters."

In Chicago about 400 people gathered to pray for immigration reform April 10 at Our Lady of Tepeyac Church, days after senators left Washington for a two-week recess without voting on a comprehensive immigration bill worked out in a bipartisan compromise.

The congregation prayed the Stations of the Cross, with each station focused on one aspect of immigrant life, from the lack of access to health care to unscrupulous employers stripping undocumented workers of their dignity.

At the last station, "Jesus is laid in the

tomb," Our Lady of Tepeyac pastor Father Robert Casey said that for immigration reform advocates it is a "time of watchful waiting ... of waiting inside the tomb."

In Colorado Springs, Colo., more than 500 people participated in a lunch-time immigration rally April 10.

"These are people who are paying taxes, buying from our stores and paying the sales taxes, contributing to their communities and churches and schools," said one speaker, a migrant worker named Jesus who did not give his last name. "This is not a group that should be pushed off to the side."

"Some people say that we come here and take all their resources, but we pay taxes," said a rally organizer, Victor Orozco.

"Immigrants pay taxes, immigrants work. ... The immigration system does not work," he said. "So when people think that we come and take all their resources, we say 'No, we want to work.'"

In a statement for an April 10 rally in El Paso, Texas, Bishop Armando X. Ochoa urged people to use the two-week Senate recess to contact their representatives "to let them know that we expect true reform, and not just enforcement that does little to address the reality of the immigration situation in our country."

About 2,000 people were reported to have attended that rally. A few days earlier, a march for Cesar Chavez Day brought out more than 6,000 people in El Paso.

In Indianapolis, about 20,000 people — dressed in white to show solidarity — lined up for blocks on downtown streets, waving American flags and carrying placards.

"God Bless America," "The Dream continues," "Immigrants make good Americans," "Immigrants are Hoosiers" and "Somos todos inmigrantes/We are all immigrants" read some of the signs.

"I think it's important to stand up for the rights of people," said Juan Escamez, pastoral associate for the Hispanic community at St. Phillip Neri Church in Indianapolis.

A native of Spain, Escamez moved to the United States with his family 25 years ago.

"It is important to defend the poor, the oppressed, the outcast. That's why we're here," he said.

Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Charlotte 704-334-6421

Pineville 704-544-1412

Mint Hill 704-545-4864

Derita 704-596-3291

May Your Hands Be Blessed!

Learn Rosary Making



Call or visit our website for your introductory offer!

LEWIS & COMPANY

P.O. Box 268, Troy, NY 12181

(800) 342-2400

rosariyparts.com

Thousands rally in Winston-Salem for immigration rights

RALLY, from page 1

April 10. As in other cities, many involved wore white shirts meant as a symbol of their peaceful intentions.

The events were part of the National Day of Action for Immigrant Justice, aimed at opposing strict immigration enforcement legislation passed by the U.S. House of Representatives in December and encouraging more comprehensive bills that would not criminalize illegal immigrants and those who provide services to them.

Organizers also support legislation that would make it possible for the estimated 11 million to 12 million illegal immigrants to legalize their status.

"Nationally, Saturday, April 10 was designated as a day to pray, to fast and to demonstrate that immigrants are willing to do work and want to be legalized so they can come out of the shadows while they contribute to the economy of the United States," said Sandra Hoyle, a parishioner of Holy Cross Church in Kernersville.

"These people want it known that they do pay taxes and obey laws," she said. "They also want to send their children to schools of higher education."

Martin Mata, director of the parish's Hispanic ministry, helped in the demonstration's planning.

"It was also in response to the Catholic campaign for justice and reform and to the U.S. bishops' call for justice for immigrants," said Mata. "It comes from the roots of the people — to practice what Jesus told us to do — to welcome the immigrants."

Amid a sea of American flags and a smattering of Mexican flags were posters that read, "We are not criminals," "We are all immigrants here," "I am only

a kid, what have I done?" and "Plymouth Rock, landing of the first undocumented immigrants."

There were calls for unity and solidarity among all peoples.

The keynote speaker was Juan Hernandez, an American who grew up in Mexico and served as special advisor to Mexican President Vicente Fox on immigration issues.

Hernandez fought to end border violence and helped establish programs of the U.S.-Mexico Partnership for Prosperity to improve Mexico's poorest regions.

"The giant has awoken," said Hernandez of the crowd. "And it's a friendly giant; it's a giant that loves the United States."

Hernandez asked those gathered if they are willing to learn English, to which they replied, "Si, se puede" ("Yes, we are able"). He asked if they were willing to pay taxes. Again, in unison, the reply was, "Yes, we are able."

When asked if they were willing to become U.S. citizens, they overwhelmingly replied, "Yes, we are able."

Billy Hunt, a member of the Tuscaroro Native American tribe who resides in Brown Summit, said he came to support the immigrants.

"If anybody has a right to be here, I see them (as having that right) as much as anyone else," he said. "Puerto Rican, Mexican or whatever other nation they come from, they have a right to be here."

Mark Atkinson, an immigration lawyer in Winston-Salem, said the rally's purpose was to show support for a comprehensive immigration reform that secures the nation's borders and creates a path for legalization for immigrants currently in the country.

Many Hispanics in the past, he said, have stayed quiet during immigration debates, working hard at jobs that offer little rest.

"Now is the time to no longer be

quiet," Atkinson said to the crowd.

Carmen Dugarte, a native of Venezuela and parishioner of Holy Family Church, attended the rally to support her fellow immigrants.

"We want to be free in this country," she said. "We want our voices to be heard in the government because they are working for the United States. We want our children to go to college, to have health insurance, to build businesses here."

Enedino Aquino, Hispanic ministry

coordinator for the Greensboro Vicariate, also came to support the immigrants.

"We are here because we believe in the Gospel of Jesus, where it says man has dignity, which is a gift from God," he said. "This country needs to respect our dignity, because we are not criminals, we are human beings."

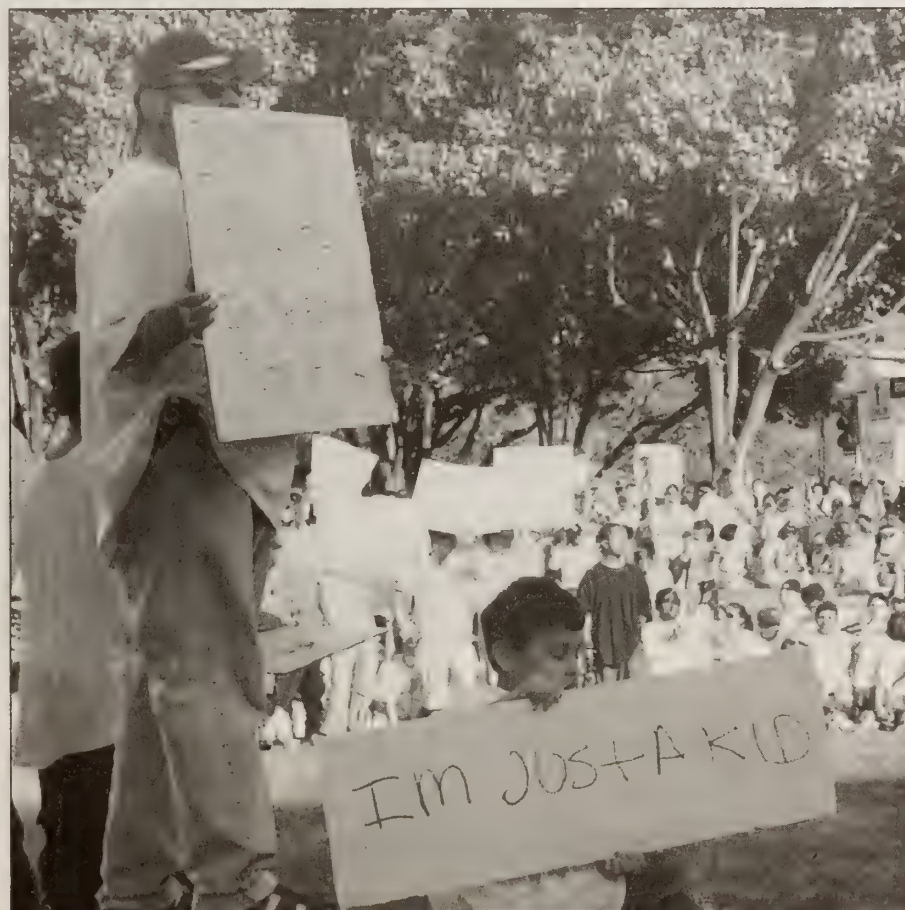
"And if we remain unified, we have a voice," he said.

Contributing to this story was Catholic News Service.



PHOTOS BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY

People wearing white shirts and waving American flags take part in a pro-immigration rally in Winston-Salem April 10. An estimated 3,000 people took part in the rally.



Leave a Legacy Through an Endowment

When you establish an endowment with the diocesan foundation, you...

Enable Perpetual Support. Every year, your "legacy" flows with financial aid to the ministry you choose.

Ensure a Strong Future. Allow a parish, school, agency or the diocese to look ahead and plan with confidence.

Enact a Lasting Legacy. Provide your loved ones with a continuing reminder of your values — your faith and the mission of the church.

The Foundation
of the
Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte

To receive the free booklet "Better Estate Planning" contact Judy Smith, Director of Planned Giving, 704-370-3320; 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203. jmsmith@charlottediocese.org.

The Oratory Religion Camp

- Two separate one-week sessions at Camp York in Kings Mountain State Park the weeks of July 9-15 and July 16-22, 2006
- Boys and girls under 12 who will enter grades 2-6 in September can apply for consideration.
- Swimming, crafts and religious activities.
- The fee is \$125.

For information and application: www.oratorycamp.com

Visit us online at www.rockhilloratory.com

The Oratory Religion Camp, P. O. Box 11586, Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586. Volunteer counselors (16 or older) can write for an application.

Working together



COURTESY PHOTO

Kaitlin Kuhn, Caitlin Brewer, Mary Lauren Shea, Flannery Kuhn, Isabelle Martella and Emily Asinger make scarves during a troop meeting Feb. 16. The girls are members of Junior Girl Scout Troop 10 and Brownie Troop 856 at St. Ann Church in Charlotte. The junior troop is working on the Bronze award by showing leadership and helping a Brownie troop earn a badge.

'Trusting in God'



COURTESY PHOTO

Debbie Felker, president of the Ladies Guild at Sacred Heart Church in Brevard, welcomes approximately participants to the first Women's Day of Reflection at the church March 30.

Catholic, Protestant women gather for reflection, learning

BREVARD — Catholic and Protestant women came together to enrich their Lenten experiences.

Approximately 200 women from 21 churches including Baptist, Presbyterian and Methodist, gathered for a Women's Day of Reflection at Sacred Heart Church in Brevard March 30.

The event, themed "Trusting in God," was hosted by Sacred Heart Church's Ladies Guild.

It was the first interfaith gathering of women in the Brevard area for a day of

learning and prayer.

Jane Derrick, Bible teacher and workshop leader at the Billy Graham Training Center in Asheville, was the event's featured speaker. Drawing on Scripture and her own experiences, Derrick spoke on "Trusting in God when the Path is Hard" and "Trusting God's Love."

Many of the participants, who worked in small groups for sharing and insight, said they were looking forward to another Women's Day of Reflection next year.

Newly confirmed



COURTESY PHOTO BY RICK STOEHR

Bishop Peter J. Jugis stands with confirmation candidates at Good Shepherd Church in King March 25. Confirmation is one of the three sacraments of initiation, along with baptism and the Eucharist.

Pictured (from left): Celia Juarez, Nalley Chacon, Shane Maneval, Maria Gallando, Alex Chauvin, Mary Ann McGrath, Bradley Essick, Bishop Jugis, John Kamer, Spencer Brown, Joseph Swing, Will Cumbo, Daniel Garr, Carl Brown and Michael Gordy.

The Feast of Divine Mercy

April 23, 2006

*Holy Family Catholic Church,
Clemmons, NC*



Eucharistic Adoration - 2:30 p.m.

Divine Mercy Chaplet - 3 p.m.

Benediction - 3:45 p.m.

Mass - 4 p.m.

Hospitality following

Please join us for this feast of hope and healing!

Confession: Saturday 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Reconciliation will not be available on Sunday.

For further information, contact Donna at 336-940-2558.

Eucharistic Apostles of The Divine Mercy

FROM THE COVER



Pictured are the oils to be used in administering the sacraments of baptism, confirmation and anointing of the sick throughout the Diocese of Charlotte.

Priests rededicate to ministry, bishop blesses oils at Mass

CHRISM, from page 1

During the annual Mass, priests rededicate themselves to their priestly ministry.

During the Mass, the bishop blessed the oils to be used in administering the sacraments of baptism, confirmations and anointing of the sick throughout the diocese in the upcoming year.

Bishop Jugis, along with concelebrants Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin; Benedictine Abbot Placid Solari, abbot of Belmont Abbey; Abbot Patrick Shelton, pastor of St. James Church in Hamlet; Msgr. Mauricio W. West, vicar general and chancellor; Father John Putnam, judicial vicar; Father Paul Gary, rector of St. Patrick Cathedral; and other clergy of the diocese, gathered with about 100 priests, permanent deacons and seminarians for the diocese to celebrate the liturgy with the people of faith whom they serve.

During his homily, the bishop extended a special welcome to the priests who will retire this summer and those who are celebrating anniversaries of priesthood ordination.

The recommitment ceremony, which followed the Liturgy of the Word, included the priests' renewal of their

dedication as ministers of Christ, striving to be more like Christ and being faithful to their sacred ministry.

"The priest has so much to give, because he constantly draws from the wellsprings of compassion and holiness in heart of the high priest with whom he is sacramentally identified," said the bishop.

Bishop Jugis urged the priests to be authentic in their ministry, a ministry that reveals Jesus Christ.

"The priest is a reservoir of the holiness and compassion of Christ for the people of God," he said. "The faithful come to us ... to drink of the holiness and compassion of Christ. The priest acts in person of Christ as high priest and good shepherd."

Following the liturgy of the Eucharist, Bishop Jugis blessed the three oils used in sacramental and liturgical practices.

Vials of the oils are dispensed to every parish and mission church in the diocese. With the sacred oils — and having recommitted themselves to the mission they share with their bishop — the priests returned to their parishes, rededicated in spiritual union with the diocesan faithful.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

"The priest is a reservoir of the holiness and compassion of Christ for the people of God."

— Bishop Peter J. Jugis



PHOTOS BY KAREN A. EVANS

Fathers Timothy Reid, Herbert Burke, Michael Kottar and Christopher Davis share a laugh before the chrism Mass at St. Patrick Cathedral April 11. Father Reid is the parochial vicar of St. Mark Church in Huntersville; Father Burke is the pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in Forest City; Father Kottar is the pastor of Holy Redeemer Church in Andrews and Prince of Peace mission in Robbinsville; and Father Davis is pastor of Divine Redeemer Church in Boonville.



Bishop Peter J. Jugis blesses the oils during the chrism Mass. The oils will be used in administering the sacraments of baptism, confirmations and anointing of the sick throughout the diocese in the upcoming year.



Richard Worthington, a seminarian of the Diocese of Charlotte studying at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Wynnewood, Pa., discusses life in the seminary with young people following the chrism Mass. Worthington shared stories of ordinary events, like helping a fellow seminarian fix his car, and not-so-ordinary events — when Pope John Paul II once visited the seminary, he swam in the facility's pool.

MEN'S RETREAT

The Search for Moral Goodness
— A Man's Journey

April 28 – 30 (Call or email by April 25)

Retreat guides: Fr. Vince Alagia, SJ and Mr. Kevin Bezner, Ph.D.

Jesuit House of Prayer

Hot Springs, North Carolina (50 miles from Asheville)

828-622-7366 ; or vpaul@madison.main.nc.us

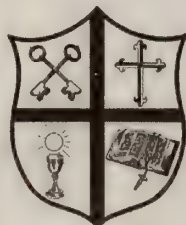
Groce
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

1401 Patton Ave. 72 Long Shoals Road
Asheville, NC Arden, NC
(828) 252-3535 (828) 687-3530

Pre-arrangements and obituaries on-line at www.grocefuneralhome.com

**Assuring
Absolute
Integrity**

Asheville's Catholic Funeral Directors
Dale Groce • John Prock
Toll-free (888) 874-3535



St. Thomas Aquinas Academy
Asheville, North Carolina
www.stthomasaquinasacademy.org

(828) 687-7714

Accepting applications for ninth, tenth and eleventh grades.

Member, National Association of Private, Catholic and Independent Schools
St. Thomas Aquinas Academy is a private school, independent of the Charlotte Diocesan school system.

Bonnets and baskets



COURTESY PHOTO

First-graders at St. Ann School in Charlotte don their handmade Easter bonnets to parade through the school April 11. The first-grade students "adopted" two female veterans living in the nursing home of a veteran's hospital in Salisbury. Students and parents delivered two Easter baskets full of candy, lotions, books and homemade cards to the veterans April 12.



COURTESY PHOTO BY FRANK RYDER

Members of the fifth-grade faith formation program at St. Luke Church in Mint Hill enact a living Stations of the Cross for parishioners at the church April 7.



COURTESY PHOTO

Seventh-graders at Our Lady of Grace School in Greensboro re-enact the Passion and death of Jesus during a living Stations of the Cross at Our Lady of Grace Church April 12. An earlier presentation was offered March 29.

"I was moved by the solemnity and prayerfulness of our students as 'Jesus' is condemned and begins to carry the cross up the aisle of the church," said Principal Gary Gelo.

Gelo said both he and many of the students were moved by the performance. After Jesus was taken down from the cross, the students left the church in reverent silence.

"The kindergarten students went back to their classrooms and drew what they learned from the experience," said Gelo.

The drawings are shown to the seventh-graders, who "recognized the impact and importance of their message as Catholic leaders in our school and community," said Gelo.

Gelo said the re-enactment was "the most moving and prayerful experience I have had in my 20 years in Catholic schools."

"At moments like this, one recognizes that our school has the opportunity to provide faith-filled memories for children that will last a lifetime," he said. "This is what makes us unique and special ... each day our children teach us by their example to be faith-filled followers of our Savior."

WALK WHERE JESUS WALKED ON A DIOCESAN-SPONSORED PILGRIMAGE TO

THE HOLY LAND September 5 - 14

with Fr. James Hawker, Diocesan Vicar
of Education and Pastor, St. Luke Church

Deepen your understanding of our Catholic faith and watch the pages of the Bible come alive as you experience daily Mass at many of the historical sites of our faith.

Highlights include:

- Tiberias, Mt. Carmel, Sea of Galilee area
- Mt. Tabor, Cana, Nazareth - Jesus' boyhood area
- Capernaum, Mount of Beatitudes, River Jordan
- Jerusalem area: Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Via Dolorosa, Lord's Tomb at Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Mount Zion, Upper Room, Dormition Abbey, Wailing Wall
- Dead Sea (excavations and scrolls), Masada, Holocaust memorial
- Bethlehem's historic sites - PLUS much more!



Price: \$2,499 from Charlotte (\$2,599 after June 22) includes airfare, most meals, first-class hotels and all tours. Airport taxes/fees, tips and insurance are extra.

Call Cindi Feerick at 704/370-3332 for a brochure with complete details or Pentecost Tours 800/713-9800 for registration.

Spring Fever?

We've got just what
the doctor ordered...

1551 Trinity Lane, Hickory, NC 28602
(828) 327-7441 or Toll-free (888) 536-7441

Come take a breath of fresh air on our front porch. With fifty comfortable hotel style lodging rooms, six meeting and break-out areas, delicious meals and snacks, miles of beauty on woodland pathways and reflective areas, you'll be feeling like spring through and through. Call to plan your special event and renew your spirit!



**The Catholic
Conference
Center**

Check out our website
www.catholicconference.org
info@catholicconference.org

CELEBRATING EASTER

Have palms, will process

GREENSBORO — Catholics in Greensboro recently joined Protestants in a palm procession.

Parishioners of St. Pius X Church joined members from Newlyn Street United Methodist Church and Northside Baptist Church in the procession through Greensboro on Palm Sunday, April 9.

The procession included a donkey, handled by a member of the Methodist church.

The event was covered by a

Greensboro television news station.

Palm Sunday, also known as Passion Sunday, commemorates Christ's jubilant entry into Jerusalem and marks the beginning of Holy Week.

Pope Benedict XVI lead Palm Sunday Mass in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican April 9.

During the Mass, the pope said that the poverty of the Gospel must be understood not only as a material condition, but as a spiritual state of humility.



COURTESY PHOTO

Msgr. Anthony Marcaccio, pastor of St. Pius X Church in Greensboro, greets a donkey used in a procession during Palm Sunday, April 9.

FOLLOWING JESUS



COURTESY PHOTO

Parishioners of Our Lady of the Highways Church in Thomasville portray Joseph, Mary and Jesus at the Nativity during a Lenten program at the church March 8.

Lenten program focuses on Jesus' life, suffering

THOMASVILLE — Aspects of Jesus' life have been the focus of a unique Lenten program at Our Lady of the Highways Church in Thomasville.

Hundreds of parishioners have participated in the weekly program, which followed Mass and was based on the Marketplace 29 A.D. Vacation Bible School curriculum, customized by Kathy Laskis, the parish's faith formation director.

"Each Wednesday night of Lent we are concentrating on a different aspect of Jesus' human life," said Laskis.

With 110 people signed up to

participate the first night, parishioners dressed in period costumes visited the Nativity, "walking" to Bethlehem behind Mary and Joseph and their donkey.

"We ate bag suppers out of cloth bags that we carried with us," said Laskis. "When we got to Bethlehem, we signed our names to the census with a quill pen and paid our taxes."

"Then the angels announced the birth of Jesus to the shepherds and then to everyone at the manger," she said.

Following Wednesdays featured other events in Jesus' life: the wedding feast at Cana, the Sermon on the Mount, the Good Shepherd story. On April 12, participants enjoyed a Seder meal.

"The idea is to live like Jesus did and eat the foods he probably ate so we can understand his human side and appreciate more his suffering and dying for us," said Laskis.

children + books + sun = *A summer of learning fun!*



Summer is the ideal time to strengthen

- Phonetic skills
- Reading Comprehension
- Written Language skills
- Math skills
- Study skills

Call today for information.
704-752-4234

South Charlotte



Felicia Susi, Owner/Director
Parishioner, St. Matthew Catholic Church &
Parent, St. Matthew Catholic School student



Carolina Funeral & Cremation Center

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

TO OUR READERS

The next issue of The Catholic News & Herald will be April 28.

We wish you a blessed Easter.

Piping on St. Patrick's Day



COURTESY PHOTO

Students at St. Gabriel School in Charlotte follow bagpiper Mark Adamson, father of kindergarten student Carmen Adamson, on St. Patrick's Day March 17. Mark Adamson played the bagpipes for the students and spoke about the instrument during all recess periods. The event was coordinated by the school's Learning Enrichment Activities Program (LEAP), which regularly sponsors "St. Gabriel Meets ...", a playground question-and-answer session for students on designated topics.

Following the Yellow Brick Road



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the student drama club at Holy Trinity Catholic Middle School in Charlotte portray characters from "The Wizard of Oz" during one of three performances in March. The drama club consists of approximately 80 sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students under the direction of parent Rosemary Nocella and band director Alan Kaufman. The students rehearsed weekly since the beginning of the year. They gave one performance for their fellow students and two for the public.

Beef & Beer

Join us at St. Ann's Parish Hall
Park Road at Hillside Avenue, Charlotte
Saturday, April 29 - 7 to 11pm

Entertainment by Wax Museum of Charlotte
Beach Music - Oldies - Rock & Roll

Only \$15 per person - includes hot roast beef sandwiches, beer and a great evening!
(Proceeds benefit Charlotte Diocesan seminarians and other Hibernian charities)



**Ladies and Men's
Ancient Order of Hibernians**

Advanced Reservations: Tim Lawson - 704 522-9728
or Janice Donahue - 704 948-3528
(Limited seating. **Reservations required by April 25.**)

Students walk in U.S. leaders' footsteps

Conference offers historical perspectives

WINSTON-SALEM — Five students from Our Lady of Mercy School in Winston-Salem joined more than 200 outstanding middle school students from across the United States in a leadership conference in Washington, D.C. March 11-16.

Themed "The Legacy of American Leadership," the Junior National Young Leaders Conference (JrNYLC) introduced the students to tradition of leadership throughout U.S. history, while helping them develop their own leadership skills.

Joe Griffith, Rebecca Doyle, Carly Wooten, Allie Cross and Austin Smith, sixth-graders at Our Lady of Mercy School, were selected by teacher Barbara Burke to attend the six-day conference based upon their academics and leadership skills.

"The aim of the Junior National Young Leaders Conference is to inspire students to recognize their own leadership skills, measure their skills against those of current and former leaders and return home with new found confidence in their ability to exercise positive influence within their communities," said Mike Lasday, executive director of the Congressional Youth Leadership Council, the organization that sponsors JrNYLC.

"Young people are not only welcome in Washington, D.C., they actually keep this city and our country running," he said.

During the program, students took part in educational activities and presentations, and met with elected officials and key Congressional staff members on Capitol Hill. They also visited historical sites, such as Harpers Ferry, National Museum of American History, Washington's monuments and memorials and ended with a trip to Maryland Science Center in Baltimore, Md.

In addition to examining notable U.S. leaders and historic figures, students studied leadership throughout critical periods of U.S. history, including the Civil War, World War II, the Great Depression and the Civil Rights Movement.

Upon completion of the JrNYLC, the students from Our Lady of Mercy School gained a greater sense of understanding of the role of individuals in U.S. democracy, as well as the responsibilities of being a leader.

The Congressional Youth Leadership Council is a nonprofit educational organization. Since 1985, the council has inspired more than 200,000 young people to achieve their leadership potential.

Nearly 425 members of the U.S. Congress join the company's commitment by serving on the CYLC Honorary Congressional Board of Advisors. In addition, more than 40 embassies participate in the council's Honorary Board of Embassies.



COURTESY PHOTO

Joe Griffith, Rebecca Doyle, Carly Wooten, Allie Cross and Austin Smith, sixth-graders at Our Lady of Mercy School in Winston-Salem, are pictured at a leadership conference in Washington, D.C. in March.

BINGO
it's here!!!

St. Matthew K of C
BINGO at the new
South Charlotte Banquet Center
every Monday evening

Doors open: 6 pm
BINGO starts: 7 pm sharp!

Food and refreshments available
NON-SMOKING FACILITY
CASH ONLY - ATM AVAILABLE



9009 Bryant Farms Rd.

Directions: from 485- exit Rea Road (south). Right on Ballantyne. Past St. Matthew, turn left on Elm Lane (which turns into Bryant Farms Road). K of C Banquet Center is approximately 2 miles on the left.

Pen pals return from Iraq



COURTESY PHOTO

Principal Gary Gelo and students of Our Lady of Grace School in Greensboro are pictured with U.S. Marine Staff Sergeant Travis Hawley (left) and Sergeant Oronde Smalls, who visited the school April 7. The Marines presented the school with an American flag that was flown on missions over Al Fallujah, Baghdad and Al Asad in Iraq in January.

Hawley and Smalls visited each classroom to personally thank the students for their support during the seventh months the Marine squadron was based in Iraq. The Marines answered questions and presented each student with an American flag as a thank you for their support of the squadron and a reminder of the importance of defending democracy.

Last Fall, Our Lady of Grace School students "adopted" Hawley's squadron of 23 Marines. Every grade level was involved in the project, corresponding with the squadron throughout the year.

For Christmas, the students made cards and raised money to buy phone cards that enabled the Marines to call their loved ones for the holidays.

Now there's a tall drink



PHOTO BY DAVID HAINS

Professional basketball player Emeka Okafor of the Charlotte Bobcats presents a \$500 check to Principal Angela Montague of St. Patrick School in Charlotte April 11. The school received the check and a pep rally from the NBA team for collecting 8,700 milk bottle caps, more than any of more than 246 schools that participated in the contest. The cap collection project is part of a national program, sponsored by grocery store chain Harris-Teeter, which emphasizes the importance of balanced nutrition in a good diet. The 5-foot-2-inch Montague wore heels to minimize her height difference with the 6-foot-10-inch Okafor.



The Catholic Shoppe AT BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

Rosaries, Statues, Artwork, Crosses, Medals, Jewelry,
Prayer Cards and so much more!

Online store available: www.BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu
Call for store hours: 704-461-5100

Join us Saturday, April 22nd
from 2pm to 6pm
for our Abbey Experience
open house event!

RSVP by calling 1.888.222.0110, emailing admissions@bac.edu or logging onto

BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu



BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE

THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED



Conveniently located on campus
I-85 exit 26

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Pages of falsehoods

'Da Vinci Code' lies could bring more interest in faith, speaker says

BY ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

CORAL GABLES, Fla. — Instead of fearing or trashing "The Da Vinci Code," people of faith should view it as a much-needed vaccine against ignorance, according to Thomas Ryan, chairman of the religious studies department at St. Thomas University in Miami.

"It is a novel that holds a mirror up to us — to silly academics and people who misuse facts," Ryan told a group of Protestant, Catholic and Jewish leaders gathered March 22 for the monthly clergy dialogue sponsored by the National Conference for Community and Justice.

He said talking about the popular book — and upcoming movie — should "strengthen our congregations to be able to deal with what's out there" in terms of religious ignorance and misconceptions.

"This is a vaccine," said Ryan, whose area of specialization is medieval church history.

"This articulates the silliness that's out there. We could use it as a way of inoculating ourselves," he said.

Ryan, who only recently read the novel, said his personal reaction to it was: "Thank you, Dan Brown. ... I am grateful to (the novel) for driving me to learn more about my faith. It raises questions that I need to go and see. I'm a smarter person as a result of it."

He described the novel as "a brilliant money-maker" with all the right ingredients: a murder, a mystery and a conspiracy.

As one character in the book acknowledges, "Everyone loves a conspiracy." Even more so, Ryan said, when "it incenses the faithful."

Brown "wants us to think that this is nonfiction. And a lot of people have fallen for the bait," Ryan said. But "it's not nonfiction."

He said that "on practically every page there is falsehood" and "outrageous claims that are completely unfactual."

"I think the author puts in all those mistakes to alert us" to the fact that it is a work of fiction, Ryan said. "It's a story of people who use false evidence to support their claims. And don't we meet those people every day?"

"I think it's a story of humanity," he said. "I think Dan Brown is kind of

laughing at us. It mocks our gullibility."

Participants at the clergy meeting noted that the novel might not have been as popular, or raised such a polemic, in a less secular age.

Many people today are seeking spiritual answers outside mainstream religions, and the Catholic Church is not the only one dealing with misconceptions and revisionist theories about the foundations of the faith.

Some in Judaism, for example, are questioning whether Abraham really existed or the Exodus actually took place, said Rabbi Herbert Baumgard, rabbi emeritus of Temple Beth Am in Pinecrest.

"It is out there and it's all over the place. The whole thing is being questioned and has to be considered," said Rabbi Baumgard, who has read the novel.

Rev. Priscilla Felisky Whitehead, associate minister at the Church by the Sea in Bal Harbour, also read it, and described it as "fiction robed in age-old rumors." Her church is affiliated with the United Church of Christ.

Members of her congregation have asked her questions about what is true and what is false in "The Da Vinci Code," she said. The problem is they do not want to take the time to do the research.

"They want me (to dig it out) for them," she said.

Like Ryan, however, she is grateful to Brown for one thing: "It's no longer inappropriate to talk about Jesus at a cocktail party."

"When there's something in the popular culture going on, it's a great opportunity to agree with it, disagree with it or talk about it," said Rabbi Edwin Goldberg, who hosted the clergy meeting at Temple Judea in Coral Gables.

"One thousand years from now, God willing, there will be people talking about the Bible. No one will be talking about Dan Brown," he said.

WANT MORE INFO?

Background information on what is truth and what is fiction in "The Da Vinci Code" is available at www.jesusdecoded.com, sponsored by the U.S. bishops' Catholic Communication Campaign.

Harvard professor Paul Farmer to receive Villanova University honor

VILLANOVA, Pa. (CNS) — Dr. Paul Farmer, professor of medical anthropology at Harvard Medical School in Boston, is the 2006 recipient of Villanova University's Mendel Medal.

The award was presented April 8 to Farmer, who is a founding director of Partners in Health, an international

charity that provides direct health services and conducts advocacy activities on behalf of those who are ill and poor.

Farmer also is the subject of the Pulitzer Prize-winning, "Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Farmer, a Man Who Would Cure the World."

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: APRIL 23, 2006

April 23, Second Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Acts 4:32-35
Psalms 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24
- 2) 1 John 5:1-6
- 3) Gospel: John 20:19-31

God is ready to clear our doubts, fears

BY JEFF HENSLEY
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Perhaps Thomas is the best model for belief we have. He's so modern. He believes in nothing he can't see or touch with his own eyes and hands. He's outspoken, hard-headed.

He's so much like us, and his behavior is so much like the contesting and quarreling attitude so many of us take on claims that seem just a little too good to be true.

After all, weren't we raised on the Better Business slogan: "If it seems too good to be true, it probably is?"

But Jesus, knowing just how contentious Thomas is, still responds in as humble and generous a fashion as is possible, so much better than Thomas, or we, deserve.

"Take your finger and examine my hands. Put your hand into my side. Do not

persist in your unbelief, but believe!" Jesus tells Thomas, who at that very moment must have been the most dumbfounded, incredulous person on the planet.

It was enough for him, as he said in response for all of us: "My Lord and my God."

This account should embolden not only our belief but our willingness to encourage others, even as they express their anger and disbelief.

A lot of times people want to hush others as they express their anger at God, and certainly there must be some outer limits to such expressions as we seek to respect our place in a universe we did not create.

But I always feel that God, the same God who responds to Thomas' doubts, is big enough to handle any doubts, anger or disbelief we may have, always ready to meet doubters to their faces.

So I think we can tell doubters to express their questions to God and ask him to make the reality of his presence clear to them.

He did it for Thomas, and I believe he will do it for each one who needs to know, just as much as Thomas did that he came in the flesh, died and rose from the dead so that we could be forgiven of our failures and shortcomings, our sins, and live in fellowship with God.

Questions:

What doubts do you have about God's presence in our world? What beliefs about the resurrected Christ require the most faith for you?

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 16-22

Sunday (Easter Sunday), Acts 10:34, 37-43, 1 Corinthians 5:6-8, John 20:1-9; **Monday (Easter Monday)**, Acts 2:14, 22-33, Matthew 28:8-15; **Tuesday (Easter Tuesday)**, Acts 2:36-41, John 20:11-18; **Wednesday (Easter Wednesday)**, Acts 3:1-10, Luke 24:13-35; **Thursday (Easter Thursday)**, Acts 3:11-26, Luke 24:35-48; **Friday (Easter Friday)**, Acts 4:1-12, John 21:1-14; **Saturday (Easter Saturday)**, Acts 4:13-21, Mark 16:9-15.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 23-29

Sunday (Second Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday), Acts 4:32-35, 1 John 5:1-6, John 20:19-31; **Monday (St. Fidelis)**, Acts 4:23-31, John 3:1-8; **Tuesday (St. Mark)**, 1 Peter 5:5-14, Mark 16:15-20; **Wednesday**, Acts 5:17-26, John 3:16-21; **Thursday**, Acts 5:27-33, John 3:31-36; **Friday (St. Peter Chanel, St. Louis de Monfort)**, Acts 5:34-42, John 6:1-15; **Saturday (St. Catherine of Siena)**, Acts 6:1-7, John 6:16-21.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 30-MAY 6

Sunday (Third Sunday of Easter), Acts 3:13-15, 17-19, 1 John 2:1-5, Luke 24:35-48; **Monday (St. Joseph the Worker)**, Colossians 5:3-14-15, 17, 23-24, Matthew 13:54-58; **Tuesday (St. Athanasius)**, Acts 7:51-8:1, John 6:30-35; **Wednesday (Sts. Philip and James)**, 1 Corinthians 15:1-8, John 14:6-14; **Thursday**, Acts 8:26-40, John 6:44-51; **Friday**, Acts 9:1-20, John 6:52-59; **Saturday**, Acts 9:31-42, John 6:60-69.

We Love Blessed Sacrament Academy !!



Call now to guarantee your child's enrollment.
Space is LIMITED! 704-841-2292

Visit us on the web: www.blessedsacramentacademy.org

Located behind Windsor Square in Matthews, NC. Independent of Charlotte diocesan schools. Member of NARCIS.

- ◆ A classical curriculum in the Catholic tradition
- ◆ Latin, French, Music & Art
- ◆ Grades K-8
- ◆ Excellent scores on standardized tests



Penn and ink



COURTESY PHOTO

Molly Branson, Reid Knox and Marcos Hernandez, students at St. Pius X School in Greensboro, stand with Audrey Penn (left), an award-winning children's author and lecturer who visited the school March 27. The school hosted Penn to participate in her education program, the Writing Penn, with which she shapes and refines her story ideas in partnership with the students.



The Catholic Shoppe AT BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

Conveniently located on the
Belmont Abbey College campus
I-85 Exit 26

100 Belmont-Mt. Holly Road Belmont, NC 28012

Store hours:
Mon., Wed., Thurs., & Fri.:
10am to 4pm
Tues.: 10am to 6pm
Sat.: 10am to 1pm

Closed Easter Monday

704-461-5100

CatholicShoppe@bac.edu

www.BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

10% off any purchase
with this coupon

Offer expires Apr. 30, 2006. Not to be used in conjunction with other discounts or specials.
Good for in store use only.

THE BEAUTY OF FAITH

At Vatican Museums, a new way of looking at old things

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — The problem with being a 500-year-old museum is that the science of collecting and displaying pieces has changed dramatically.

To celebrate its half-millennium, the Vatican Museums has decided not to host special temporary exhibits, but to focus on restoring, rearranging or reopening significant pieces of its permanent collection and opening new collections.

One of the Vatican Museums' new collections is composed of the smallest items that once belonged to the Pio-Christian Museum: a collection of sculptures, epigraphs and sarcophagi from the catacombs of Rome.

The new collection of early Christian antiquities had been under the care of the Vatican Library, but in 1999 Pope John Paul II transferred it to the Vatican Museums.

For seven years, experts in archaeology and museum design prepared the collection for its late-March opening.

Gone, for the most part, is the 18th-century organizational plan, which basically boiled down to putting all the round items together and all the square items together.

The collection includes more than 1,000 medals, cameos, etched or gold-painted glass, ivories, oil lamps and bronze or silver cups and bottles found in the catacombs of Rome and surrounding towns.

While they are not famous masterpieces, "the objects are signs of deep personal devotion, of martyrdom and of conversion — this is the value, the beauty they still transmit today," said Francesco Buranelli, director of the Vatican Museums.

Although the previous arrangement of the collection was old-fashioned, the impulse that led Popes Clement XI and Clement XII to gather the artifacts was not, said Guido Cornini, the museum's director of decorative arts.

"Collecting paleo-Christian artifacts not so much as art, but as documentation is a very modern idea in museography,"

Cornini said.

The objects "speak of a way of living the faith, not by the elite who commission great paintings, but by ordinary Christians," he said.

In 1756 Pope Benedict XIV ordered his predecessors' collections to be organized and displayed in a new museum with the aim of "promoting the splendor of Rome and affirming the truth of Christian religion."

The museum's collection does not take people's breath away as much as it demonstrates the care taken even by ordinary Christians to bury their loved ones with signs of their religious identity and their trust that they would join the saints and martyrs in heaven.

Today, the Christian Museum occupies a long corridor on the main thoroughfare from the Sistine Chapel to the museums' exit, and most visitors simply would walk past the glass-fronted antique cupboards filled with the little artifacts.

The Vatican Museums hope more people will pause for a look now that the cupboards have been restored, the lighting modernized and the items rearranged.

The first step, Cornini said, involved "a long, painstaking research into the pedigree of each piece."

While the new exhibit does place some items together based on the material they are made of — for example, the images of saints on glass or the terra-cotta oil lamps — most of the objects are now grouped together according to the catacomb in which they were found.

"Putting them in their context gives an idea of life and death from the first to the sixth centuries," Buranelli said.

The objects probably will not stop people in their tracks, as does the awe-inspiring grandeur of the Sistine Chapel with Michelangelo's famous frescoes, he said, but even a quick peek in the cupboards demonstrates that almost from the beginning Christians felt a need to communicate the beauty of their faith by making something beautiful.

Pope watches TV movie, calls predecessor 'untiring prophet of hope'

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope John Paul II was "an untiring prophet of hope and peace," Pope Benedict XVI said after watching a made-for-television movie about his predecessor's pontificate.

Pope Benedict joined an estimated 8,000 people March 30 in the Vatican's audience hall for the premiere of the Italian production, "Karol: A Pope Who Remained a Man."

The movie is the sequel to "Karol: A Man Who Became Pope," which aired in Italy shortly after Pope John Paul's April 2, 2005, death and in August on the Hallmark Channel in the United States.

The first movie portrayed the life of Karol Wojtyla up until his 1978 election as Pope John Paul. The second film

covered the years of his papacy, ending with news footage of his funeral.

Both films were based on the Vatican-approved book, "Stories of Karol: The Unknown Life of John Paul II."

Pope Benedict told those watching the film with him, "The sequence of images showed us a pope immersed in contact with God and, precisely because of that, always sensitive to human hopes."

Recreating scenes from his trips around the world and from audiences at the Vatican, "it gave us a way to relive his meetings with many people, from the great of the earth to simple citizens, from famous personalities to the unknown," the pope said.

Classifieds

SERVICES

COUNSELING SERVICES: Individuals. Couples. Family. Lucille Moses, BSN, M.Ed. North Carolina Licensed Professional Counselor. 1801 East 5th Street, 108-B, Charlotte. 704-366-6507 or 704-942-4334.

FOR RENT

OUTER BANKS, NC: Private home, 4BRS, 3BA, decks. Sleeps 10. Walk to private beach. New gas BBQ, new appliances. NO smoking/pets. \$600-\$1075/week. Military, Senior Citizens, Law Enforcement, Fire & EMS discounts. 845-628-5057

CABIN: Modern, cozy Lake Lure cabin with panoramic mountain views for your getaway! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Reasonable rates. 828-299-3714

Classified ads bring results! Over 135,000 readers! Over 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

BOOKKEEPER

Large Catholic church seeks full-time bookkeeper. Proficiency in Excel required, experience in ACS software a plus. Must have associate's degree or better, and 3 years' experience. Send resume as well as references to: Susie Barnes, St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church, 2715 Horse Pen Creek Rd, Greensboro, NC 27410; fax (336) 294-6149; e-mail sbarnes@stpaulcc.org.

Full-Time Receptionist

IHM Parish (School and Church) has an opening for a full-time receptionist at the administrative office. Requirements: personable, good communication and organizational skills, skilled in computer and familiar with Microsoft Office, Publisher, and Power Point. Hours are 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM, Monday - Friday, and benefits are included. Please fax (336-884-1849), email (gterpstra@ihmchurch.org), or mail resume to: Glenda Terpstra, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 605 Barbee Avenue, High Point, NC 27262.

PRINCIPAL

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Principal of St. Thomas More School, a practicing Catholic, is the administrator and educational leader of St. Thomas More of the **Archdiocese of Atlanta** with approximately 500 students and approximately 40 faculty and staff. Appointed by the Archbishop and reporting to the Chancellor, the Principal is accountable to the Archbishop through the Chancellor, for implementation of the mission of Catholic education in St. Thomas More School. The Principal is also responsible for providing leadership and managing the School staff; mentoring and providing mediation and conflict resolution among staff, students, and external sources; developing long and short range plans for the grade School; providing communication and support for teachers, students, chaplains, pastors, and boards; representing the Archdiocese in matters related to St. Thomas More School; and assuring compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws and codes. Some travel required. Send resume, credentials, references and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht,
140 West Myrtle Street,
Duluth, MN 55811-5018
Telephone 218-727-5150
E-mail mruprecht@cpinternet.com



High school team shines at Model Security Council

KERNERSVILLE — The Model United Nations team from Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville is again making strides.

The team participated in a high school Model Security Council at Appalachian State University April 5.

Under the leadership of faculty advisor David Seidel, the team worked in pairs to represent the interests of different countries while discussing a variety of issues, including human trafficking to peace in the Middle East.

Twenty-six students of the 48-member team won awards.

Honorable mentions were given to the following pairs of students: P.J. Dascoli and Neil Goodman, Molly Riazzi and

Maggie Ronan, Jenny Pentz and Hannah LaRoe, P.J. Stanford and Andy Ronan, and Matt Sutter and Mike O' Shea.

Four pairs of students were recognized as excellent delegations: Melissa Plunkett and Teri Walsh, Lohr Beck and Sarah Booker, Ify Wilson and Breanne Long, and John Valitutto and Brendan Regan.

Students Matt O'Neill and Tony Barker were awarded the distinction of superior delegation. Jordan Cain and Tyler Frankenburg were honored with best delegation.

The event marks the end of a victorious season for the Model U.N. team, which was designated as "best high school" in the national Model U.N. competition in Washington, D.C. in February.

DIOCESAN REGIONAL COORDINATORS (OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION)

Charlotte Diocese seeks two persons with master's degrees in Religious Ed/allied field, and five years of demonstrable successful experience in parish/diocesan work. Well-rounded in catechist formation skills. Collaborative. Sensitive to cultural minorities. Good written/oral communication skills. Spanish a plus. Office locations: one in Maggie Valley, NC and the other in Greensboro, NC.

For copy of Job Description, e-mail paonaindia@charlottediocese.org.

Please send resume, salary requirements and three letters of recommendation to:

Dr Cris V. Villapando, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203-4003 or

cvvillapando@charlottediocese.org.

Application deadline is April 30, 2006.

PRINCIPAL

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic School, Winston-Salem, NC, seeks candidates for principal, beginning July 1, 2006. Salary is negotiable based on qualifications and experience.

QUALIFICATIONS: Must be a practicing Catholic. Must have a Master's Degree in Educational Administration or a Master's Degree in Education with a focus on Curriculum or Instruction, PLUS 18 hours of administrative coursework. Must have or be eligible for NC Principal's Certification. A minimum of 10 years' teaching experience required. Middle school experience is necessary.

Our Lady of Mercy is a Pre-K - 8th grade school with approximately 290 students and a faculty and staff of 32. Please send resume, transcripts, and references to:

Friar William Robinson, OFM Conv.

1730 Link Road

Winston-Salem, NC 27103

Visit our web site - www.ourladyofmercyschool.org.



Principal Christ Our King-Stella Maris School Mt. Pleasant, SC

Christ Our King-Stella Maris School, a K-4 through 8th grade Catholic School with an enrollment of 675 students, is accepting applications for principal. Located in Mt. Pleasant, near Charleston, South Carolina, our school enjoys an excellent reputation as thoroughly Catholic and academically excellent.

The successful candidate must be a practicing Catholic who is able to continue the spirit of academic achievement and provide essential leadership in maintaining a vigorous Christian environment. Candidate must hold a Master's Degree in Administration and have at least five years of teaching experience.

Salary will be commensurate with degree and experience. Position is available for the 2006-2007 school year. A curriculum vitae and references may be submitted to: Christ Our King-Stella Maris Search Committee, Christ Our King Catholic Church, 1149 Russell Drive, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464, or by email to coksmprincipalsearch@christourking.org. These items must be received by Friday, May 5, 2006.

FROM THE COVER

Survivors shocked by tornado destruction

TORNADO, from page 1

"You never think it's going to happen to you," said Trahan, a parishioner at St. Stephen Church in nearby Old Hickory.

Across the state the storms damaged as many as 3,000 buildings and 167 people were injured. In Sumner County, there were reports of nine deaths, 150 people were injured, and up to 900 homes, farms and businesses were damaged or destroyed.

"You never think you're going to be on the receiving end," Trahan said. "It's tough being on the receiving end. It's humbling."

People from three Nashville parishes have rallied to help Trahan, her son and fiancé, Chad Rowan, find an apartment, clothes and furnishings.

Trahan was at the house of her friends with her son when the tornado ripped through Gallatin, a small town of about 20,000 people about 15 miles northeast of Nashville.

When her fiancé heard about the coming storms, he raced to their home to check on their dogs.

He pulled into the garage just minutes ahead of the tornado, took care of the dogs, and jumped into a closet for safety, Trahan said.

He did not have time to close the garage door, and when a woman driving by saw the approaching tornado and the open door, she ran into the garage for cover with her 4-year-old daughter.

Rowan did not know they were there until the tornado had passed and he heard the woman screaming, Trahan said.

One of the brick walls of the garage had fallen and the woman was pinned under the work bench. The woman suffered some broken ribs and a cracked hip but her daughter was unhurt, Trahan said.

Jean Lovell, her husband and two daughters were in the family's veterinary clinic when the tornado hit.

When they saw the storm approaching, the Lovells gathered in an interior room with no windows.

The storm blew the windows and doors out of the clinic, she said. "I heard the roof being peeled off."

Afterward, while the clinic was still standing, Lovell said, a woman was found dead in her car in the parking lot. The vehicle was blown into the lot and landed upside down.

The business next to the clinic was a pile of rubble. Found dead there were two people, including the 25-year-old son of the owner of the business.

Overcome with emotion, Lovell said through tears, "His business is gone, his son is gone."

The Lovells, who belong to St. John



CNS PHOTO BY TAMI CHAPPELL, REUTERS

Joseph Handsonman carries a mattress April 9 from his aunt's home in Goodlettsville, Tenn.; the home was destroyed by one of several tornadoes that hit the area April 7.

Vianney Church in Gallatin, were unable to leave the clinic immediately after the storm because the winds had knocked down electrical lines and they didn't know if they were hot, Lovell said.

The family started to become upset when they could smell leaking gas, Lovell added. But emergency workers were soon on the scene to help.

The Lovells will operate their large-animal clinic from their farm until they can reopen their clinic, Jean Lovell said. In the meantime, friends and fellow parishioners have been helping them clean up the damage at the clinic.

About 30 people showed up April 8 at Trahan's home to help her family begin cleaning up, Trahan said.

At St. John Vianney Church, there was

no damage to the church or school and no parishioners were killed in the tornado.

But many parishioners' homes were damaged, and "nine families lost their homes completely," said Debbie Dawes, parish secretary.

She was busy in the aftermath of the storms trying to link the many offers to help with the people in need. "We have a list of about 40 families offering to do whatever anybody needs," Dawes said.

The night the tornado hit, the parish's Knights of Columbus council had a fish fry planned. Several Knights came to the parish in the hours after the tornado and started frying the fish, which they later handed out to rescue workers and people who had lost their homes, Dawes said.

1st Annual Catholic Scripture Study International Conference

Charlotte Omni Hotel — Friday, April 28 — Sunday, April 30

"Hear the Word of the Lord" (Jeremiah 21:11)



- **Friday night fundraiser dinner, talk and auctions:** Social hour begins at 5pm with silent auction followed by dinner and talk by keynote speaker, Dr. Scott Hahn. Live auction follows. Guest of honor: Bishop Peter J. Jugis, Bishop of Charlotte.
- **Speakers for weekend conference** (Sat. & Sun.): Mark Shea, Carl Olson, Steve Ray, John Martignoni, Fr. Patrick Winslow, Fr. Matthew Kauth and Gail Buckley. Master of ceremonies is John Morales.
- **Introducing CSS Kids** – a new Bible study program for pre-schoolers. Moms, be sure to come hear about this exciting program!



No charge for priests and religious (meals are extra).

\$40 fee for Saturday and Sunday talks (does not include dinner talks). For area residents interested in attending Friday and/or Saturday dinners, call 1-866-887-2774.

For those out of town, we have a 3-day weekend hotel AND meals package - only \$295 per person while available - call now for this special rate as these are going fast!

To register or for more information, please visit www.cssconference.com or call toll free: 1-866-887-2774.

Register now – space is limited!

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

The gift we must give children

Focusing on God's beauty fights pessimism

St. Augustine wrote, "We are an Easter People, and alleluia is our song."

I wonder how true that is for the average Catholic.

There is so much cynicism and discouragement in the air these days that we need a strong antidote against joylessness.

We need to ponder the words of Jesus, who has the power to lift us higher: "Be not afraid; in this world you will have many troubles, but take heart, for I have overcome the world."

It is so important to teach our children to count their blessings.

Of course we must teach them the catechism, but religion is more than theology. Teaching religion involves conveying a spirit of excitement about the gifts of faith, life and the promise of eternal happiness.

Religion is about interacting with the infinite love of God, about giving ourselves joyfully to our Maker. The Mass is a celebration, not merely a religious duty or a church ritual. It is an act of love.

We give ourselves to God at the Offertory, and he gives himself right back to us in the reception of holy Communion.

When we allow the spirit of complaint and negativity to flourish in our families and schools, we do children a great disservice.

Pope John Paul II taught, "Christ came to bring joy, joy to children, joy to parents, joy to friends and families ..., joy to all people. Joy is indeed the keynote message of Christianity, and the recurring motif of the Gospel."

The problems of this world are monumental, but they could be infinitely worse. Even if all those problems were solved tomorrow, the media still would report bad news, and people still would find things to complain about.

Spirituality for Today

FATHER JOHN CATOIR
CNS COLUMNIST



Our tendency to give in to discouragement too easily is at the heart of the problem.

Dr. Robert Muller wrote: "People all too easily forget, and are induced by the media to forget, how beautiful life really is, and how good the vast majority of people really are."

We all need to become messengers of joy, especially for the sake of the children.

We have to instruct children that optimism is hard work, so too is devotion and love of neighbor, and that the highest values of the human spirit are attainable, with the help of God.

The only way to root out the tendency to give in to self-pity and negativity is to demand more of ourselves and of the children we teach.

How can we do this? Start with the practice of helping them to focus on God's beauty all around them by smelling the roses and listening more closely to the birds as they sing their lovely songs of joy.

We can all learn to do a better job of giving thanks to God for the wonders of his creation.

Help the children to look within in order to find God, the source of their being, who is love, joy and peace. Teach them that God's beauty enters one's heart through all the senses.

"Just as the body grows and flourishes on a healthy diet, our joy can grow and flourish when fed a steady diet of beauty" (Thomas Kinkadee).

Teaching children how to protect themselves from pessimism and fear is the greatest gift we can give them.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

Pope says Easter preparation with penance is good for the world

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — The traditional practice of preparing for Easter by going to confession is good not only for individuals, but for the world, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Acknowledging one's sins and being forgiven for them, he said, gives a person peace, which spreads from the heart to an individual's actions, bringing peace to the family, the community and eventually the world.

Explaining the church's Holy Week and Easter rituals during his April 12 general audience, the pope said the violence that exists in the world is a sign of too many people's inability "to reconcile themselves in order to begin again with sincere forgiveness."

Jesus' resurrection "gives us the certainty that despite all the darkness in the world sin will not have the last word," he said. "Strengthened by this certainty, with greater courage and enthusiasm we can commit ourselves to the birth of a more just world."

After discussing the Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper, the pope spoke about the eucharistic adoration that follows the liturgy.

In the dark and silence before the Blessed Sacrament, he said, Jesus calls Catholics to "stay and watch" with him the night before his death, just as he asked his disciples to do.

But also like the disciples, he said, "too often we fall asleep."

The Pope Speaks

POPE BENEDICT XVI



On Good Friday, the pope said, Catholics contemplate Jesus on the cross, gazing "at his pierced heart" in order to recognize "the cosmic dimension" of God's love for all creation, "a love that goes beyond all understanding."

To prepare for the great joy of the Resurrection, he said, "the church asks its faithful to receive the sacrament of penance as a type of death and resurrection," a new beginning in the life of faith.

"Aware that we are sinners, but trusting in divine mercy, let us be reconciled with Christ in order to experience more fully the joy that he gives us with his resurrection," he said.

The grace given through forgiveness and absolution, Pope Benedict said, "is a source of interior and exterior peace and makes us apostles of peace in a world where, unfortunately, divisions, suffering and the dramas of injustice, hatred and violence continue."

At the end of the audience, a children's choir sang "Happy Birthday" to the pope in English. He will celebrate his 79th birthday April 16, Easter.

Letters to the Editor

NFP helps couples operate within God's laws

I was happy to see The Catholic News & Herald spreading the good news about natural family planning in the March 10 issue ("Gynecologist employs natural family planning principles in practice").

Natural family planning (NFP) is a highly effective and safe method for married couples to postpone or avoid pregnancy, or for couples wishing to conceive a baby.

While it is well documented that NFP is superior to artificial birth control when it comes to physical side effects and potential health risks, it is difficult to put into words why NFP is also superior when it comes to spiritual and emotional implications. Perhaps it comes down to trusting what Jesus Christ teaches us through the Catholic Church concerning human sexuality, marriage and contraception.

Once we put into practice what he teaches us, we begin to experience and understand its benefits. Anyone can have sex, but only a husband and wife operating

within God's laws can have each other.

When married couples practice kindness, affection, mutual obedience, faithfulness, forgiveness and openness to life, together they can take on the unique crosses they are given by divine providence with joy, trust and confidence.

— Mary Thierfelder
Gastonia

Power of prayer and peace

Thank you for the article on the Power of Prayer Penny Project for our troops ("Louisiana woman's penny project sends prayers, support to U.S. troops," March 24).

Military families sacrifice so much for freedom; it's good to see people rallying in support and prayer. Prayer for peace is one thing Pope John Paul II asked of all the world's children.

— Jean Aberle
Newton

COMPLACENCY BLINDS US

I was pleased to read Karen Osborne's column in the March 17 issue ("Just when you thought discrimination was gone"). She is right that our complacency can blind us to the discriminatory attitudes that keep us from valuing and respecting others.

— Jeanne Devany Cummings
Asheville

Easter season is for falling in love again

Jesus' death, resurrection offers hope

There is something peculiar about the greatest celebration of the liturgical year. We actually celebrate this great event at a different date every year because we still go by the phases of the moon.

In fact, we celebrate Easter on the first Sunday after the first full moon of the spring equinox, obviously set to coincide with the rebirth of life that erupts from a bulb planted in the winter ground, representing a message of hope from nature.

Rabbits, eggs, butterflies and lilies don't make Easter, but they are powerful signs of fertility, resurrection and hope.

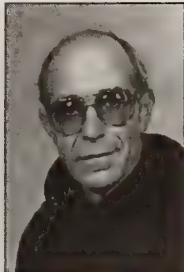
But for me, the most powerful symbol is the empty tomb. I have been in many cemeteries to bless tombs, and yet I have never seen an empty one.

The two Marys who went to the tomb were astonished to see the empty tomb, and I don't blame them. By reading the account of the Resurrection, we clearly understand that this empty tomb is as important as the cross — were it not for the empty tomb, the cross would have been a tragedy.

The women were determined to again see the Lord they loved. Perhaps the crucified Lord was only the beginning of their spiritual journey. Their love story had to continue. Once we fall in love with the Lord, he becomes a magnet in our lives.

Guest Column

CAPUCHIN
FATHER JOHN
C. AURILIA
GUEST COLUMNIST



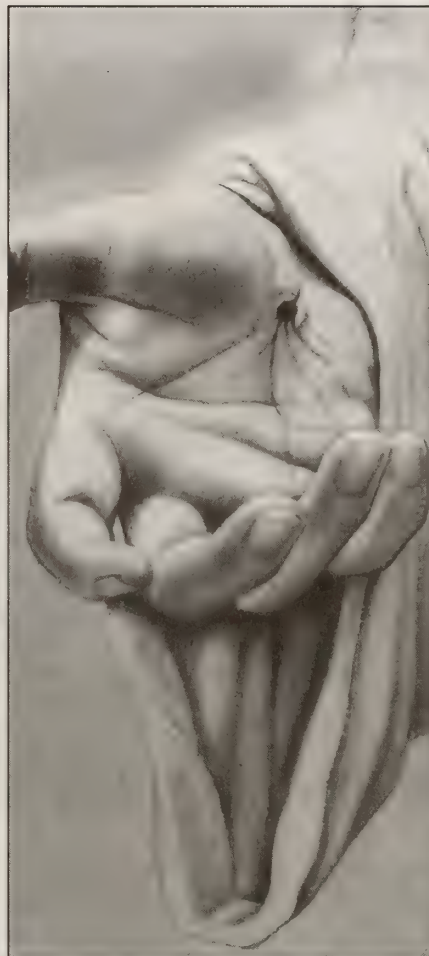
We search for him because we want to be with him. We don't know everything about the God-man who died for us until we become part of his love story.

The Resurrection, therefore, is about "witnessing" the cross and the empty tomb. Whenever we experience or witness Jesus, we celebrate his life and our lives.

Easter must be more than lilies, rabbits, butterflies and eggs when we really listen to what the Gospels tell about the Resurrection. We Catholics are the Gospel's people who see the real Jesus, not simply the picture or the statue.

Happy Easter, and enjoy the real person of Jesus in our eucharistic banquet.

Father Aurilia is pastor Immaculate Conception Church in Hendersonville.



No good alibi

Coming of Age

KASE JOHNSTUN
CNS COLUMNIST



Hurting others hurts God

I have no alibi. I have no excuse. I have no reason. I have no story.

I just have to say I am sorry.

Saying "I'm sorry" for doing something stupid can be the hardest thing in the world to do. It can eat at your insides and make your head feel like a brick.

But when it is time to say it, we just have to say we're sorry.

The difficulty of saying it rises sharply when we've done something stupid and there is no logical reason behind our actions.

You didn't call a friend when the rest of you went out, and you knew it would hurt his feelings. You didn't stand up for someone who truly needed standing up for; you didn't use your ability to protect someone when you could.

If you never find yourself saying you are sorry, then the blinders you're keeping over your eyes need to be taken off and shelved. There is no one who hasn't wronged friends, family or strangers.

Sometimes we don't mean to harm, but we do it anyway. Yes, even priests, nuns and deacons will be the first to admit they are not perfect and that they need to say they're sorry sometimes.

One of our struggles throughout life is trying to avoid the reason for saying we're sorry: hurting others. It all boils down to avoiding what hurts others.

But when we do hurt others, we just have to say we're sorry.

Saying this to God is just as difficult. We hurt God as much as we hurt our friends. You, me, your parents and everyone else in the congregation has sat in the rows on Sunday and heard, "When you hurt others, you hurt God."

This is a difficult concept to accept because we can't imagine actually hurting God, can we? But truly accepting that when we hurt others we hurt God makes saying we're sorry a lot more serious and it makes the offense more slicing.

So when I say, "I just have to say I'm sorry," I don't mean that saying sorry is a way out. I mean that there is nothing else I can say because what I did to hurt you was wrong, there were no reasons for it and I can't explain it.

The only thing there is to say is, "Sorry."

The 'how' and 'why' of fasting

Q. Every Lent we are told about the "power of fasting," or that we should fast and pray about a particular problem. I know the rules about fast days, but can you explain more about why people fast and how? (Indiana)

A. Interestingly, fasting of some sort is observed by adherents of nearly every religion in the world. It takes many forms, perhaps total restraint from food and drink for a whole day or more, or "one full meal" with occasional snacks, or anywhere in between.

There are numerous valid and "practical" reasons people fast: to withdraw occasionally from one's normal intake of food and drink, to feel more alert and healthier, to sleep better, to lose weight, to gain self-control and so on.

Whatever else it may be, however, from the Christian perspective fasting is above all a religious act that puts people in better touch with God.

It is a unique way of expressing praise, love, hope and faith in God, of keeping ourselves open to the Lord's continual desire to fashion us in the image of Jesus Christ, into the complete human beings we were created to become.

The renowned second-century theologian St. Irenaeus wrote that God shaped us and continues to do so. Our job is to offer the Creator a heart that is soft and malleable.

Let the clay be moist, he says, so we

don't grow hard and lose the imprint of his fingers.

A major challenge with fasting, as with all practices of self-denial, is that they can become mere external formalities, an end in themselves, and lose touch with their spiritual implications.

The prophet Isaiah once described how the people complained because they fasted faithfully but God didn't seem to notice (Chapter 58). God's reply was that they fasted, but then they quarreled and fought, they were selfish and cheated each other.

"This rather is the fasting I want," he said: Free the oppressed, share bread with the hungry, shelter the homeless and don't turn your backs on each other. Then, said God, people will fast and he will listen.

Marvelous words to reflect on during this Lent!

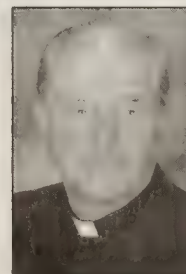
Food and drink are one of the great treasures of our lives. They are blessings God obviously wants us to enjoy intensely.

One of the great motives for fasting, therefore, is the one we find presented most often in the Scriptures. It is a way of responding to God's persistent flirting to get our attention, of telling God we're really serious about what we pray for, whether the prayer is praise and worship, asking some favor, giving thanks or any other intention.

Some relatively recent and excellent

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN
DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



books about fasting are on the market. One of them is "Fasting Rediscovered," by Paulist Father Thomas Ryan.

He tells how in the Old Testament God falls all over himself to convince his people that he is there to give them what they need; they respond by telling God in this way how urgent are their wants.

Father Ryan describes how his father used to ride his bicycle around the block where his mother lived, hoping to get a glimpse of her through the window. Our sense of God, he says, must be like what his mother felt.

She knew he was out there circling, watching, hoping. When she went to the window, she knew he would know her, would listen to her concerns and would make a loving response.

As Father Ryan says: "Fasting is sending God a message. He's very good about answering his mail."

That is something people of faith who fast often already know, and the rest of us might learn.

Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen, Box 5515, Peoria, IL 61612, or e-mail jjdietzen@aol.com.

The road to Sydney

Send-off of pilgrim cross opens countdown to World Youth Day 2008

BY JOHN THAVIS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — With the unveiling of a logo, the handover of a pilgrim cross and the cheers of young Australians, the "road to Sydney" for World Youth Day 2008 was officially opened at the Vatican.

Pope Benedict XVI sent the World Youth Day cross on a two-year trip across Africa and Oceania after a Palm Sunday liturgy April 9.

Accepting it were young Australians, eager for the spiritual spotlight that will soon begin to swing across their country.

With Australian flags unfurled, the young people indulged in some lively celebration after the liturgy in St. Peter's Square.

"That was the spirit of Sydney on display," Morris Iemma, premier of the Australian state New South Wales, remarked at a press conference afterward.

He predicted that young people would find Sydney "the friendliest city and the most welcoming city" in the world.

Pope Benedict XVI gave the organizers a morale boost when he told pilgrims, "See you in Sydney, God willing."

When Australia was announced last year as the venue for the next international gathering, there was doubt about whether the pope would make the trip.

But the pontiff recently assured Cardinal George Pell of Sydney that he planned to come, said Bishop Anthony Fisher, an auxiliary bishop in Sydney and a chief organizer of the event.

Civil authorities say they expect about 130,000 foreign youths to come to Australia in 2008 for the July 15-20 celebrations, to be joined by about twice that number from Australia.

Some 500,000 people are expected to attend the closing papal Mass, which would make it the biggest event ever to take place in Sydney.

The cardinal said authorities had been extremely cooperative in discussions on visas, a chronic problem during the international World Youth Day encounters. He said the government would keep current immigration rules in place, but would



CNS PHOTO BY CHRIS HELGREN, REUTERS

The World Youth Day cross is passed from German to Australian youths during a ceremony after Palm Sunday Mass at the Vatican April 9. World Youth Day was held in the German city of Cologne in the summer of 2005, and the next one is to be held in Sydney, Australia, in 2008.

impose no quotas on visas — and no quotas on individual countries.

Within Australia, Bishop Fisher said, the invitation to participate will be broader.

"What we're saying is that World Youth Day is an unabashedly Catholic event, but is open to all — those who have any or no religion," he said.

It's the first time the event will be held in Oceania, and the distance means fewer participants are expected from Europe, North America and South America.

On the other hand, organizers are drumming up interest in New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and the Pacific, offering travel subsidies to poorer youths, and are counting on significant participation from Asian nations like the Philippines, South Korea and India.

Cardinal Pell said World Youth Day would also welcome Chinese Catholics "with open arms."

The pilgrimage of the World Youth Day cross will have a key role in

awakening interest and spurring spiritual reflection across the country, Bishop Fisher said.

He compared it to the relay of the Olympic torch, which came through Australia when the country hosted the Summer Olympics in 2000.

"But this time it's not about sport; it's about faith, and hope in young people," he said.

The World Youth Day program includes a Way of the Cross through Sydney, which will probably traverse five of the seven bridges over Sydney Harbor, Bishop Fisher said.

There were reports last year that Mel Gibson, who directed "The Passion of the Christ," would help stage part of the Way of the Cross in Sydney. Carolyn Grant, managing director of a public relations firm working with the Archdiocese of Sydney, said April 9 that "Mel's not officially on board."

The World Youth Day logo, publicly displayed during the Palm Sunday liturgy, features a design that combines the cross, the flame of the Holy Spirit and the distinctive shells of the Sydney Opera House.

When Australian journalists wondered, tongue in cheek, whether the opera house was in flames, Cardinal Pell assured them, "No, that's the flame of love."

Young people submitted hundreds of ideas for the logo, and a professional design company worked with the best suggestions. The outcome reflects the official World Youth Day theme, taken from the Acts of the Apostles:

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses."

WANT MORE INFO?

Information on World Youth Day is available online at www.wyd2008.org.

Mark your calendar now for the
Second
Diocese of Charlotte
Eucharistic Congress —
Charlotte Convention Center
OCTOBER 6 & 7



Diocese of Charlotte
EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS
2006

Visit the Web site
www.GoEucharist.com
often for the latest updated
information about programs and
speakers, as well as opportunities
to volunteer.

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels.

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooreville
704-663-1065



Leading the faithful toward God

A year after Pope
Benedict's election,
world sees new style
of papacy

BY JOHN THAVIS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — In April, the church marks the first anniversary of the death of Pope John Paul II and the election of Pope Benedict XVI, events that captured the world's attention and introduced a new style of papacy.

Thousands gathered to pray in St. Peter's Square the evening of April 2, a poignant reminder of the vigil outside the late pope's window on that date last year, when a hushed crowd was told the pontiff had "returned to the house of the Father."

As his sainthood cause gathers momentum, Pope John

See POPE, page 7

STANDING UP FOR THE STRANGER

Pax Christi group gathers for immigrant rights

BY JOANITA M.
NELLENBACH
CORRESPONDENT

MURPHY — "When I went on the Internet this morning, I saw there were two events in Georgia," Pat Mahon said. "There were 13 in North Carolina."

The events, held April 10, were demonstrations for fair and just immigration legislation.

Mahon, who lives in Young Harris, Ga., but is a parishioner

See RALLY, page 6



CNS PHOTO BY L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO

Pope Benedict XVI delivers his "urbi et orbi" blessing from the main balcony of St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican April 16. On the first anniversary of his pontificate April 19, the pope said he was still moved by the memory of his election and that he wanted to be a "gentle and firm" leader of the universal church.

VESTED IN A VOCATION

Father Agostino Fernandez answers call heard long ago

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

BELMONT — For the first time in nearly 15 years, the Benedictine monks of Belmont Abbey witnessed the ordination of one of their own brothers.

Father Agostino Fernandez was ordained to the priesthood at the Belmont Abbey Basilica in Belmont April 22.

Before a church filled with clergy, seminarians and family, Father Fernandez officially began his new life as a priest during the ordination Mass celebrated by Bishop Peter J. Jugis.

"What joy fills our hearts this Easter season as we celebrate the resurrection of our

See PRIEST, page 13



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Benedictine Father Agostino Fernandez lies prostrate on the floor of the Belmont Abbey Basilica as Bishop Peter J. Jugis leads the congregation in prayer for the priestly candidate.

See THEOLOGY, page 5

Around the Diocese

Labyrinth as prayer tool;
helping the needy

| PAGE 4

Culture Watch

Blogging dangers; 'United
93' review

| PAGES 10-11

Perspectives

Hunger and homelessness;
honoring Mary ****

| PAGES 14-15

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

GIVING DIGNITY TO THE DECEASED



CNS PHOTO BY MARNIE McALLISTER, THE RECORD

St. Xavier High School juniors (from left) Cory Kress, Rex Soriano and Chip Condon right a fallen grave marker in late March at River Valley Cemetery in Louisville, Ky. They are among a group of students who have volunteered to serve as pallbearers at funerals of the poor.

Volunteers bring prayers, concern to funerals of Louisville's poor

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (CNS) — Bordered by black hills of sludge, railroad tracks and a power station, River Valley Cemetery sets a dismal scene for the burials of Louisville's poorest citizens.

Only a handful of permanent headstones stand in the dirt-pocked grass field. Many of the ground-level grave markers — made of metal and plastic — have been mangled and moved by mowing equipment.

The scene was worse a couple of years ago when indigent men, women and children were laid to rest in particleboard caskets without a witness or word of prayer.

The particleboard boxes are still used but now, thanks to the Jefferson County Coroner's office and volunteers from Epiphany Catholic Church in Louisville, each burial includes at least one witness, a bouquet of flowers and a prayer.

And St. Xavier High School students are poised to brighten the scene further, volunteering as pallbearers for the 100 or so 15-minute paupers' funerals held at River Valley each year.

Dr. Ron Holmes, Jefferson County coroner, met with students at the cemetery recently to show them what to expect during a funeral, including where they would place the casket and how it should be moved to the burial site.

Headstones are an important part of the cemetery ministry. Holmes' office has raised funds to pay for about 250 permanent stones. Epiphany Church also has donated more than \$6,000.

So far Holmes has installed 200 stones, with more expected to be installed by June.

Holmes' office also is working to plant grass seed and keep the area trimmed. All of these efforts are about human dignity, he said.

"These people have had a life; they had families," he said. "No one needs to go out (of the world) alone like that.

"I think the (students) are going to get more out of it than they think," he said. "It's a neat feeling after (a funeral). You ... feel like you were a part of their life — that you're worthwhile. You did something for somebody that no one else would do."

Several young men from St. Xavier are forming the St. Joseph of Arimathea Society to carry out the need for pallbearers at River Valley.

"We're excited about taking part in this," said Ben Kresse, a theology teacher at St. Xavier and member of Epiphany Church. "It's a necessary part of our faith. We hope through our own efforts people will learn how many people come into the world with parents but leave the world with no one."

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton named patron saint of Maryland

BALTIMORE (CNS) — Maryland has a new heavenly protector.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, the first U.S.-born saint and a founder of what would become the Catholic school system in the United States, has been named the official patroness of Maryland by the Vatican.

Cardinal Francis Arinze, prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments at the Vatican, announced the title earlier this year in a letter to Baltimore Cardinal William H. Keeler.

The idea for the special designation came from Paul and Janet Venter, parishioners of Mother Seton Church in Germantown, Md., located in the Archdiocese of Washington, who asked Cardinal Keeler to seek the title from Rome.

The Baltimore prelate liked the idea and petitioned the Vatican for the special designation in a letter.

"Certainly, this is very appropriate for Maryland because of her role here," said Cardinal Keeler, pointing out that St. Elizabeth Ann was the founder of the Sisters of Charity, the first religious institute in the United States that was dedicated to education.

A New Yorker who belonged to the Episcopal Church before she became a Catholic, St. Elizabeth Ann established the first Catholic school in Baltimore in 1808 before relocating to the nearby town of Emmitsburg and moving her school there on land purchased by a donor in 1809.

Her religious order, now known as the Daughters of Charity, was approved by Archbishop John Carroll in 1812, and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was elected superior. Members of her community established schools and ministered to the sick throughout the region and around the country.

Diocesan planner

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — *Theology on Tap*, a dynamic speaker series designed to provide young adults in their 20s and 30s with the opportunity to discover more about their faith in a relaxed open environment, will meet Tuesdays through May 9 at 6:30 p.m. at Pepperoni's Pizza in Park Road Shopping Center. These interactive events will explore the issues and challenges that Catholic young adults face in the 21st century.

Contact Catrina at (704) 665-7374 or c_l_conway@hotmail.com for more information.

CHARLOTTE — The *Semi-Annual Rosary Rally* will be held May 7, at 3 p.m. at St. Patrick Cathedral, 1621 Dilworth Rd. East. This 31-year diocesan tradition will include recitation of the rosary, a eucharistic procession and Benediction. For more information, call Tina at (704) 846-7361.

CHARLOTTE — Father Matthew Buettner, parochial vicar of St. Dorothy Church in Lincolnton, will present the *Catholic Response to "The Da Vinci Code"* May 15 at 7 p.m. in the Msgr. Pharr Activity Center of St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd. RSVP for this free event to Renee O'Brien at rdobrien@earthlink.net or (704) 770-0003.

CHARLOTTE — St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd., will host an *Estate Planning Seminar* May 24 at 6:30 p.m. in the Ministry Center. Estate planning information will be provided by Jim Kelley and Judy Smith in the diocesan planned giving office and attorney Tom Gorman with Gorman & Dittman law firm. Please call (704) 370-3320 with any questions. To register, call (704) 364-5431.

extension 212.

CHARLOTTE — The *Young Adult Faith Reflection* group meets at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd., the first and third Mondays of each month. The group will read "The Faith Explained," 3rd edition, by Leo J. Trese and a chapter will be covered at every meeting. For more information, call Jordan at (704) 737-1964 or Ryan at (704) 377-1328.

GASTONIA VICARIATE

BELMONT — *First Saturday Devotions* take place on the first Saturday of each month at Belmont Abbey Basilica, 100 Belmont-Mt. Holly Rd. Devotion begins at 9:30 a.m. with the recitation of the rosary, followed by reconciliation and Mass. For more information, call Phil or Terri at (704) 888-6050.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — All practicing Catholic women of Irish birth or descent, or who are the wife of a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians are invited to participate in the *Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians*, a social, cultural and charitable group for an ongoing series of fun and informative activities. LAOH will meet on May 4 at 7:30 p.m. in the Kloster Center of St. Pius X Church, 2210 N. Elm St. Please join us for refreshments and learn more about our group. Any questions may be directed to Mary Giff at (336) 855-7014.

GREENSBORO — *Theology on Tap*, a speaker series for Catholics in their 20s, 30s and 40s, will meet at Coopers Ale House, 5340 West Market St., May 3 and 10 at 7 p.m. *Theology on Tap* is a casual forum where people gather to learn and discuss the teachings of the Catholic Church. A service project will take place May 13 at Mary's House in Greensboro. For more information, visit www.triadcatholics.org or call

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

APRIL 28, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 28

The Catholic News & Herald, USPS 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Trust in God's mercy should be central to all Christians, pope says

Christians should mark every Sunday as feast of Lord's resurrection, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Trust in God's divine mercy was central to the teaching of Pope John Paul II and should be central to the faith and prayer of every Christian, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Marking Divine Mercy Sunday April 23, Pope Benedict also prayed that God's blessings of reconciliation and peace would be given to all people.

Reciting the "Regina Coeli" prayer at midday, he wished a happy Easter to Orthodox and Eastern-rite Catholics celebrating Jesus' resurrection according to the Julian calendar.

"May the risen Lord give the gifts of his light and his peace to all," the pope prayed.

He also offered special prayers for the people of Serbia and Montenegro,

Romania and Bulgaria suffering from the effects of flooding over the past week.

In his main talk, the pope focused on the Gospel accounts of the risen Lord appearing to his disciples and showing them the physical signs of his crucifixion.

"Those sacred wounds on his hands, feet and side are inexhaustible founts of faith, hope and love which everyone can draw from, especially the souls most thirsty for divine mercy," he said.

The pope prayed that Christians would mark every Sunday as the feast of the Lord's resurrection, experiencing "the beauty of an encounter with the risen Lord and drawing from the fount of his merciful love in order to be apostles of his peace."

Pope asks Jesuits to focus on teaching, research, dialogue

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Invoking the Jesuits' special vow to fulfill missions assigned by the pope, Pope Benedict XVI asked the Society of Jesus to concentrate on teaching and research in theology and philosophy, dialogue with modern culture and the Christian education of future generations.

Pope Benedict met with hundreds of Jesuits and their collaborators April 22 in St. Peter's Basilica after a Mass honoring three of the first members of the order.

The Mass commemorated the 450th anniversary of the death of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the order's founder, and the 500th anniversary of the births of two of his first companions: St. Francis Xavier and Blessed Peter Faber.

Pope Benedict called the three "men of extraordinary holiness and exceptional apostolic zeal."

"Precisely because he was a man of God, St. Ignatius was a faithful servant of the church," the pope said. "From his desire to serve the church in the most useful and efficient way, the vow of special obedience to the pope was born."

Pope Benedict asked the Jesuits to continue to be faithful to that vow so that "the urgent, current needs" of the church could be met.

Father Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, superior general of the more than 19,500-member order, thanked the pope for his affection and trust in the Society of Jesus.

He told the pope that it was right for the order to honor the three early Jesuits and "see them as enlightened and secure guides for our spiritual journey and our apostolic activity even though the times and circumstances in which we live and work have changed radically."

Deb at (336) 286-3687.

GREENSBORO — St. Pius X Church, 2210 North Elm St. will host a vicariate-wide *Estate Planning Seminar* May 16 at 7 p.m. in the Kloster Center. Estate planning information will be provided by Jim Kelley and Judy Smith in the diocesan planned giving office and Kim Garcia, Division President with US Trust in Winston-Salem. Please call (704) 370-3320 with any questions. To register, call (336) 272-4681.

HICKORY VICARIATE

HENDERSONVILLE — The *Widows Lunch Bunch*, sponsored by Immaculate Conception Church, meets at a different restaurant on the first Wednesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. Reservations are necessary. For more information and reservations, call Joan Keagle at (828) 693-4733.

HICKORY — A *Charismatic Mass* is celebrated the first Thursday of each month in Sebastian Chapel of St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St. NE, at 7 p.m. For further information, contact Joan Moran (828)-327-0487.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

SYLVA — A four-part series, "*Prayer of the Church*," will be presented at St. Mary Church, 22 Bartlett St. The last three sessions will meet 10-11 a.m., May 27, June 24 and July 22. Please call the church office at (828) 586-9496 to pre-register.

FRANKLIN — *Respect Life* meets the first Wednesday of every month after the 5:30 p.m. Mass in the Family Life Center at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 299 Maple St. All those interested in promoting the sanctity of human life are invited to attend. For more information, contact Julie Tastinger at (828) 349-9813 or jatastinger@aol.com.

WAYNESVILLE — *Adult Education Classes* are held the first three Wednesday evenings of each month beginning at 6:45 p.m. in the St. John

the Evangelist Church Social Hall, 234 Church St. For more information, call Charles Luce at (828) 648-7369 or e-mail luce54@aol.com.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

WINSTON-SALEM — Spirit of Assisi, a Franciscan Center, 221 W. Third St., will host read and reflect "brown-bag" gatherings May 3, 10, 17, 12-12:45 p.m. We will discuss "*An Introduction: Thomas Merton*" by William Shannon. Be inspired by Merton's deep spirit of prayer, passion for peace, openness to all whom he encounters, and keen wit. Bring your own lunch. Coffee and tea will be provided. For more information, call (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

WINSTON-SALEM — Spirit of Assisi, a Franciscan Center, 221 W. Third St., will host a book discussion on "*Humility of God: A Franciscan Perspective*" by Ilia Delio, O.S.F. This book deals with the theology of divine humility and God's relationship to the world, while at the same time tackling some tough questions. The group will meet May 1, 8 and 15, 6-7:30 p.m. For more information, call (336) 624-1971 or e-mail portiuncula@bellsouth.net.

WINSTON-SALEM — The *Healing Companions* is a grief support group for the bereaved that meets the first and third Thursdays of the month in conference room B at St. Leo the Great Church, 335 Springdale Ave. For further details, call Joanne Parcel at (336) 924-9478.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

The sound of cats in hats



PHOTO BY SUSAN CAMERON

First-graders perform as the "Cats-in-the-Hats" during the "Dr. Seuss Musical Review '06" at St. Mark School in Huntersville March 30. Songs included "A Day for the Cat in the Hat" and "Green Eggs and Ham" from "Seussical the Musical." The performance, directed by music teacher Heidi Hickox, was made possible by a 2006 Grant for Educational Excellence given by the Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools Education Foundation. Grant recipients were first-grade teachers Laura Mulkeen, Holly Roberts and Janet Batres.

Vatican official named coadjutor bishop in Venice, Fla.

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has named Msgr. Frank J. Dewane, undersecretary of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace at the Vatican, as coadjutor bishop of Venice, Fla.

As coadjutor, Bishop-designate Dewane will become head of the diocese upon the retirement or death of the current bishop, Bishop John J. Nevins of Venice.

The appointment was announced in Washington April 25 by Archbishop

Pietro Sambì, apostolic nuncio to the United States.

In Florida, Archbishop John C. Favalora of Miami said in a statement he welcomed the appointment and was grateful the pope named a coadjutor for Bishop Nevins, 74, who had requested "additional assistance as his responsibilities continue to grow in the southwest part of the state."

The 9,000-square-mile diocese has a Catholic population of about 218,000.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

April 30 — 11:30 a.m.
Mass for Catholic Scripture Study Conference
Omni Hotel, Charlotte

May 1-2
LARCUM Conference
Catholic Conference Center, Hickory

May 2 — 6 p.m.
Catholic Social Services Partners in Hope
Millennium Center, Winston-Salem

May 3 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. Frances of Rome Church, Sparta

An ongoing journey

Youths use labyrinth as prayer tool

LENOIR — Catholics in Lenoir were recently able to explore an ancient form of prayer.

The youth group at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Lenoir created a temporary labyrinth for use by parishioners April 7-9.

The labyrinth was created by Lorena Cowart, Emily Diehl, Hannah Doll, Amber Scarlett and Courtney Rascoe in a grassy area on the church grounds, with hay and fluorescent paint defining the path.

The parish was invited to "participate in a prayerful meditation journey that has been used in centuries past," said Linda Cowart, youth minister.

Mazes and labyrinths have been used by civilizations around the world, with the earliest known designs dating from about 3,000 years ago.

While a maze has dead ends, a labyrinth has only one twisting path that weaves its way to the center and back out again. There is only one entrance and one exit, no dead ends and no crossing of

paths with a choice of which way to turn.

There has been a recent re-emergence of the labyrinth as a prayer tool within the Christian community.

The labyrinth at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Lenoir was inspired by the youth group's visit last year to a labyrinth at an Episcopal church in Wilkesboro. That labyrinth was based on the labyrinth design at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris.

The "cathedral labyrinth" combines ancient Christian tradition with contemporary music, meditations, art and activities at 11 stations along the path.

"The more simple labyrinth we created is considered a classic design and has been found in some form in all parts of the world, in almost every culture throughout history," said Cowart.

It offered parishioners a chance to "travel a path to the center and contemplate the mysteries of our faith" and their own lives, said Cowart.



COURTESY PHOTO

Lorena Cowart, a parishioner of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Lenoir, walks a labyrinth created by the church's youth group on the parish grounds in April. The labyrinth has been used as a prayer tool in various cultures for centuries.

Always room for more



COURTESY PHOTO BY FRANK RYDER

Parishioners (left) of St. Luke Church in Mint Hill chat with guests during a Room in the Inn gathering at the church April 7. Room in the Inn is a parish outreach program to homeless persons that offers them a warm meal and friendly overnight stay on Friday evenings in the parish's Family Life Center.

BOUNTIFUL BASKETS



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Carol Wilcocks and Bob Desch, parishioners of St. Matthew Church in Charlotte, distribute food and paper products into baskets at the Pastoral Center in Charlotte April 10. St. Matthew parishioners provide about 100 baskets for Catholic Social Services clients each year for Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas.



**Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center**

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212

704-568-0023

www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma

Owner/Director

Privately, Locally Owned

Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

NOTICE TO SENIORS AND THE DISABLED

What would you say if we told you - you don't have to pay your credit card bills?

Most of our clients say "Thank you".

If your only income is from social security, disability payments, pensions or veteran's benefits.

Federal law states that your income can't be taken away to repay debt. You don't have to pay, and you don't have to endure frustrating calls and letters from collection agents. You can live worry free. Just contact the Debt Counsel for Seniors and the Disabled (DCSD).

- DCSD shelters you from harassment
- DCSD protects your income
- DCSD is not a bankruptcy

Stop creditors from breaking the law - trying to collect debts you can't pay.

**Call Debt Counsel for
Seniors and the Disabled
at 1-800-992-3275, ext-1007**

www.debtcounsel.net

Debt Counsel for Seniors and the Disabled

Jerome Lamet

Founder, Supervising Attorney

Proud member of the



Seeking healing and forgiveness after an abortion?

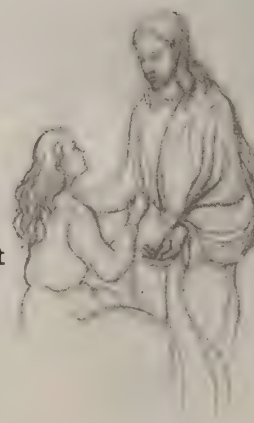
Experience God's love and compassion once again -

The Charlotte Diocese Respect Life Office of Catholic Social Services offers both men and women help, in confidence, at 704-370-3229.



Catholic Social Services
Diocese of Charlotte

You may also want to visit Rachel's Vineyard Web site at www.rachelsvineyard.org for helpful articles, retreat information and other direction to new hope and meaning for your future.



Young adults benefit from speaker series

THEOLOGY, from page 1

"Many young adults in the church struggle with their faith. Theology on Tap is a social, non-threatening atmosphere that encourages questions and learning," said Grey Nun of the Sacred Heart Sister Eileen Spanier, director of diocesan young adult ministry.

Many Protestant young adults can easily quote Scripture, said Sister Spanier, while many Catholic young adults do not truly understand the tenets of their faith.

"Many of us grew up Catholic, attending faith formation classes each Sunday and still aren't able to explain our faith or answer questions about the Catholic Church's teachings," said Catrina Conway.

Conway, planning committee chair for the Charlotte-based Theology on Tap, said the program is a way for young adults to learn and address concerns with others their own age while enjoying food, drinks and friends.

"Sometimes people are hesitant or intimidated to ask questions about their faith. Being with people your own age, you're more likely to ask questions because you feel they have them too," said Deb McCarty, program coordinator for the Greensboro-based Theology on Tap.

"Learning from each other's experiences inspires people and makes them think more about their faith," she said.

The Archdiocese of Chicago agrees. Its young adult ministry founded the speaker series 26 years ago to try to bring back young adults, who tend to

drift away from the church.

The program aims to reach young adults where they are, and takes place in a variety of settings from restaurants and bars to parish halls.

The program has grown in popularity over the years and has inspired others to initiate similar speaker series. Dioceses in approximately 44 U.S. states and a half-dozen other countries now offer Theology on Tap.

Father John Cusick, director of young adult ministry in the Chicago Archdiocese and co-founder of Theology on Tap, estimates that tens of thousands of young adults have attended Theology on Tap over the past quarter-century.

Many of them tend to be "Catholic, but don't have a parish," he said, and have a poor understanding of church traditions.

"We hear a lot about spiritual hunger," he said. "People are having a restless experience in everyday life. You put on a Theology on Tap program, and they're there."

A 2005 survey conducted by the U.S. bishops' Subcommittee on Youth and Young Adults found Theology on Tap as one of the most popular programs the church has for reaching young adults.

"Through Theology on Tap, Catholic young adults can gain a greater appreciation of their faith, a closer relationship with God and a network of friends who share their beliefs and values," said Conway.

"Groups like this promote Catholicism and offer a sense of connectedness," said Melissa Schuler, a parishioner of St. Mark Church in Huntersville. "The informal environment



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Seminarians Ben Roberts and Richard Worthington answer questions during a Theology on Tap session in Charlotte April 18.

gives you a better opportunity to learn things you didn't know."

The April 18 gathering in Charlotte featured a panel of two women religious, two seminarians and a layperson discussing their vocational callings. Upcoming sessions will cover social justice and the misinformation of "The Da Vinci Code" novel and soon-to-be-released movie.

The Greensboro gatherings typically draw 25 to 30 people. Charlotte gatherings usually see 45 to 75 people.

"Attendance at the spring 2005 series was high. The theme was 'Uncorking the Truth about God, Sex and the Sanctity of Life,'" said Conway.

Topics included Pope John Paul II's "theology of the body," the harsh realities of abortions, natural family planning and the abortifacient nature of chemical contraceptives.

"I think young adults want to know why the church takes such a strong stance on certain topics, and in learning why, they can learn the beauty of the Catholic faith," said Conway.

"Even after the meeting is over, people are still standing around and talking about the topic," said McCarty. "I'd consider that a success."

"It's a great way to get the truth of the Gospel across to people," said Worthington. "It's a superb social event with a bit of learning thrown in."

As Worthington discussed his road

to the seminary, he encouraged those in attendance, whether or not they were considering the religious life, to have a spiritual director.

"Find people to talk to about, and who will support you in, your faith," he suggested to the group.

Catholic young adults can help discover and live out their purposes in life "by using the gifts God has given us to serve each other and those who are less fortunate," said Conway.

"There are numerous ministry opportunities and many activities may not be labeled as a ministry, but in reality they are some sort of ministry," she said.

"We're all called in different ways," said McCarty. "My calling is to help provide a place for Catholic young adults to come together and learn."

Contributing to this story was Catholic News Service.

Contact Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail kemurray@charlottediocese.org.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more info about Theology on Tap in Charlotte, visit www.charlottetot.org; in Greensboro, visit www.triadcatholics.org.

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels.

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065



Please pray for the following priests who died during the month of May:

Rev. Ramon Berg	2003
Rev. Henri Blanc	1972
Rev. Edmund Kirsch	2001
Rev. Francis J. McCourt	1982
Rev. William McShea	1973
Rev. James E. Noonan	1992
Rev. Msgr. Michael O'Keefe	1994
Rev. Edward C. Smith	1983
Rev. James A. Stuber	1985

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

Pax Christi group gathers for immigrant rights

RALLY, from page 1

at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hayesville, N.C., was one of 12 people demonstrating on the Cherokee County courthouse steps in Murphy.

Eleven were from the Pax Christi group Mahon started, which includes members of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church and St. William Church in Murphy.

The twelfth demonstrator was Josh Hampsher, pastor of Cornerstone Wesleyan Church in Bryson City, who learned of the rally via the Internet.

"We're called by God to show our love for each other and to help the marginalized," Hampsher said, adding that he wanted to "make some connections with others concerned with peace and social justice."

They held placards with such Bible quotations as, "You shall not oppress an alien ... for you were once aliens in the land of Egypt" (Exodus 23:9), and the opening verse from Emma Lazarus' poem on the Statue of Liberty: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free."

Everyone took turns reading aloud Bible quotes, such as Jesus' admonition: "What you did (or did not) do for one of these least ones, you did (or did not do) for me" (from Matthew 25:31-46).

"We don't realize that all we have is a gift," Notre Dame Sister Terry Martin said. "What we have is not just for our own use. We need to share our blessings."

On April 4, the Pax Christi group attended a program at St. William Church. Lori Khamala, outreach coordinator with the Durham, N.C., office of the National Farm Worker Ministry, presented information about migrant work and housing conditions.

The group learned about these conditions last year when it visited a camp near Murphy and now wanted to know more about how to help migrants.

Khamala's presentation underscored what they had learned from the migrants: men working all day in the fields, then working long hours at night in the packing house; boots with soles eaten away by pesticides; no portable toilets in the fields; insufficient numbers of showers to enable workers to shower quickly to remove pesticides.

The Catholic Migrant Farmworker Network Web site states:

"Dermatitis and respiratory problems caused by natural fungi, dusts, and pesticides are common. Lack of safe drinking water contributes to dehydration and heat stroke. The absence of toilet facilities leads to urinary retention, which is in turn linked to urinary tract infection. Farmworkers suffer such infections more often than the general population."

The site adds that, "Migrant workers don't generally earn enough to pay for health care, and they almost never have health insurance. They may also lack transportation to the clinic or, since they don't receive sick leave, be afraid of losing wages or even their jobs if they take time off to seek health care."

As Michael Kauffman, a parishioner of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church and Pax Christi member, said, "I think it was at Lori's presentation that I heard that we used to own our slaves; now we rent them by the season."

Immigrant men are often crowded three or four into a bedroom, and some sleep on the floor because not everyone has a bed or mattress.

"Nobody deserves to sleep on the floor. Everyone has dignity," Mahon said.

He added that in the Bible, the Israelites were judged by how they treated widows and orphans, the most powerless members of that society.

At one camp, where Father George Kloster, pastor of St. William and Immaculate Heart of Mary churches, celebrated Mass, Mahon recalled, "One man said, 'We had to leave our country and our families to come here to find work. We really miss the sacraments, and we thank you for bringing them to us.'"

Diocese of Charlotte investigating alleged incident of sexual misconduct

CHARLOTTE — The Diocese of Charlotte is currently investigating an alleged incident of sexual misconduct involving a high school teacher.

The incident was reported April 24 by a senior at Charlotte Catholic High School. The alleged incident involved a Charlotte Catholic High School teacher and occurred two years ago at the teacher's home.

The teacher, who denied the allegation, was suspended April 24.

The Diocese of Charlotte reported the incident to the Department of Social Services as required by state law that day, April 24.

The diocese will comply and cooperate fully with any investigation by the authorities, while conducting its own investigation of the allegation.

The Chancery has notified the Diocesan Review Board, which reviews cases of sexual misconduct reported in

the Diocese of Charlotte.

A letter was sent April 25 to parents of Charlotte Catholic High School students, informing them of the incident. A statement also was posted on the diocesan Web site.

The teacher was hired in 2001 after passing a background check. No other allegations regarding this teacher have been reported in the diocese.

The teacher had undergone diocesan training on and awareness of sexual misconduct by church personnel, as is required by diocesan policy of all diocesan employees and volunteers.

To date, approximately 13,000 employees and volunteers have attended this training at more than 300 sessions held throughout the 46-county diocese.

The Diocese of Charlotte continues its commitment to providing a safe environment for all people, especially the young and the vulnerable.

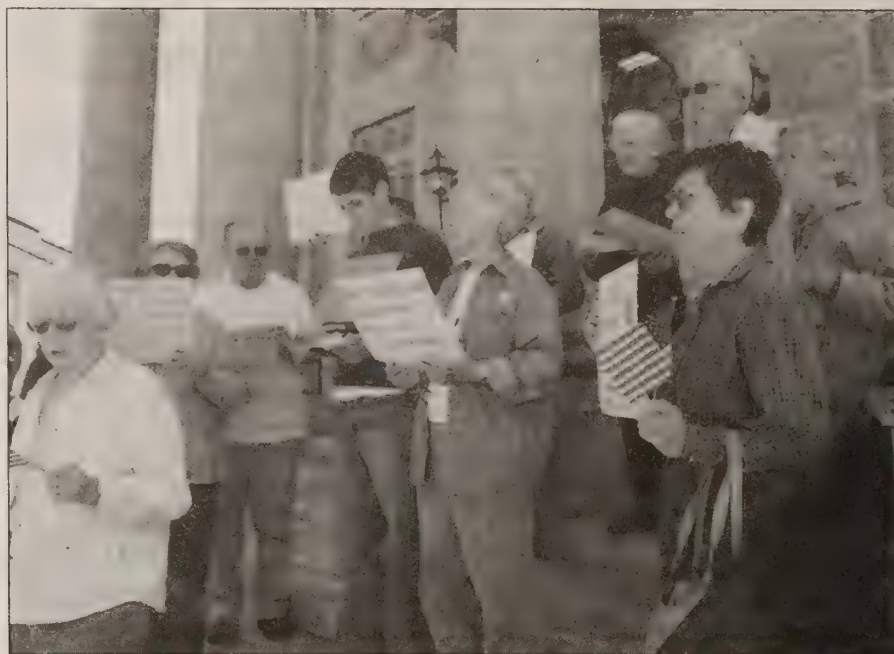


PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Demonstrating for migrant worker rights, Pax Christi members from St. William Church in Murphy and Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hayesville pray and sing on the Cherokee County courthouse steps April 10.

That really struck me."

Many migrants feel they have no choice but to leave their homelands to seek employment in the United States. Economic policies such as the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), passed in 1993, have forced thousands of Mexican farmers off their land.

"I wish I had enough money to pay a just wage, by Mexican standards, to every Mexican worker to go home for two years and see what that would do to

our economy," Father Kloster said.

The fact is, migrants are willing to work for less money, and Americans are willing to let them.

As Mahon points out, "We need the cheap labor to supply cheap goods and services."

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail jnell@dnnet.net.



The Contribution of Pope John Paul II to Catholic Social Thought

presented by

Rev. Joseph Koterski, S.J., Ph.D.

Department of Philosophy, Fordham University

Ever since the 1891 encyclical *Rerum Novarum* by Pope Leo XIII, popes have been expressing the principles of Catholic Social Teaching in the modern world. This presentation will review those basic principles and focus on Pope John Paul II's special contributions to this field.

Attendance is FREE. Please register in advance.



Rev. Joseph Koterski, S.J., Ph.D.
Philosophy Dept., Fordham University

Mooresville: Monday, May 22 — 7-8:30 pm
St. Therese Catholic Church, 217 Brawley School Road

Maggie Valley: Wednesday, May 24 — 7-8:30 pm
St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church, 37 Murphy Drive

Greensboro: Thursday, May 25 — 7-8:30 pm
St. Pius the Tenth Catholic Church, 2210 N. Elm Street

Sponsored by the Office of Justice and Peace and the Respect Life and Elder Ministry programs of the Office of Family Life of Catholic Social Services.

Questions? Call Catholic Social Services:
704-370-3228

Please call **704-370-3228** or email sabeason@charlottediocese.org if you plan to attend.



FROM THE COVER

World sees new style of papacy since Pope Benedict's election

POPE, from page 1

Paul remains in people's hearts, a fact witnessed daily in the seemingly endless line of pilgrims who come to his grave carrying flowers, notes or a silent prayer.

Pope Benedict, meanwhile, has used a simple and direct approach to win over the record crowds that are flocking to his appearances at the Vatican and elsewhere. Quietly and slowly, in more than 200 sermons and speeches, he has engaged the faithful and the wider society on the fundamental issues of truth, freedom, faith and human dignity.

"He's demonstrating that he's a true pastor of the universal church," said Bishop Peter J. Jugis. "He is bringing his great learning and academic achievements to bear in this role."

In some ways, it has taken a full year for the papal transition — a year to absorb the legacy of Pope John Paul's long pontificate and a year for Pope Benedict's papacy to come into focus.

"You can see Pope Benedict XVI has a great admiration and respect for Pope John Paul II, both as a person and as a leader in the Catholic community and beyond," said Father James Hawker, vicar for education in the Diocese of Charlotte.

The first year

The new pope found himself presiding over many events scheduled under his predecessor, like the Synod of Bishops last October, several canonizations, the closing of the eucharistic year, and numerous meetings and liturgies.

Pope Benedict has eased gently into his role. Those who hoped for tough new doctrinal pronouncements, wholesale removal of liberal bishops and a rollback in liturgical reform have been disappointed.

The pope's only major document so far has been an encyclical that focused on what he called the foundation of the Christian message, "God is love," and its implications for personal and institutional charity.

"I liked the theme of Pope Benedict's

"He's demonstrating that he's a true pastor of the universal church. He is bringing his great learning and academic achievements to bear in this role."

— Bishop Peter J. Jugis

first encyclical. It shows the stamp of his great intellect and was a good start for his papacy," said Bishop Jugis.

The much-discussed Vatican document barring men with deep-seated homosexual tendencies from the priesthood, although approved by Pope Benedict, was a project inherited from the previous pontificate.

The long-rumored replacements in the Roman Curia has happened yet. But in March, the pope made his first move to streamline Vatican offices. At least temporarily, the council dealing with migration was combined with the justice and peace council, and the council that dialogues with non-Christian religions — including Muslims — was combined with the council for culture.

The final alignment of curial offices is not yet clear and the changes may take months, but most expect a significant shrinking of the number of agencies.

Teaching the faith

For the last year, however, Pope Benedict's priorities have not been administrative. Instead, he has embarked on what might be described as a project to water the roots of the faith.

He has urged Catholics to rediscover Christ as the focus of their personal lives and to resist the tendency to make the individual ego "the only criterion" for their choices. The pope has been careful to phrase this as a sympathetic invitation and not a warning.

"We continually close our doors; we continually want to feel secure and do not want to be disturbed by others and by God" — and yet still Christ will come for his people, the pope said in a sermon last May.

As a teacher, he has turned to Scripture far more than doctrine, making connections between the early Christians of apostolic times and modern men and women struggling to live their faith.

"Pope Benedict has a very healthy understanding of the nature of education," said Father Hawker, "in that, with education, you share information so people will be formed and grow spiritually."



CNS PHOTO BY ALESSANDRO BIANCHI, REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI smiles as he leaves his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican on the first anniversary of his pontificate April 19.

Pope Benedict has tackled contemporary social and political issues by emphasizing a few main principles: that human rights rest on human dignity, that people come before profits, that the right to life is an ancient measure of humanity and not just a Catholic teaching, and that efforts to exclude God from civil affairs are corroding modern society.

He returns often to a central theme — the relationship between God and man — in language that can be clear-cut and gripping.

"Human life is a relationship ... and the basic relationship is with the Creator, otherwise all relationships are fragile. To choose God, that is the essential thing. A world emptied of God, a world that has forgotten God, loses life and falls into a culture of death," the pope said in a talk in March.

He has zeroed in on what he has called Europe's spiritual fatigue, occasionally rattling the cages and rallying the forces on issues like gay marriage, cohabitation and abortion.

A steady pace

Compared to his predecessor's early years, Pope Benedict appears to be going at a slower pace. All the same, his list of first-year accomplishments is impressive:

— In February, he named 15 new cardinals and convened them March 23 for a discussion on any topic they chose.

— Last fall, he embarked on a reconciliation effort with Lefebvrite traditionalists.

— In August, he presided over World Youth Day celebrations in his native Germany, winning the respect of young people some thought-provoking talks. He also met with ecumenical leaders, Muslims, government ministers, bishops and seminarians.

— Late last year, he reviewed the major documents of the Second Vatican Council 40 years after its close. Then, in a major talk to the Roman Curia, he explained the right way and wrong way to interpret the council's teachings.

— He moved quietly last summer to encourage the successful appointment of new Chinese bishops acceptable to both

their government and the Vatican.

— In December, he named a new apostolic nuncio to the United States.

"Pope Benedict has a marvelous commitment to ecumenism and reaching out to other religious bodies," said Father Hawker.

Throughout the year, the pope presided over ecumenical liturgies and met with a number of ecumenical groups, pledging continued efforts toward Christian unity. He also met several times with Jewish leaders, affirming the church's commitment to dialogue and reflecting on the Holocaust.

Papal stylings

Pope Benedict has had an overwhelmingly favorable reception among the tens of thousands of pilgrims who come to see him each week. When he moves through a crowd, he seems to look people in the eye.

"He enjoys meeting the faithful and being with them. He makes himself available and is generous with his time when meeting with all groups of people in both public and private audiences," said Bishop Jugis, who met twice with Pope Benedict in 2005.

Father Hawker, who served with consultants from around the world to the Vatican's Congregation for the Clergy in the 1990s, met then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger while he was head of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

"He was at home with people from every corner of the world," said Father Hawker. "He was extremely kind, gentle and humble, and a very good listener."

Last year, when the pope waived the normal five-year waiting period for the start of Pope John Paul II's sainthood cause, he showed he was sensitive to the popular voice of the church.

In April, when the crowds gathered to pray in St. Peter's Square, he joined them in remembering the late pontiff and the dramatic events set in motion by his death.

Contributing to this story was Editor Kevin E. Murray.

NEW COVENANT BOOKSTORE

- Books
- Cards
- Videos
- Jewelry
-and more!

336-760-1673

304 Upton St.,
Winston-Salem, NC
www.newcovenantbookstore.com

Churches celebrate Passover Seder



COURTESY PHOTOS

Parishioners of Sacred Heart Church in Brevard (above) and Our Lady of the Highways Church in Thomasville (below) celebrate the Passover Seder, a meal-and-prayer service in Jewish homes on the eve of the first day of Passover (and on the eve of the second day as well by Orthodox Jews outside Israel).

Some Christian families and parish groups hold modified Seder observances because the Last Supper, at which Jesus instituted the Eucharist the night before his death, is traditionally believed to have been a Seder meal.

Christian celebrations of Seder offer insight into the symbolism of the traditional Passover foods that are used in the Mass, such as unleavened bread and wine, according to Father Bob Colaresi, director of the Carmelite Spiritual Center in Darien, Ill.

"It helps you understand the symbols Jesus was offering us in the historical context of the day," said Father Colaresi. "Our understanding of the Eucharist is rooted in the celebration of Jewish Passover."

The Seder at Sacred Heart Church was led by Arthur Narins, who converted to Catholicism from Judaism. He has led Seders at churches and homes for 15 years.

More than 90 people attended the Seder at Our Lady of the Highways Church, led by John Dillon.



Let stairs be our problem... not yours!

Ask about our Stairway lifts.

- Easily attached to steps (not walls)
- Folds out of the way
- Fits most stairways (straight & curved)
- Very affordable (rent or buy)
- We install

Chair & Equipment Rentals & Sales, Inc.

800 Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC • (800) 333-8431

Member of St. Thomas Aquinas



The goodness of Easter eggs



COURTESY PHOTO

Middle school students from St. Pius X Church and School in Greensboro stuff Easter eggs April 5 to be delivered to the children's wing at Moses Cone Hospital; residents at Dolan Manor, a housing facility for older adults; and terminally ill children at Hospice of the Piedmont.



COURTESY PHOTO

Young parishioners of St. Ann Church in Charlotte stand with the Easter Bunny during the church's annual Easter egg hunt April 9. Confirmation candidates helped fill more than 1,600 eggs for children to find, as well as helped with games, temporary tattoos and face painting.

children + books + sun = A summer of learning fun!



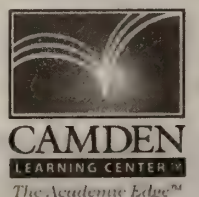
Summer is the ideal time to strengthen

- Phonetic skills
- Reading Comprehension
- Written Language skills
- Math skills
- Study skills

Call today for information.

704-752-4234

South Charlotte



Felicia Susi, Owner/Director
Parishioner, St. Matthew Catholic Church &
Parent, St. Matthew Catholic School student

Reliving the Stations



COURTESY PHOTO

Students at St. Leo the Great School in Winston-Salem re-enact a living Stations of the Cross and Last Supper in April. The Stations (or Way) of the Cross is a traditional Catholic Lenten devotion, a public but nonliturgical act of prayer.

We Love Blessed Sacrament Academy !!



- ◆ A classical curriculum in the Catholic tradition
- ◆ Latin, French, Music & Art
- ◆ Grades K-8
- ◆ Excellent scores on standardized tests



Call now to guarantee your child's enrollment. Space is LIMITED! 704-841-2292
 Visit us on the web : www.blessedsacramentacademy.org

Located behind Windsor Square in Matthews, NC. Independent of Charlotte diocesan schools. Member of NAPCIS.

Hawaii

15 Days – 4 Islands: from \$1328*
Depart November 2, 2006

Join others on the most affordable two-week, four-island fully escorted Hawaiian vacation you'll ever find. Your group will fly to Honolulu for five nights in Waikiki, three nights on Kauai, two nights on Maui, one night in Hilo, and three nights in Kona. Sightseeing on every island includes: A Honolulu city tour with Punchbowl Crater and Pearl Harbor cruise to the Arizona Memorial, the Wailua riverboat cruise to the Fern Grotto, Iao Valley excursion & the old whaling capital of Lahaina, a Hilo orchid garden and Rainbow Falls, Black Sand Beaches, Volcanoes National Park and more! *Your price, from only \$1328 (per person, double occupancy) includes baggage handling, Hawaiian hotels, taxes, all flights between the islands, and escorted sightseeing on every island. Add \$700 for round trip airfare from Charlotte. 'Your Man' Tours specializes in Hawaii and has had its own office in Honolulu, offering carefree vacations, since 1967. This price is so low because travelers buy wholesale, directly from the actual Hawaiian tour operator. Friends and family are welcome! Space is limited and reservations with a \$100 deposit should be made now.

For information, reservations and brochure call 7 days a week:

'YOUR MAN' TOURS 1-800-968-7626

WAY OF THE CROSS

Via Crucis celebrated at Hamlet parish

HAMLET — Via Crucis, or Way of the Cross, was celebrated at St. James the Greater Church in Hamlet on Good Friday, April 14.

Way (or Stations) of the Cross is a traditional Catholic Lenten devotion, a public but nonliturgical act of prayer.

Parishioners at St. James the Greater Church, many of whom are Hispanic, celebrated Via Crucis in Spanish and faithfully depicted the Last Supper and the 14 stations depicting Jesus' procession with the cross to his crucifixion and burial.

"It's a way of experiencing what Christ experienced, certainly for our community," said Benedictine Father David Draim, parochial vicar. "They have a strong faith that Christ died for us."

In many South American countries, entire towns turn out for Via Crucis.

"It's huge there," said Nestor Restrepo, a native of Colombia. "Religion is very close to culture, I think, and this is a way to feel that connection."

Pope Benedict XVI led the first Way

of the Cross service of his pontificate in the shadows of Rome's torch-lit Colosseum April 14.

The meditations on the 14 stations, written by Archbishop Angelo Comastri, vicar for Vatican City State, were written to help people realize that even today the sin and evil that led to Christ's suffering and death continue.

Archbishop Comastri noted that sins and divisions add weight to the cross Christ must bear. But he drew from Pope Benedict's first encyclical, "Deus Caritas Est" ("God Is Love"), to remind those who follow the Stations of the Cross that Christ's death and resurrection are the supreme signs of God's love and his desire to forgive.

"In his death, Jesus filled death itself with love; he filled it with the presence of God," the archbishop wrote.

Contributing to this story were Catholic News Service and Copy Editor Mary Griffin of the Richmond County Daily Journal.



COURTESY PHOTO BY MARY GRIFFIN, RICHMOND COUNTY DAILY JOURNAL

Heraclio Mendez, a parishioner of St. James the Greater Church in Hamlet, portrays Jesus during a Via Crucis (Way of the Cross) service at the church April 14.

ABBOTSWOOD SENIOR LIVING



For more than 17 years, Abbotswood at Irving Park has built a reputation on providing exemplary retirement living services to independent seniors. Residents enjoy the largest 1 and 2 bedroom floorplans in Irving Park, delicious meals, a full-time wellness director and month-to-month rental with NO BUY-IN FEES. Optional in-home health care services are available. Call today to schedule your personal tour.

(336) 282-8870

ABBOTSWOOD
 at Irving Park



The only full service retirement living address in the heart of Irving Park
 3504 Flint Street • Greensboro, NC 27405 • www.kiscoseniorliving.com

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Catholic author Muriel Spark dies at 88 in Italy

BY CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Catholic novelist Muriel Spark, author of "The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie" and more than 20 other books, died April 13 in a hospital in Florence, Italy. She was 88.

Her funeral took place April 15 in the Tuscan town of Civitella della Chiana, where Spark had lived for almost three decades.

Spark, who became a Catholic in 1954, received the 2001 Campion Award, given annually to a noted Christian person of letters by the Catholic Book Club, a subsidiary of America Press.

A working journalist, editor and biographer, Spark did not publish any novels until she was 39, three years after she became Catholic. Her first novel, "The Comforters" (1957), was inspired by her studies on the Book of Job, according to a BBC Web site.

"Several critics agree that her religious conversion was the central event of her life," the BBC said of Spark.

In 1961 she published her most famous work, "The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie," the story of a charismatic teacher and her influence on a group of favorite girls.

It continues to be recommended reading for young adults for its perceptive observations on the allure of fascism and adolescent susceptibility to adult manipulation.

The student narrator in the novel converts to Catholicism as an adult. Adaptations of the novel for the stage in 1966 and for film in 1969 increased Spark's fame.

In a 1997 interview with the Sunday Telegraph, Spark talked about how being a Catholic influenced her writing.

"I don't propagate the Catholic faith but in a funny sort of way my books couldn't be written by anyone except a Catholic," she said.

"It's the only religion I view as rational — it helps you get rid of all the other problems in your life," Spark added. "There really is such a thing as beauty of morals."

In a later interview for BBC Radio 3, Spark said Catholicism "gives me an inner stability which enables me to write better, I feel."

"I was very tentative before" becoming a Catholic, she added. "I wrote biographies and I was very tentative about creative work. ... And somehow with my religion — whether one has anything to do with the other, I don't know — but it does seem so, that I just gained confidence, and I don't care if it's foolish or anything, I just write."

Spark's last novel, "The Finishing School," was published in 2005. She also wrote several volumes of poetry and biographical works on the Bronte family, Mary Shelley and others.



CNS PHOTO BY REUTERS

Scottish-born novelist Muriel Spark listens to speeches in her honor after receiving the 1997 David Cohen British Literature Prize during a ceremony in London. Spark, a Catholic novelist, died April 13 in a hospital in Florence, Italy. She was 88.

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: MAY 7, 2006

May 7, Fourth Sunday of Easter

Cycle B Readings:

1) Acts 4:8-12

Psalm 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 29

2) 1 John 3:1-2

3) Gospel: John 10:11-18

As followers of God, we should know one another

BY JEAN DENTON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Travis and Zach are twin brothers in the confirmation class I'm leading this year. There are a dozen other high school juniors in the group, nearly all of whom I've known since they were in sixth grade.

The twins, however, began participating in parish religious education classes only a couple of years ago, so I didn't know them too well.

I mostly saw them as somewhat disengaged in youth gatherings at church while their mother diligently insisted they attend regularly. Eventually I noticed signs of maturity. They at least made a show of seriousness in confirmation classes.

Travis occasionally spoke up in discussions. Still, it seemed obvious that they were doing only what was necessary to get confirmed and make Mom happy.

As confirmation neared, the group went on a weekend retreat. Beforehand, I mentioned to the twins' mother that we appreciated her sons' efforts but lamented that Zach was strongly dependent on Travis.

During the weekend, however, it became clear that I was wrong. In fact the two had not only very different personalities and interests, they were completely independent in the social sphere.

They shared their developing faith openly, and I had several informal conversations with each one in our time together. I realized I had not worked very hard at getting to know them.

At the end of the retreat we were hugging each other goodbye, and the next day I caught myself checking their baseball schedule so I could go to the next home game, drawing them into a growing group of young adults I've been blessed to know and love as I do my own children.

I'm not the Good Shepherd, but as his follower I needed that lesson. Jesus said he knows his sheep and they know him, and that he will choose to lay down his life for them.

It is hard to love and take on the concerns of those we don't know. We disciples are called to take the time and make the effort to appreciate the complex people God has created and placed in our lives — offered to us — so we will be able to love them as he does, placing their needs first.

Questions:

Who are some of the people you interact with regularly but whom you haven't gotten to know very well? What can you do to deepen those relationships?

Scripture to Illustrate:

"I am the good shepherd. I know my sheep and my sheep know me in the same way that the Father knows me and I know the Father" (John 10:14-15ab).

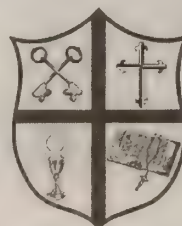
WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 30-MAY 6

Sunday (Third Sunday of Easter), Acts 3:13-15, 17-19, 1 John 2:1-5, Luke 24:35-48; Monday (St. Joseph the Worker), Colossians 53:14-15, 17, 23-24, Matthew 13:54-58; Tuesday (St. Athanasius), Acts 7:51-8:1, John 8:30-35; Wednesday (Sts. Philip and James), 1 Corinthians 15:1-8, John 14:6-14; Thursday, Acts 8:26-40, John 6:44-51; Friday, Acts 9:1-20, John 6:52-59; Saturday, Acts 9:31-42, John 6:60-69.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 7-13

Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Easter), Acts 4:8-12, 1 John 3:1-2, John 10:11-18; Monday, Acts 11:1-18, John 10:1-10; Tuesday, Acts 11:19-26, John 10:22-30; Wednesday (Bl. Damien de Veuster), Acts 12:24-13:5, John 12:44-50; Thursday, Acts 13:13-25, John 13:16-20; Friday (Sts. Nereus and Achilles, St. Pancras), Acts 13:26-33, John 14:1-6; Saturday (Our Lady of Fatima), Acts 13:44-52, John 14:7-14.



St. Thomas Aquinas Academy
Asheville, North Carolina
www.stthomasaquinasacademy.org

(828) 687-7714

Accepting applications for ninth, tenth and eleventh grades.

Member, National Association of Private, Catholic and Independent Schools

St. Thomas Aquinas Academy is a private school, independent of the Charlotte Diocesan school system.



Active, fun, and inspiring:

The perfect retirement picture!

NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN HIGH POINT: A New Beginning For You! Pennybyrn at Maryfield will offer a carefree lifestyle filled with energy and excitement. No more yard work or chores... just good friends, a perfect location, and every convenience you can imagine, including on-site short or long-term care.

Soon, this extraordinary lifestyle will be a reality—A New Beginning for you—so act now. Picture yourself at Pennybyrn at Maryfield!

Call (336) 886-4103 or toll-free (866) 627-9343.



PENNYBYRN
at MARYFIELD
A Continuing Care Retirement Community

1315 Greensboro Road, High Point, NC 27260

www.pennybyrnatmaryfield.com

Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor Servants
of the Mother of God



NR/CNHConst

'United' heroes heralded in film



CNS PHOTO BY UNIVERSAL

Lewis Alsamari (left) and Jamie Harding star in "United 93," a tense, well-acted documentary-style drama about the hijacking of an aircraft on Sept. 11, 2001, when passengers fought back, downing the plane in the ensuing melee and preventing destruction of a probable Washington target, while air traffic controllers on the ground struggled to make sense of what was happening.

Director Paul Greengrass has avoided exploitation with his dispassionate approach and the use of a no-name cast, but many will obviously find this extremely distressing. Yet as a testament to heroism and a vivid cautionary tale, the film is, on balance, a worthwhile endeavor.

Harrowing suspense, violence and bloodshed (though discreetly shot with quick editing), other disturbing Sept. 11 imagery, a smattering of profanity and four-letter words uttered under extreme distress.

The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.

Traps of technology

Blogs pose dangers to students, Catholic legal expert says

ATLANTA (CNS) — Blogging poses grave safety and legal issues, said Sister Mary Angela Shaughnessy, a Sister of Charity of Nazareth, Ky., who is

executive director of the Education Law Institute in Louisville, Ky.

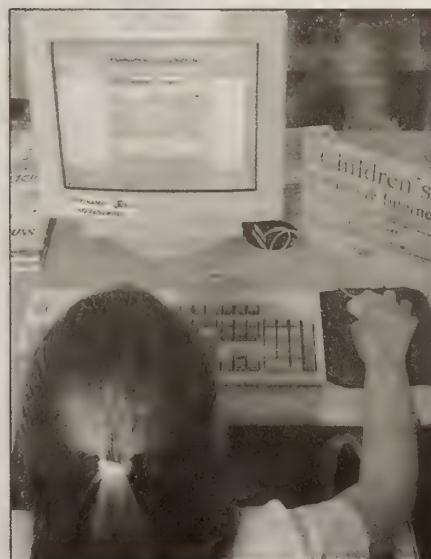
"Two years ago, I don't think I could have told you what blogging is," Sister Shaughnessy said during an April 19 workshop at the National Catholic Educational Association's annual convention in Atlanta. "Now, I'm some sort of expert."

Blogs, a contraction of the phrase "Web logs," are archives of diarylike postings on individuals' own Web pages. Blogs are often collected on certain Web sites, such as www.myspace.com.

High school students, who often create blogs, "don't get it," Sister Shaughnessy said. "They don't get that giving their name, their address, their telephone number, the school they go to and the hours they go might get them caught."

Despite teens' seeming ignorance of the dangers of blogs, "parents know even less about computers than their kids do," she added.

School officials can get their students to remove any school logo from a blog, since it is an unauthorized use of a copyrighted symbol, but a blog, like much else in cyberspace, is "archived forever and you can't cut it off," Sister Shaughnessy said.



CNS PHOTO BY MARTIN LUEDERS

An area at a public library in Gaithersburg, Md., is set aside specifically for use by children 13 and younger. Blogging, or web logging, poses safety issues to children, says an expert.

DO ADS WORK? LISTEN TO THIS:

"As a small business getting started in a large city, it was very important to produce immediate interest. The phone calls in just our first few weeks of CN&H ads far exceeded our expectations! We are so pleased that we'll continue to use The CN&H as our primary source of advertising!"

— Felicia Susi, Director, Camden Learning Center

THE CATHOLIC
NEWS & HERALD

CALL TODAY for low rates to tell over 135,000 readers every week about YOUR company! 704-370-3332

DIOCESAN REGIONAL COORDINATORS (OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION)

Charlotte Diocese seeks two persons with master's degrees in Religious Ed/allied field, and five years of demonstrable successful experience in parish/diocesan work. Well-rounded in catechist formation skills. Collaborative. Sensitive to cultural minorities. Good written/oral communication skills. Spanish a plus. Office locations: one in Maggie Valley, NC and the other in Greensboro, NC.

For copy of Job Description, e-mail paonaindia@charlottediocese.org.

Please send resume, salary requirements and three letters of recommendation to:

Dr Cris V. Villapando, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203-4003 or

cvvillapando@charlottediocese.org.

Application deadline is May 19, 2006.

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

J.S. Paluch Co., established in 1913, the nation's oldest Catholic Publisher, is now interviewing for the position of Sales Representatives for parish church bulletins. Realistic earnings potential of 40K+, health insurance, paid vacation, 401K. Some travel required. Self-motivation a must. Bilingual helpful in some areas. To arrange an interview call Les Black at 800-432-3240. Seniors welcome to apply. EOE



PRINCIPAL

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic School, Winston-Salem, NC, seeks candidates for principal, beginning July 1, 2006. Salary is negotiable based on qualifications and experience.

QUALIFICATIONS: Must be a practicing Catholic. Must have a Master's Degree in Educational Administration or a Master's Degree in Education with a focus on Curriculum or Instruction, PLUS 18 hours of administrative coursework. Must have or be eligible for NC Principal's Certification. A minimum of 10 years' teaching experience required. Middle school experience is necessary.

Our Lady of Mercy is a Pre-K - 8th grade school with approximately 290 students and a faculty and staff of 32. Please send resume, transcripts, and references to:

Friar William Robinson, OFM Conv.

1730 Link Road

Winston-Salem, NC 27103

Visit our web site — www.ourladyofmercyschool.org.



SERVICES

COUNSELING SERVICES: Individuals. Couples. Family. Lucille Moses, BSN, M.Ed. North Carolina Licensed Professional Counselor. 1801 East 5th Street, 108-B, Charlotte. 704-366-6507 or 704-942-4334.

FOR RENT

CABIN: Modern, cozy Lake Lure cabin with panoramic mountain views for your getaway! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Reasonable rates. 828-299-3714.

Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT

RETAIL SALES: Educational Outfitters is looking for high energy, hard working employees for available summer positions. Email mandy@educationaloutfitters.com or call 704-525-3344.

Classified ads bring results! Over 135,000 readers! Over 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org,

faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

Full-Time Receptionist

IHM Parish (School and Church) has an opening for a full-time receptionist at the administrative office. Requirements: personable, good communication and organizational skills, skilled in computer and familiar with Microsoft Office, Publisher, and Power Point. Hours are 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM, Monday – Friday, and benefits are included. Please fax (336-884-1849), email (gterpstra@ihmchurch.org), or mail resume to: Glenda Terpstra, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 605 Barbee Avenue, High Point, NC 27262.

High School Youth Minister

Christ Our King Catholic Church located in Mt. Pleasant, near Charleston, South Carolina, is seeking a full-time High School Youth Minister. The successful candidate must be a practicing Catholic who is able to continue to implement "Renewing the Vision of Youth Ministry" within our community of 2500 families.

The candidate must have a minimum of three years' experience in Youth Ministry. A degree in a related field is preferred. Salary will be commensurate with experience and degree. Position is available July 1, 2006.

Your resume with references may be submitted to Christ Our King Catholic Church, 1149 Russell Drive, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464, or by email to dfisher@christourking.org.

These items must be received by Friday, May 12, 2006.

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Church of St. John the Beloved, a 1400-family parish located outside of Charleston, SC, is seeking a full-time Director of Religious Education. As a member of the pastoral staff, this position includes faith formation for Pre-K to grade 5, sacramental preparation for baptism, reconciliation, Eucharist and confirmation, children's liturgy of the Word, adult formation, catechist formation and collaboration with the administration and teaching staff of the parish school. Master's degree and experience preferred. Salary and benefits are negotiable.

Please send resume to: DRE Search Committee, 28 Sumter Avenue, Summerville, SC 29483. Fax: (843) 873-1431

PRINCIPAL

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Principal of St. Thomas More School, a practicing Catholic, is the administrator and educational leader of St. Thomas More of the Archdiocese of Atlanta with approximately 500 students and approximately 40 faculty and staff. Appointed by the Archbishop and reporting to the Chancellor, the Principal is accountable to the Archbishop through the Chancellor, for implementation of the mission of Catholic education in St. Thomas More School. The Principal is also responsible for providing leadership and managing the School staff; mentoring and providing mediation and conflict resolution among staff, students, and external sources; developing long and short range plans for the grade School; providing communication and support for teachers, students, chaplains, pastors, and boards; representing the Archdiocese in matters related to St. Thomas More School; and assuring compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws and codes. Some travel required. Send resume, credentials, references and salary requirements to:

Mary M. Ruprecht,

140 West Myrtle Street,

Duluth, MN 55811-5018

Telephone 218-727-5150

E-mail mruprcht@cpinternet.com



Father Fernandez answers call heard long ago

PRIEST, from page 1

Lord," said Bishop Jugis during his homily. "A double measure of joy is given to us this season, as (we) give thanks to our blessed savior for the gift of a new priest."

Journey to the altar

For Father Fernandez, becoming a priest meant answering a call he had first heard as a high school student.

Born in Cuba, Father Fernandez immigrated to Philadelphia with his family when he was 9 years old.

As a young man, he earned a bachelor's degree in piano performance and a master's degree in psychology at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. He settled in the Washington area, working as a school psychologist for the next 10 years.

In 1996, he said he received his call to a vocation in the priesthood — a call that first came when he was a high school student.

"It was kind of a difficult year.... I had accomplished all my goals ... but there was a void within me," he said. "As I prayed more about it, I realized my call was coming back."

After a year of discernment, Father Fernandez said, "Finally, God gave me the grace to say 'yes.'"

After five visits to Belmont Abbey,

"Finally, God gave me the grace to say 'yes.'"

Father Fernandez decided that the life of a Benedictine was the life meant for him.

"I felt at home the first time I walked through the door," he said.

Father Fernandez began his postulate in 1998, and went on to earn a second master's degree, this one in theology from Saint John's University's School of Theology/Seminary in Collegeville, Minn.

At the altar at last

"The power flowing from our Lord's resurrection will now be seen also in your priestly ministry, Father Agostino," Bishop Jugis said in his homily. "The grace of the sacrament of holy orders will configure you to Christ, the High Priest. You will act in the person of Christ, who desires to be always present to his faithful people."

Concelebrants of the ordination Mass included Abbot Placid Solari, head of the monastic community at Belmont Abbey; monks of the abbey; and other priests serving in the Diocese of Charlotte.

During the rite of ordination, Father Fernandez confirmed his promise to fulfill the office of the priesthood. Kneeling, he placed his hands between Bishop Jugis'

hands in a promise of obedience.

The congregation was invited to join in prayer for the priestly candidate, the church and its people as he lay prostrate before the altar.

During the rite's most solemn moment, Father Fernandez knelt in silence before Bishop Jugis, who laid his hands on Father Fernandez's head in prayer. The Benedictine monks then followed suit, praying over their brother monk.

The celebration of the sacrament of holy orders was completed as the bishop extended his hands over the kneeling candidate and prayed the prayer of consecration.

Father Fernandez was vested with a stole and a chasuble — outer garments of the priestly office. The bishop anointed Father Fernandez's hands with sacred chrism and he was then presented with a chalice and paten signifying his role as celebrant of the Eucharist.

"Since you will reveal the presence of Christ and the power of his paschal mystery, celebrate the sacraments, especially the sacrifice of the Mass, with reverence and devotion," said the bishop.

The newly ordained Father Fernandez then joined his brother priests to concelebrate the Mass, thus opening the new chapter in his life.

Beyond the altar

As subprior of Belmont Abbey, the third-highest ranking monk, Father Fernandez helps ensure the smooth operations of the cloister. He is also the director of formation, acting as guide and teacher



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Benedictine Abbot Placid Solari vests Father Agostino Fernandez with a stole and a chasuble during the Mass celebrating ordination of Father Fernandez April 22.

of the six monks in formation, and serves as master-of-ceremonies at liturgies.

Father Fernandez said his main fidelity is to the monastery. Benedictines take a vow of stability, and the monastery becomes the family they remain with for the rest of their lives.

"With God's grace, I look forward to serving our Lord and being a witness to the Gospel as I serve my community," said Father Fernandez.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

Earn college credits early! Attend summer classes at "the Abbey."

- Financial Aid available (for those who did not attend college in Spring 2006)
- 4-week classes begin in May and again in June
- 8-week evening classes begin May 23
- Summer tuition is the lowest of the year
- Earn credits towards your degree and still have almost two months of vacation
- A perfect way for adults to work towards finishing a degree and for high school students to begin earning theirs!

For more information:

Please call the Summer School Office at 704-825-6671, email CACE@bac.edu or log onto BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu



BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

A daughter's question about hunger and homelessness

Q. I need an answer for my daughter. In the Bible it says that Jesus performed a miracle of multiplying fish and loaves of bread, and fed thousands of people.

Why, she asks, doesn't he perform the same miracle for all the millions of people starving and homeless today? It's a good question, but I couldn't come up with a good answer. Please help. (Kentucky)

A. Your question has been asked thousands of times over the centuries by Christians and others. Ultimately, I believe, there is no clean-cut final answer, because we're dealing with a huge mystery of creation, the mystery of evil.

An essential part of the explanation we can give is the basic truth that Jesus became flesh on earth not to take away all suffering, but to be part of it, to help us find a way through it by our compassion and love for each other.

Why did a good, wise and gracious God not remove all the pain? Or why did God not eliminate disease for everyone, but just for a few?

Theoretically he could have, so obviously God sees something in the whole picture that we miss, something perhaps that we are simply incapable of seeing because of our extremely limited perspective.

For some reason he made us responsible for each other and accountable for the consequences when we refuse that responsibility, when we abuse, reject and isolate ourselves from our brothers and sisters on this planet.

The solution Jesus gave us was simple, but not easy: The first and basic command is to love God with your whole heart, mind and soul, and love your neighbor as yourself.

He expanded on this often, most specifically in his description of the final days when we will be judged on how we fulfilled our duty to feed, clothe and support each other.

God has, then, given us the keys to the elimination of suffering and moral evil. All his saving grace and love, all his call to discipleship, is to give direction and to help us use those keys.

In other words, God has bound him-

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



self to depend on our hands. He does all he can to walk with us and help us. But he respects our humanity, our dignity, so much that he refuses to despair of our potential, to shove us out of the way and take over everything himself.

Therefore, our responsibility here is enormous.

Why did Jesus cry in the presence of death (Jn 11:35)? Why did he weep when he realized his own people were rejecting him (Lk 19:41)?

We must conclude that he shares deeply in our hurt and pain, but he would not repent of the trust, hope and love he invested in the human family at the beginning.

We need to ask questions; it is good and important that we do so. In the end, however, we need a good dose of humility before this mystery.

Does this mean God ceased to love us or to care? Absolutely not.

It explains, in fact, why Jesus was so obedient to the Father, who wanted the Son to live a perfect human life, with all its weaknesses and heartache, obedient even to death on the cross. He honors his Father by bringing us to honor our Father with that same obedience.

Does this require some faith? Yes.

But it makes more spiritual and common sense, and reflects more wisdom, than to try to reduce God to our size just so we can understand and be emotionally uncomfortable with everything harsh this earthly life holds for us.

Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at e-mail: jjdietzen@aol.com.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

Church tradition helps keep connection with Christ's life, apostles

BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Remaining faithful to church tradition keeps Christians connected to Christ and the apostles' firsthand experience of the savior's life, teachings, death and resurrection, Pope Benedict XVI said at his weekly general audience.

By adhering to church tradition, Christ remains present in the ecclesial communion, linking women and men across the world and throughout history by the same faith, he said in his catechesis delivered April 26 in St. Peter's Square.

"Tradition is the communion of faithful gathered round the legitimate shepherds throughout history, a communion which the Holy Spirit nourishes, guaranteeing a connection between the experience of apostolic faith lived by the original community of disciples and the present experience of Christ in his church," he said.

Tradition, however, is not handing down inert things or words; "tradition is a living river" that links the faithful directly to its origins and to Christ, he said.

Being immersed in this "great river" will carry the faithful to the doors of eternity in heaven, he said. Since it is "a living river," being part of the church's

The Pope Speaks

POPE BENEDICT XVI



2,000-year tradition reminds people that God will always be with his people, until the end of time, said the pope.

In his catechesis on ecclesial communion, the pope spoke on how the church is sustained by the Holy Spirit and "safeguarded and promoted by the apostolic ministry."

Thanks to the presence of the Holy Spirit, the experience of the risen Lord "will always be lived by successive generations" through their common faith, lived through worship and the church community, he said. In this way, the Holy Spirit, Christ's disciples and the Christian communities remain forever linked, he said.

The Holy Spirit helps guide the church and its pastors to be in uninterrupted continuity with its origins so that Jesus always remains present in the church's life and its future, the pope said.

An encounter with the suffering Christ

Terminally ill child still a bittersweet gift

"It started as a routine ultrasound," began Danny Eisenbacher. He and his wife Jeannine were expecting their fifth child.

The doctor discovered that the baby had anencephaly, a condition in which the child's brain fails to develop properly and the baby's head is noticeably misshapen. Babies with the condition usually do not survive more than a few days after birth, if they survive birth at all.

There was never a question in Danny and Jeannine's minds as to whether they would accept and love the child God gave them. They would never consider aborting their daughter and they made their medical providers aware of this fact.

Still, they were pressed to consider all their "options."

"How many times have we been asked already if we would like to terminate? It is not at all an option for us," said Danny. "This is our child that we are going to love and nurture for as long as we can. And actually, it isn't even our child ultimately. It is God's child. Like all of our children."

After learning their baby was a girl, they named her Angela and commended their prayers to, among others, St. Angela. They prayed daily for Angela's miraculous healing but they also prepared for the worst — a funeral was planned well before the baby's birth.

They wondered: Will her siblings have a chance to meet and hold her? How will they deal with the death of their baby sister?

As Jeannine began to look more obviously pregnant, it was an ever-present reminder that the baby was on the way.

But this was for them a time of

Life Issues Forum

MAUREEN BAILEY
GUEST COLUMNIST



sorrow, knowing that the baby likely would not live for more than a few days after birth. Their long Lent began.

Angela was born April 3. Danny and Jeannine embraced every moment that came with her labor and delivery. They did not receive the miraculous cure for which they had prayed, but they were granted what they called "the miracle of having some time with her."

Angela was baptized, confirmed and anointed. Three days after her birth, she died surrounded by her parents, grandparents and friends. Her birth gave the Eisenbachers a chance to meet, face-to-face, a precious if bittersweet gift. In the face of every human being lies an encounter with God.

Carrying, giving birth to and caring for a child with a disability is an encounter with our suffering-God, with Jesus crucified. As Christians, we know that the crucifixion is not the final word.

And one day, Angel's family will rejoice with her in the company of our risen Lord.

Maureen Bailey is a public policy analyst with the USCCB Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities.

An immigrant's confession

We must remember where we came from and why

I have a confession to make. My people came to America, uninvited and without papers.

My great-great-grandfather was James Barrett of County Kerry. Driven out of Ireland by the great potato famine, he landed in Boston around 1850. Eventually he made his way to New York and, although not a true American, was welcomed to fight in the Civil War with a Union artillery unit.

He was discharged in Baltimore in 1865 and returned to New York, where he worked as a stonemason in New Rochelle, where I was born 87 years later.

When Irish people like Jimmy Barrett arrived, they were vilified, made fun of and feared. So it also was with the Chinese, the eastern Europeans and, once freed from the chattel of slavery, the Africans.

But all of them were also asked to do the hard, dirty work that no one else wanted to do. The Chinese built the railroads; the Europeans worked in the offal pits of the meat packing industry; the slaves, well ... they were slaves.

Many of the children of immigrants have since moved up in society. We speak the language; our children are team captains and homecoming queens.

This is our country now. We like it here and we aren't going back.

Some of us have forgotten why our ancestors came here. America was and is the "Disneyland" of countries. Everyone wants to come here because, in biblical terms, we are "a land flowing

Catholics & the Media

DAVID HAINS
GUEST COLUMNIST



with milk and honey."

We have the biggest Wal-Marts, the safest amusement parks, the best-tasting junk food. And we have so much money that we spend more on dog food than the gross domestic product (GDP) of less fortunate countries. The new immigrants must think there are a few scraps from this table of plenty.

But there are those among us who want to build high walls at the borders and make criminals of the people who come here to work as our landscapers and hotel maids. Jimmy Barrett was forced to leave his home because he was hungry and poor and if he hadn't, he probably would have died.

For the new immigrants, the trip to America is shorter and the names sound different, but many of their motivations and desires are the same.

For those who have forgotten their immigrant roots and don't want to share this country's spoils, there are some familiar Scripture passages that remind us about love and peace and justice.

And don't forget the Lord's words: "Whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me" (Mt 25:40).

God bless those Hispanic leaders who have organized the peaceful marches and rallies all over the country that put the plight of immigrants on the front burners of discussion in the media.

It is gratifying to know that an anti-immigrant rally held at a Charlotte high school in January drew about 20 people. The pro-immigration gathering in Charlotte's Marshall Park in March drew 7,000; a Winston-Salem rally drew 3,000.

Franciscan Sister Andrea Inkrott, director of Hispanic ministry in the Diocese of Charlotte, read a letter at the Marshall Park rally from Bishop Peter J. Jugis. The mere mention of the bishop's name and the Catholic Church, which has a long history supporting the rights of immigrants, drew a thunder of applause from those gathered.

In the 2004 film "The Day After Tomorrow," there is an intriguing scene in which Mexican border guards are holding off a hoard of Americans fleeing to the south to escape the new ice age gripping the northern hemisphere. After phone calls from the White House, the Mexican guards relent and the American immigrants are allowed in.

The film was a fantasy, but in reality the reverse situation exists and our border guards offer no such welcome.

We older immigrants need to remember our roots and our Scripture as these newer immigrants come to the bountiful table that is America.

David Hains is director of communication for the Diocese of Charlotte. Contact him at dwhains@charlottediocese.org.

What will your endowment do?

Guest Column

JUDY SMITH
GUEST COLUMNIST



Endowment funds are growing in popularity as more and more donors discover the remarkable benefits they provide. Perhaps you have even thought of creating one of these funds yourself.

Through your endowment, you can accomplish many objectives. Here are just three to consider:

1) Your endowment will endure.

Diocesan Foundation endowments exist in perpetuity. Because our policies prohibit us from spending the principal, only the income from interest can be used to meet the purposes of the endowment.

For example, let's say you create an endowment to provide assistance to your parish or school through an educational scholarship. Once established, the endowment will generate these financial grants each year.

One hundred years from now, parishioners and students will benefit from your prudent planning and generosity. This enduring quality makes endowments the perfect tool to create a lasting legacy.

2) Your endowment will enable.

Regular cash gifts to your parish, school or a Catholic agency certainly help them meet their financial obligations. But what happens when the donor dies? Or what if these cash gifts are not so readily available in lean years?

Because of their enduring quality, endowments enable us to plan ahead with confidence. We can project endowment income and develop programs accordingly.

Donors sometimes create endowment funds to enable us to accomplish things we would not ordinarily be able to do through normal operating income. An endowment may provide ongoing resources for such things as student enrichment, refugee support or social justice outreach.

3) Your endowment will inspire.

When you establish an endowment, you inspire your Catholic community. You deepen our financial foundation and lift us higher in the minds of fellow Catholics.

Through your endowment, you say, "The Catholic Church is worthy of my resources. I expect the church to be fulfilling its mission far into the future."

Your prudent and forward-looking decision encourages us and challenges us to honor your "investment."

This inspiration spreads to your family as well. Your children and grandchildren have added reason to appreciate their Catholic heritage. The ongoing impact of your endowment reminds them of who they are. It lifts their sights and inspires a benevolent spirit.

For more information, contact me at jmsmith@charlottediocese.org or (704) 370-3220.

Judy Smith is director of planned giving for the Diocese of Charlotte.

Honoring Mary

God gave her most privileged position

The month of May is dedicated to Mary, the mother of Jesus.

St. Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist, once said, "Of all women, Mary, you are the most blessed; blessed is the fruit of your womb" (Lk 1:42-45, The Jerusalem Bible).

We honor Mary every May because God gave her the most privileged position in human history when she became the mother of our Lord and savior, Jesus Christ.

The divine command to honor one's mother is found in Exodus 20:12. We know that Jesus honors his mother, just as any good son would honor his mother.

Since the Lord's love flows through us, we love and honor Mary as well.

The Hebrew Bible helps us to imagine how Jesus might relate to Mary in heaven. We read that King Solomon had his mother sitting to the right of his throne.

She often interceded with him on behalf of his subjects saying, "I have a favor to ask of you. ... Do not refuse me." Solomon would answer, "My mother, make your request for I will not refuse you" (1 Kgs 2:21).

When Catholics recite the Hail Mary, "Pray for us, now and at the hour of our death," they do not think of Mary as a kind of goddess with independent power. They know that her power is

Spirituality for Today

FATHER JOHN
CATOIR
CNS COLUMNIST



from the Lord.

They simply ask her to intercede for them, knowing well that Jesus will honor her request.

St. Elizabeth is recorded in Scripture as saying, "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

Mary believed and then surrendered herself to the Lord in perfect submission: "Be it done unto me according to thy word" (Lk 1:38), and the miracle of the incarnation took place in her womb. Jesus became flesh of her flesh and bone of her bone.

Each of us has some special memory about Mary.

My story is about my maternal grandmother, Anna Caslin. She had a rich devotion to Our Lady because she was born Sept. 8, the same day the church celebrates Mary's birthday.

I'm told my grandmother always

prayed that at least one of her nine children would be born on that day too. She also prayed that one of her four sons would become a priest, but they all married.

She later realized that God answers our prayers, but in his own way, taking his own sweet time.

Grandma Anna's prayers were answered a generation later when I was born Sept. 8, 1931. She must have been exceedingly happy, but I'm sure her joy did not stop her from continuing to pray to have a priest in the family.

I still have an old photograph of Grandma Anna holding me in her arms as a newborn infant. She died when I was 6 months old, so I never got to know her.

I didn't even learn of her secret prayer campaign until I was about 50, when my aunt told me the story.

For all those years, I thought my early struggle to discern my vocation was exclusively my own business; something private between God and me. Today I see it in a slightly different light.

My grandmother never stopped asking Mary to help me to accept my calling. All that grace finally wore me down.

And so, without taking my freedom away, God led me to my ordination May 28, 1960, and I have lived happily ever after, as the story goes, with only a few bumps along the way.

Robbinsville mission a symbol of peace of Christ in mountain community

ROBBINSVILLE — Following the mid-1950s arrival of the Glenmary Home Missioners in western North Carolina, an ecumenical and missionary spirit began to flow from one small mountain town to another.

One such place is Robbinsville, where shortly after the Glenmarys started their ministry, a small Catholic community began to grow.

The priests, based at St. William Church in Murphy, traveled throughout the westernmost areas of North Carolina and, by 1957, established mission status in Robbinsville.

The Catholic community there was comprised of just one family in those early years, with several more living near Fontana Dam to the north. In 1958, Glenmary Father James Wilmes, then-associate pastor at St. William Church in Murphy, began leading Bible classes in Robbinsville and made plans to open a chapel there.

With money sent from the assistant pastor's family, who set up a mission club, the few Catholics in the area began gathering in a small storefront chapel for classes and liturgies.

Catholicism was still largely misunderstood by the majority of the locals in those days, and the Glenmarys did their best to become part of the community and disseminate the truths of the Catholic faith. Part of the Robbinsville chapel was outfitted as a clothing center for the poor, and Catholic Bibles were given to anyone asking for one.

Revival tent meetings and novena services were held in Robbinsville, furthering the Glenmarys' missionary zeal.

By 1966, the building that housed the chapel had become so dilapidated that it had to be destroyed. Masses continued until 1972, when in March of that year a local Baptist church allowed the Catholic mission to celebrate liturgies on Saturday evenings in their church.

Masses were celebrated at the Baptist church for a brief time, and in 1973, a Methodist church began serving as the mission's home. Those Saturday vigil Masses continued for 15 years, until the mission could build a new chapel.



PHOTO BY GEORGE COBB

Prince of Peace Mission was established by Glenmary Home Missioners, who brought an ecumenical and missionary spirit to many small mountain communities.

Meanwhile, the Glenmarys continued their ministry at other mission stations in the area. In Robbinsville, acceptance and understanding of the Catholic faith by the local population has been gradual.

In 1987, members of the Legion of Mary, an apostolic organization comprised of lay people, visited Holy Redeemer Church in Andrews — the mother church of the Robbinsville mission — to educate and evangelize members of the community.

There still is much misunderstanding, according to Father Michael Kottar, the present pastor of Holy Redeemer Church in Andrews and Prince of Peace Church.

Legion members visited some 700 area homes, distributing brief summaries of Catholic beliefs for interested citizens and inactive Catholics.

The project received such a positive response that the Legion of Mary returned to Robbinsville the following year, visiting

hundreds more homes.

With the Catholic community in Robbinsville still without a church, Father Wilmes returned in 1986 and set out to find property on which to build.

He found a suitable building on a piece of property along Highway 129. In October 1988, Robbinsville had its new Catholic church.

Another building on the property was later adapted for use as a parish hall.

For the last 17 years, Father Wilmes lived in the Robbinsville area. In his last five years, he chose to occupy a small room in the back of the Robbinsville church, living simply with just a microwave for cooking. He slept on a couch, and he showered next

PRINCE OF PEACE CHURCH

704 Tallulah Road, Rt. 129
Robbinsville, N.C. 28771
(828) 321-4463

Vicariate: Smoky Mountain
Pastor: Father Michael Kottar
Number of Households: 35 year-round, 45 additional seasonal

A mission of Holy Redeemer Parish, Andrews



Father Michael Kottar

door in the parish hall.

The Diocese of Charlotte assumed administration of the mission when Father Kottar arrived in July 2002.

In 2003, a deep mountain snowfall covered the area and Father Wilmes suffered a heart attack removing snow from the church grounds. He died symbolically doing the work of a missionary: helping others find God by shoveling a path to the Catholic church.

The mission church was named Prince of Peace and has served the needs of Robbinsville Catholics ever since. In addition to the Andrews parish, Father Kottar ministers to the 35 year-round families worshipping at Prince of Peace Church, who are joined by dozens more Catholics during the summer months.

Parishioners actively support in church and community services and groups, including ecumenical food projects, visiting the local nursing home, civic clubs and chamber of commerce.

Contributing to this story was Staff Writer Karen A. Evans.

WALK WHERE JESUS WALKED ON A DIOCESAN-SPONSORED PILGRIMAGE TO

THE HOLY LAND

September 5 – 14

with Fr. James Hawker, Diocesan Vicar of Education and Pastor, St. Luke Church

Deepen your understanding of our Catholic faith and watch the pages of the Bible come alive as you experience daily Mass at many of the historical sites of our faith.

Highlights include:

- Tiberias, Mt. Carmel, Sea of Galilee area
- Mt. Tabor, Cana, Nazareth — Jesus' boyhood area
- Capernaum, Mount of Beatitudes, River Jordan
- Jerusalem area: Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Via Dolorosa, Lord's Tomb at Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Mount Zion, Upper Room, Dormition Abbey, Wailing Wall
- Dead Sea (excavations and scrolls), Masada, Holocaust memorial
- Bethlehem's historic sites — PLUS much more!



Price: \$2,499 from Charlotte (\$2,599 after June 22) includes airfare, most meals, first-class hotels and all tours. Airport taxes/fees, tips and insurance are extra.

Call Cindi Feerick at 704/370-3332 for a brochure with complete details or Pentecost Tours 800/713-9800 for registration.

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



Special gifts and necessities for
First Communion
and Confirmation celebrations!

- ✙ Beautiful veils
- ✙ Mantillas on sale
- ✙ Unique spiritual mementos

Video series: Teachings of Fulton Sheen
7 pm Tuesdays (Monroe Road location only)

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

\$5 OFF
Any Purchase
of \$35 or More
Present coupon. Not valid with any
other offers. Expires 5/31/06



THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

Youths in Action

Hundreds gather at
Diocesan Youth
Conference; students work
in Mississippi

| PAGE 4

Finding solitude with God

*Hermit explores
eremitic life in N.C.*

BY JOANITA M.
NELLENBACH
CORRESPONDENT

HAYESVILLE — "I think I always wanted to be hermit," Brother John Schroeder said. "I've always been a solitary, which is funny because I enjoy company, but I enjoy company on my terms."

In March, Brother Schroeder, 70, was invested with the habit of the Community of Hermits of St. Bruno (CHSB) during Sunday Mass at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.

Father George Kloster, pastor, performed the "rite of the Habit," blessing Brother Schroeder's white tunic and scapular.

See HERMIT, page 5



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Hermit of St. Bruno Brother John Schroeder plays with Bam, one of two dogs who are his hermitage companions, near his motor home in Hayesville in April.

RESPECTING LIFE

Poll: Americans more pro-life, still don't grasp Roe

CATHOLIC WOMEN TURNING AWAY FROM ABORTION

BY NANCY FRAZIER
O'BRIEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON

Thirty-three years after Roe v. Wade, most Americans still do not understand the 1973 Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion in nearly all circumstances, according to poll results released April 25 in Washington.

Although 65 percent of

See POLL, page 13

Serving the people

Catholic Social Services touches many lives

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

Editor's Note: Some names have been changed for privacy.

CHARLOTTE — For many years, Catholic Social Services (CSS) has served the needs of the people of North Carolina, Catholic and non-Catholic alike.

Bishop Peter J. Jugis

declared the week of April 29-May 6 as Catholic Social Services Week throughout the 46 counties in the Diocese of Charlotte. The week provided an opportunity to speak about CSS services and to express gratitude for the support of many individuals in the parishes and the broader community.

CSS sponsors numerous

See CSS, page 9



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

John and Teofila Rodziewicz watch their grandson Christopher during a cooking class sponsored by New Horizons for Children and Families, held at the Pastoral Center in Charlotte May 1.

Perspectives

Pope's first year; 'Da Vinci Code' blessing

| PAGES 14-15

A bright future

Priests include diocese in estate planning

| PAGE 7

Culture Watch

Opus Dei's new institute; 'Left Behind' flicks

| PAGES 10-11

#BXNDVQ.....3-DIGIT 275
#420836#
NC COLLECTION
UNC
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

WRAPPED IN FAITH



PHOTO BY ANDREA BARAN, ERIE SISTERS OF MERCY

Mercy Sister Ann Prisco of Erie, Pa., a knitter for more than 30 years, coordinates a ministry in which people gather to knit or crochet prayer shawls, which are given to those with physical, emotional or physical illnesses or to those who are grieving.

Prayer shawl ministry wraps creators, recipients in warmth

ERIE, Pa. (CNS) — A knitter since 1972, Sister Ann Prisco pours love into every prayer shawl she creates.

A Sister of Mercy for 56 years, she is the coordinator of a group at the Erie motherhouse that gathers the first Monday night of the month to knit or crochet prayer shawls.

The shawls are then given to people with physical, emotional or psychological illnesses, or to those who are grieving.

"We feel that the Sisters of Mercy have that compassion and concern for the grieving. It not only blesses them, but us, I'm sure," Sister Prisco said.

About 15 people participate in the group, begun in 2001 and inspired by an article about women doing this work in Connecticut. Sister Prisco got the local group started.

There have been more than 60 shawls given away so far.

"One has gone as far out as Ireland," Sister Prisco explained.

A meeting night has an opening prayer, a review of prayer shawl progress and need for materials, and a report on people visited. Attendees then list recipients and who will deliver the shawls. The names of those who have received shawls are read.

"There's soft reflective music playing. It's quiet time because we're praying as we knit or crochet," Sister Ann Prisco.

A healing prayer card that is blessed goes to the shawl recipient, she said.

As a meeting closes, a leader is chosen to run the next one. Each meeting ends with a prayer and a blessing for both the knitters and the shawls. She said each knitter or crocheter may select her own yarn and pattern.

They are reimbursed for the yarn, but many donate their yarn as well as their time. As for color choices, they usually use a darker shade for a man and lighter shades for a woman or child. Each shawl is then folded in tissue paper and put in a gift bag.

When a shawl is delivered, the scene is moving.

"There are tears of joy and gladness," Sister Prisco said.

And the emotion spreads to the giver, also.

"It chokes us up to deliver it. Such openness. It brings tears, a lump in your throat," Sister Prisco said. "They think you've given them a cure. It's a comfort."

The group has received many thank you notes from recipients. They are placed in a special book and saved.

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff says he depends on God daily

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Marine Gen. Peter Pace, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said there are times every day when he thinks about his dependence on God.

"My belief that there is a God and that he has a plan for me is a major, calming influence in my life," Pace, a Catholic, told members of the John Carroll Society, a lay Catholic organization based in Washington.

Pace received the group's John Carroll Medal at an annual dinner in Washington April 21.

"I stand before you as someone who is appreciative ... who truly does believe this award is in anticipation of future conduct," Pace said.

The medals are presented annually to Catholics in recognition of their public service and commitment to their faith.

Other 2006 recipients included Archbishop Edwin F. O'Brien, head of the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services.

"The remarkable thing about Gen. Pace is that he demonstrates his Catholic faith and how his faith influences his life, both personally and professionally," said Msgr. Peter Vaghi, chaplain of the John Carroll Society.

Pace, the first Marine to serve as the nation's highest ranking military officer, said that when he talks about his faith "it touches at the Italian blood that runs in my heart."

He said his near-death experiences in Vietnam proved that God had a plan for him, and he promised God he would stay in the Marine Corps until God gave him a sign to leave and he promised to serve "until I was no longer promoted."

He frequently remembers that his mother used to tell him as a young boy that "God would never give me more than I can handle."

Remembering those words helps him in his current work, he said, knowing that with God's help "I can do whatever I'm supposed to do."

Diocesan planner

BOONE VICARIATE

SPRUCE PINE — A *Rosary of Intercession for Priests* is recited each Friday at St. Lucien Church, 695 Summit St., before the 9 a.m. Mass. Prayers are offered for bishops, priests and deacons, and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. For more information, call the church office at (828) 765-2224.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — Father Matthew Buettner, parochial vicar of St. Dorothy Church in Lincolnton, will present the *Catholic Response to "The Da Vinci Code"* May 15 at 7 p.m. in the Msgr. Pharr Activity Center of St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd. RSVP for this free event to Renee O'Brien at rdobrien@earthlink.net or (704) 770-0003.

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., is hosting a "Community Shred" May 20, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Identity theft is the fastest growing crime in the U.S. according to the FBI; shredding personal documents is one way to help stop it. Everyone is encouraged to bring personal and confidential documents to the church, where PROSHRED Security will destroy them. For more information, call the church office at (704) 543-7677.

CHARLOTTE — The *Vietnamese Cursillo* of Charlotte School of Leaders meets the second Sunday of each month at 2:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1400 Suther Rd. For more information, contact Nam Le at (704) 549-1525.

MINT HILL — *G.E.M.S. Daily* is a prayer/support group for mothers of children with disabilities. The group meets the second Wednesday of each month, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., at St. Luke Church, 13700 Lawyers Rd., to share

concerns, praise and prayers. For details, call Michelle Roth at (704) 321-1717.

CHARLOTTE — The *Healing Prayer Group* will pray with you in the name of the Lord Jesus for your healing, be it mental, spiritual or physical. Come and know the gentleness and unconditional love of the Lord. We meet the third Monday of each month in the St. Matthew Chapel, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., at 7:30 p.m. For more information, e-mail Barbara Gardner at chlt5nc@aol.com.

CHARLOTTE — The *Young Widowed Group* meets at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month in the Fellowship Hall of St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, contact facilitator Sister Therese Galligan at (704) 362-5047, ext. 216.

CHARLOTTE — The *50+ Club* of St. John Neumann Church, 8451 Idlewild Rd., meets the second Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. with a program and lunch in the parish hall. For reservations and more information, call Elaine at (704) 847-2835.

GASTONIA VICARIATE

MOUNT HOLLY — Father John Vianney Hoover invites all to celebrate the 30th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood May 28 at 4 p.m. at St. Joseph Church on Hwy. 273. Bring a picnic dinner and chairs to share after Mass. For details, call (704) 541-5026.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — St. Pius X Church, 2210 North Elm St. will host a vicariate-wide *Estate Planning Seminar* May 16 at 7 p.m. in the Kloster Center. Estate planning information will be provided by Jim Kelley and Judy Smith of the Diocese of Charlotte's planned giving office and Kim Garcia, division president with US Trust in Winston-Salem. Please call (704) 370-3320 with any questions. To register, call (336) 272-4681.

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

MAY 5, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 29

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities.

POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Pope warns against denying, downplaying Christ's resurrection

Resurrection is 'central fact of Christianity,' says pope

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI warned against trying to negate or minimize Christ's resurrection, saying it was the central event of Christianity.

The pope made the comments at his weekly blessing April 30, speaking to several thousand people from his apartment window above St. Peter's Square.

The pope said the Gospel recounts how Christ appeared repeatedly to his disciples after his death, inviting them to "overcome their amazement" and believe in his resurrection.

"The resurrection of Christ is the central fact of Christianity, the fundamental truth that should be reaffirmed with vigor in every age, because to deny it — as has been attempted in various ways and is still being attempted — or to transform it into a purely spiritual event, is to negate our very faith,"

he said.

He quoted St. Paul, who wrote that "if Christ has not been raised, then empty is our preaching; (and) empty, too, your faith."

The pope also noted the comforting role of Mary in scriptural accounts following Christ's death. The mother of Jesus was "a mother and teacher" for the apostles during this period, and she continues to perform that role for Christians of every era, he said.

"To Mary we entrust the needs of the church and of the entire world, especially in this moment marked by many shadows," he said.

He noted that the church traditionally dedicates the month of May to Mary. The following day, May 1, the pope visited Rome's largest Marian sanctuary and prayed that Mary would help free the world from immorality, war and terrorism.

GUILFORD COUNTY — The *Ancient Order of Hibernians* Guilford County Division, the oldest and largest order of Irish Catholic men, is looking for more Irish Catholic men to join them for meetings, educational seminars and social events. Contact Michael Slane at (336) 665-9264 for time and location.

HICKORY VICARIATE

HICKORY — Father Robert Ferris leads a *Lectionary Bible Study* at St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St., Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. This study prepares participants for the following Sunday's Mass by reading and studying the liturgical readings for the next week. For more information on this study, contact Kathy Succop at stalscoordinator@charter.net or (828) 327-2341.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

CONCORD — A four-part series of *Natural Family Planning* classes will begin May 16 at 6:30 p.m. at Northgate Family Medicine Clinic, 1028 Lee-Ann Drive Suite 100. Couples will learn the Sympto-Thermal method from Dr. Matthew and Kat Harrison, a certified teaching couple. Childcare is available upon request. Registration is required. For more information, e-mail Kat Harrison at katmatt@ctc.net or call (704) 786-8799.

MOORESVILLE — Seniors ages 55 and up are invited to St. Therese Church, 217 Brawley School Rd., the second Saturday of each month following the 5:30 p.m. Mass for *Senior Games Night*, featuring games and a potluck dinner. Call Barbara Daigler at (704) 662-9752 for details.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

MURPHY — A *Charismatic Prayer Group* meets Fridays at 3:45 p.m. in the Commons of St. William Church, 765 Andrews Rd. join us for praise music, witness, teaching, prayers and laying on of hands for those in need. For more details, call Gery Dashner at (828) 494-2683.

WAYNESVILLE — *Adult Education Classes* are held the first three Wednesday evenings of each month beginning at 6:45 p.m. in the St. John the Evangelist Church social hall, 234 Church St. For more information, call Charles Luce at (828) 648-7369 or e-mail luce54@aol.com.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

KERNERSVILLE — Holy Cross Church, 616 S. Cherry St., invites all Catholics who have been inactive, feel alienated or just want to take another look at the Catholic Church to attend *ReMembering Church*, a series of six sessions designed to address issues that have perhaps caused feelings of estrangement. Those seeking information about annulment are also cordially invited. These evening discussions will offer a welcoming atmosphere, help with misunderstandings and hurts, look at the changes that have taken place since Vatican II and provide an opportunity to ask questions. Sessions will meet in Holy Cross Church Salesian Hall, Wednesdays, June 7-July 12, 8-9 p.m. For more details, call Juliann Demmond at (336) 996-7136 or email rjdemmond@netzero.com.

WINSTON-SALEM — St. Benedict the Moor Church, 1625 East 12th St., hosts a 12:15 p.m. prayer service, *Veni Sanctus Spiritus*, the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. All are welcome to reflect on God and refresh the spirit in the middle of a day. For more information call Sister Larretta Rivera-Williams at (336) 725-9200.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Pope says church must be more selective in picking saint candidates

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Catholic Church should be more selective and very rigorous in choosing candidates for sainthood, Pope Benedict XVI said in a message to the Congregation for Saints' Causes.

The pope, who as a cardinal expressed concern over the number of causes being promoted, wrote to the congregation as its members met April 24-26 for a plenary assembly.

They discussed a new instruction for the initial diocesan stages of the sainthood process and were looking at possible changes to the formal criteria for determining martyrdom and for miracles.

Pope Benedict told the congregation that he had put into effect changes that met the "widespread hope" that the difference between beatification and canonization would be underlined and that local churches would be more involved in the entire process.

Modern men and women need true models of holiness, he said, and they must be chosen with care.

First, the pope said, further instructions are needed to help local bishops "safeguard the seriousness of the investigations that take place in the diocesan inquiry" into a candidate's martyrdom or the person's Christian virtues and miracles attributed to

his or her intercession.

Second, he said, there must be a real "fame of holiness" and not just a conviction among a small group of people that the person in question was a good Christian.

Although he did not refer specifically to any individual, the pope said that a spontaneous and widespread recognition of sainthood, as occurred in the case of Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta, "is a sign from God that indicates to the church those who deserve to be placed upon the candelabra to give 'light to all those in the home.'"

On the question of miracles, Pope Benedict appeared to rule out a change that some theologians had hoped would leave space for consideration of "moral miracles," such as dramatic conversions that occur when a notorious sinner turns his or her life around after coming into contact with the writings of a candidate for sainthood.

The congregation's plenary also included a discussion of the definition of martyrdom.

Pope Benedict said a person could not be declared a martyr without "irrefutable proof" of the victim's willingness to die for the faith and without "moral certainty" that the persecutor's action stemmed "directly or indirectly" from a hatred of the faith.

Joined together



CNS PHOTO BY NANCY WIECHEC

Religious leaders walk — some hand in hand — toward Georgetown University at the close of the International Prayer for Peace in Washington April 27. Representatives of various faith communities, brought together by the lay Catholic Community of Sant'Egidio, gathered for two days of discussion on religion and culture.

Appearing in front (from second left) are Imam Yahya Hendi of Georgetown, Greek Orthodox Archbishop Demetrios of America, El Hadj Kone Idriss Koudouss of the National Islamic Council in the Ivory Coast, Israeli Rabbi Shear Yashuv Cohen, Washington Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick, Imam Sayed Hassan Al-Qazwini of the Islamic Center of America, German Evangelical Lutheran Bishop Jurgen Johannesdotter and Syrian Orthodox Metropolitan Mar Gregorios Yohanna Ibrahim.

The man at far left is not identified.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

May 7 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. Aloysius Church, Hickory

May 9 — 11 a.m.
Presbyteral Council Meeting
Pastoral Center, Charlotte

May 10 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. John the Baptist Church, Tryon

May 11 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. Michael the Archangel Church, Gastonia

Growing in faith



COURTESY PHOTO

Youths enjoy a concert during the annual Diocesan Youth Conference in Ridgecrest April 28-30.

Hundreds gather, celebrate at annual youth conference

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

RIDGECREST, N.C. — Hundreds of youths from around the Diocese of Charlotte recently stepped up to the plate for God.

More than 300 youths attended the 29th annual Diocesan Youth Conference, themed "Know, Love, Serve ... Step up to the Plate," held at Lifeway Ridgecrest Conference Center near Black Mountain April 28-30.

The conference was sponsored by the diocesan Office of Youth Ministry in collaboration with the Diocesan Youth Advisory Council. The council is comprised of high school students from each of the diocese's 10 vicariates who serve as youth coordinators between their parishes and the diocese.

"The council planned and implemented the entire weekend, leading two prayer services as well as giving the opening presentation and the announcements all weekend long," said Peg Ruble, assistant director of youth ministry.

"The conference went beautifully. We had great weather, great presenters, great kids and an awesome Holy Spirit-led event," she said.

Keynote speakers were award-winning Christian musician Sarah Hart, founder of the all-women singing group

Daughters of God; and Riro Maniscalco, member of Communion and Liberation, an ecclesial movement, who spoke of how his love for Christ is nourished by his faith community.

Augustinian Father James Cassidy, pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Monroe, also spoke and celebrated Mass.

The youths also attended workshops, enjoyed recreational activities and games, and were entertained at a concert by Hart.

"The food was great, the people were awesome, but the amazing presence of God rocked the loudest," said Kierestan Snyder, 17, a parishioner of Our Lady of Grace Church in Greensboro.

"It's an amazing experience for everyone to be here and sharing their faith," said Isabel Echeverri, 15, a parishioner of Holy Family Church in Clemmons.

In addition to the mementos and friendships, the youths took away from the conference "the experience of being Catholic ... being learners and teachers, being Jesus and serving others," said Ruble.

Contact Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail kemurray@charlottediocese.org.

Hitting the beaches

COLLEGE STUDENTS SPEND SPRING BREAK IN HURRICANE-RAVAGED MISSISSIPPI

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

OCEAN SPRINGS, Miss. — For their spring break, hundreds of college students from throughout the United States descended on the Gulf Coast region of Louisiana and Mississippi to help with the rebuilding efforts from hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Joining in the efforts were three students from Wake Forest University; Julie Ostergaard, Wake Forest University Catholic campus minister; four Western Carolina University students; Gloria Schweizer, Western Carolina University Catholic campus minister; and one student's father.

"It is always an inspiration to me when college students give up their spring break to volunteer," said Schweizer.

The group stayed at C.O.R.E. Base Camp, a volunteer camp that provides sleeping arrangements, showers and meals.

"We were reminded that we could not accomplish everything, but that anything we could do would be appreciated," said Anna Fedders, a student at Wake Forest University. "We were told that listening to people's stories was just as important as cleaning their homes."

Fedders shared her chance meeting with an elderly victim of the hurricane.

"She spoke of many of God's miracles that came with the storm — of people who had escaped just before their homes had been destroyed, and those who had been rescued against all odds," Fedders said.

"I realized that ... by listening to her story, I had helped her to fulfill her promise to God to spread word of his



COURTESY PHOTO

Deacon Martin Finnegan examines his antique pistol that student Allison Lukanich uncovered in the sand where his house used to stand in Mississippi. Also pictured is Julie Ostergaard, Wake Forest University Catholic campus minister.

miracles," she said.

While clearing debris from a parish housekeeper's front yard of debris, Fedders found a photograph of a beaming young boy holding a crucifix.

"I knocked on her door to give her the photo — it was her son's first Communion picture, with bubbled surface and missing parts," she said. "It had weathered the storm and sat in her yard for six months."

"These people were incredibly determined to restore their lives, and even the smallest accomplishments brought them unbelievable joy," said Fedders.

RELATED STORY

See President Bush's call for volunteers on page 16.

children + books + sun = **A summer of learning fun!**



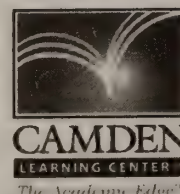
Summer is the ideal time to strengthen

- Phonetic skills
- Reading Comprehension
- Written Language skills
- Math skills
- Study skills

Call today for information.

704-752-4234

South Charlotte



Felicia Susi, Owner/Director
Parishioner, St. Matthew Catholic Church &
Parent, St. Matthew Catholic School student



St. Thomas Aquinas Academy
Asheville, North Carolina
www.stthomasaquinasacademy.org

(828) 687-7714

Accepting applications for ninth, tenth and eleventh grades.

Member, National Association of Private, Catholic and Independent Schools
St. Thomas Aquinas Academy is a private school, independent of the Charlotte Diocesan school system.

FROM THE COVER

Hermit explores eremitic life in N.C.

HERMIT from page 1

"It was a beautiful service," said Brother Schroeder. "I was so touched I was almost crying."

"(Father Kloster) is a very sweet man. I didn't want to do it (the rite) during Mass, but he said, 'No, it's important that the community know what's happening.'"

After the Mass, parishioners had a reception for Brother Schroeder.

"I'm blessed to be in a parish that has really taken to this," he said. "Their support has been outstanding."

Anyone can live alone, Brother Schroeder said, but there's a difference between a recluse and a solitary: A recluse is antisocial, a solitary lives alone for a greater good. A hermit is a solitary whose focus is God.

"He came to me several months ago and said he felt he had this call to the eremitic (hermit) life and had associated himself with a monastery in England," Father Kloster said.

"Our theology is that these calls come from God. There's a lot of discernment. We have to listen to the Holy Spirit as the Spirit works in these situations," Father Kloster said.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (para. 921) states that hermits "manifest to everyone the interior aspect of the mystery of the Church, that is, personal intimacy with Christ. Hidden from the eyes of men, the life of the hermit is a silent preaching of the Lord, to whom he has surrendered his life simply because he is everything to him."

"Here is a particular call to find in the desert, in the thick of spiritual battle, the glory of the Crucified One."

A plan of life

According to its Web site, the Community of Hermits of St. Bruno is "an international Roman Catholic community of sisters and brothers who live their lives in the spirit of their Father, St. Bruno — the founder of the Carthusian Order."

The prior of St. Hugh's Charterhouse, the Carthusian monastery near Parkminster, England, supports the community's efforts to achieve canonical establishment.

"Even though you're a hermit, you should be under the auspices of the



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Hermit of St. Bruno Brother John Schroeder stands in front of the motor home that serves as his hermitage in this April photo.

church," Brother Schroeder said. "You have to have a plan of life. You have to have a horarium (prayer schedule) and someone has to see that you're doing it."

His prayer schedule is an average of eight to 10 hours of prayer daily, lectio divina and spiritual reading.

"I feel that if you're going to devote your life to God, you should devote your life to God," Brother Schroeder said.

If he has to miss an hour because of one of his twice-weekly trips to town for Mass or errands, he doubles up on prayer when he gets home.

"I guess it's just a little more backbone," he said of the discipline. "When you make up your mind to do something, you have to do it. Are there times when I've missed (prayer periods)? Yes. Often? No."

Finding solitude with God

Raised Catholic in upstate New York, Brother Schroeder was educated by Jesuits and Christian Brothers. An aunt was a Dominican nun; one of his uncles was a monsignor.

"When I was in the eighth grade, I wanted to be a White Father and go to Africa, but my uncle, the monsignor, wanted me to be a diocesan priest," Brother Schroeder said.

Instead, he earned degrees in engineering technology, secondary education and business. A four-year U.S. Army Special Forces enlistment ended just before the Vietnam War.

He and his former wife raised four children (he has eight grandchildren).

Management positions included 16 years with Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems Inc., where he directed manufacturing operations.

"I always thought if I got one more promotion I'd be happy, but I wasn't," he said. "One day I woke up and looked in the mirror and didn't like what I saw. I went into the office and resigned."

Then came years on a sailboat, odd jobs and five years with John Michael Talbot's Brothers and Sisters of Charity. While a parishioner at the Cathedral-

Basilica of St. Augustine, Fla., he taught Scripture in the St. Johns County Jail and took medical supplies to Haiti and Cuba.

Brother Schroeder found his way to Hayesville, eventually subscribing to Raven's Bread, a quarterly newsletter for hermits and those interested in eremitic life. He began corresponding with the publisher, who lives in Hot Springs, N.C.

She had been a Poor Clare for 30 years, then spent six years as a hermit in West Virginia.

"I went into this hermit thing several times — getting my feet wet, backing out," Brother Schroeder said. "She helped me over some of the rough spots ... like not being able to get both feet out of the world."

"I didn't think God was listening. She said, 'God always listens. You're the one who doesn't listen,'" he said.

When did he know he had a vocation as a hermit?

"There isn't any single point that you can point to," he said. "There is a drawing down, a deepening need to give up yourself. Each time I would start to draw down, I would get frightened, but it just kept coming back."

The Community of Hermits of St. Bruno was recommended to him, and that he put himself in a place where it would be difficult to be in the world.

Thus, his 37-foot motor home sits on 11 acres up a winding, unpaved mountain road 2,000 feet above Tusquitee Valley. The property owner lives elsewhere and allows Brother Schroeder to stay in return for clearing brush.

Two canine companions: Cici and Bam. No neighbors. A generator recharges the 12-volt batteries that supply his electricity.

In December he suffered a heart attack and drove himself 110 miles to the Veterans Administration hospital in Asheville.

The way to solitude

Brother Schroeder started with nine eremitic months to see if he could live

"I feel that if you're going to devote your life to God, you should devote your life to God."

— Brother Schroeder

such a life.

He contacted the Community of Hermits of St. Bruno and received an application from Sister Rosaline Whipple, the community administrator and formation director in Parkminster, England.

After returning the application, along with an essay about why he thought himself suited for hermit life, he was accepted for a six-month postulancy in March 2005.

Postulant training included three programs, one to be completed every two months: (1) hermitage, prayer life and the horarium; (2) the Desert Fathers (the earliest Christian hermits); (3) the Divine Office, spiritual reading and the habit.

Brother Schroeder has a cell phone, but no phone line or Internet, so his correspondence is postal.

Postulancy ended in October 2005. His habit should have been blessed then, except that he didn't have one.

Hermits who live on their own are self-supporting. The white habit costs \$300 and is the same as that worn by the Carthusians. It took three monthly installments out of his social security check to pay for it.

Having already shown Father Kloster his correspondence with Sister Whipple and evidence that he is a community member, his habit was blessed in March.

Brother John expects to finish his novitiate (the next step after postulancy) this October. He'll have completed six more programs: union with God; two on monastic vows; silence; lectio divina; and prayer.

Between prayer and study periods he clears brush from the land and keeps his 18-year-old pickup truck running. White is impractical for work, so he wears jeans until his blue chambray work habit arrives.

Several times a year, he visits his spiritual director, Trappist Father Gerard Gross, at Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Monastery in Conyers, Ga.

At the end of the novitiate, Brother Schroeder will make his temporary vows of poverty, stability (to the place where he lives) and conversion of manners, which includes chastity and obedience. Three years after that, he will make his permanent vows.

"I feel so much more comfortable with God," he said. "I think one of the tragedies of our life is that we think we can hide things from God. We are almost never as honest with God as he is with us."

"You really have to give up pride to acknowledge all the things you need to. When you get rid of the debris, you can be filled with the Holy Spirit," he said.

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail jnell@dnet.net.

WANT MORE INFO?

To learn more about the Community of Hermits of St. Bruno, go online at www.hermitsofstbruno.com.

Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

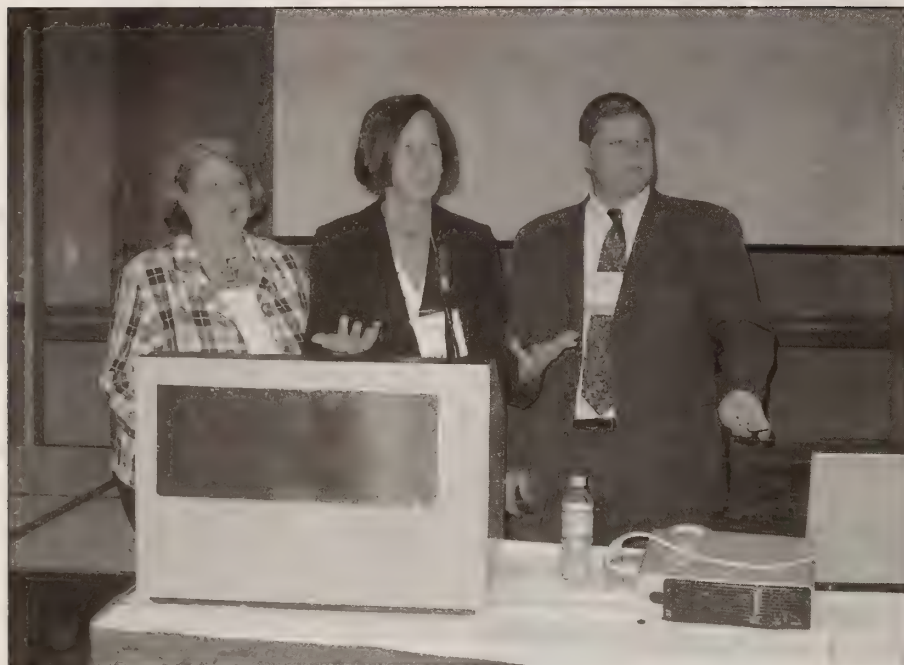
Charlotte 704-334-6421

Pineville 704-544-1412

Mint Hill 704-545-4864

Derita 704-596-3291

SHARING SUCCESS



COURTESY PHOTO

Pat Spivey, Patti Dunning and Tracy Welliver of St. Pius X Church in Greensboro discuss their parish's successful stewardship efforts at the Regional Stewardship Day Conference in Cary April 29.

St. Pius X Church represented at regional stewardship conference

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

CARY — Stewardship is a way of life at St. Pius X Church in Greensboro.

The parish's decades of successful stewardship efforts were highlighted during the fifth Regional Stewardship Day Conference, held in Cary April 29.

More than 300 people from 82 parishes across five dioceses attended the conference, sponsored by the dioceses of Charlotte, Raleigh, Charleston and Savannah and the Archdiocese of Atlanta.

The keynote speaker was Dan Conway, president of RSI Catholic Services Group. Conway has more than 20 years of experience helping Catholic organizations in stewardship education and development.

The conference also featured six breakout sessions on topics designed to enhance stewardship efforts. Pat Spivey and Tracy Welliver, pastoral associates at St. Pius X Church, and Patti Dunning, stewardship committee chairperson, presented a "Parish Profile of Success."

They detailed the decades of stewardship efforts at the parish, which currently has active adult and youth stewardship teams.

"We talked about what we've done over the past few years, where we are today and where we're going," said Dunning.

The stewardship committee has worked to incorporate the sense of stewardship into all aspects of the parish's ministries and outreach programs, said Dunning.

"We also get new parishioners involved with ministries for which they have the time and talent, to help them get to know people and be involved," she said.

"We teach that stewardship is more than money — it's time and talent," said

Dunning. "That's our big success — we've been focusing on it and it's been paying off in the ways it's supposed to."

Stewardship is based on an individual's need to give back out of gratitude, not on the church's need to receive, according to Jim Kelley, the Diocese of Charlotte's director of development, which includes diocesan and parish stewardship.

"Stewardship is based on the premise that all that we have and all that we are comes from God and, as a way to thank him for all his blessings, we are called to return a portion of the time, talent and treasure allotted to us," said Kelley.

Stewardship has been a high priority for the Diocese of Charlotte since 1988, said Kelley.

The development office has worked with more than two-thirds of the 92 parishes in the Diocese of Charlotte to help them organize or improve their stewardship efforts.

"The U.S. bishops' 1992 pastoral letter, 'Stewardship: A Disciple's Response,' reinforced our commitment to work toward educating and assisting parishes and individuals in adopting this way of life," he said.

"Stewardship really is to live as Jesus and be Jesus to other people," said Dunning. "If you teach parishioners that, it helps them to live more peaceful, faith-centered lives."

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on stewardship, call the diocesan development office at (704) 370-3302 or visit the Web page at www.charlottediocese.org/stewardship.html.

The sixth Regional Stewardship Day Conference will take place in Charleston, S.C., April 28, 2007.

A presence in prisons

Deacon recognized for work with inmates

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Deacon Andy Cilone, a permanent deacon in the Diocese of Charlotte, has received the Volunteer of the Year award from Marion Correctional Center. The award was presented to Deacon Cilone at the volunteer banquet at the Marion facility in April.

This is not the first time Deacon Cilone, permanent deacon at Immaculate Conception Church in Forest City, has been recognized for his ministerial work in North Carolina prisons. He received the Volunteer of the Year award at Rutherford Correctional Center in 1995.

Deacon Cilone has been involved in prison ministry since 1990, when he began his ministry at Shelby Correctional Center. He then started a ministry at Rutherford Correctional Center in Spindale.

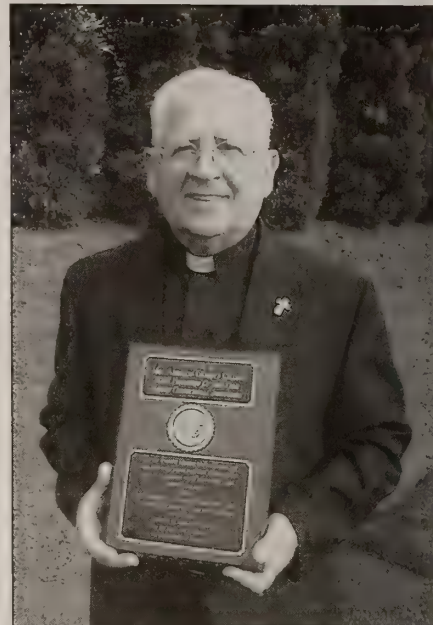
Following his retirement as plant manager of a plastics company four years ago, he began to extend his ministry to the maximum- and minimum-security prisons in Marion.

Deacon Cilone was first introduced to prison ministry by the late Deacon John Gallen of Marion. He spends between five and 10 hours each week visiting correctional facilities, leading Bible studies, conducting Communion services and showing movies based on the Bible.

"The Catholic presence in the prisons is being sought out by administrators and chaplains, because there are inmates who need our presence and inmates who would like to know more about the faith," Deacon Cilone said.

The positive changes he has seen take place in some of the prisoners he has worked with have been rewarding, he said.

"Many of them go out into the community and give witness of their conversions to church and civil groups," he said. "It is inspiring to hear about their journeys, where they have been and where they are now, and their new hopes



COURTESY PHOTO

Deacon Andy Cilone was recently awarded the Volunteer of the Year award from the Marion Correctional Center. Deacon Cilone, who serves Immaculate Conception Church in Forest City, has been working in prison ministry for the past 16 years.

for the future."

Two years ago, the permanent deacons of the Diocese of Charlotte took over responsibility for prison ministry. The new diaconate candidates, who will be ordained in June, have been educated in prison ministry.

"The work that is done by volunteers in the prison system is greatly appreciated by the State of North Carolina," said Deacon Cilone. "They realize the work that is done with inmates is priceless and the prison system would be struggling without the use of all the volunteers who are active in helping inmates spiritually to rebuild their lives and to 'right themselves with God.'"

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

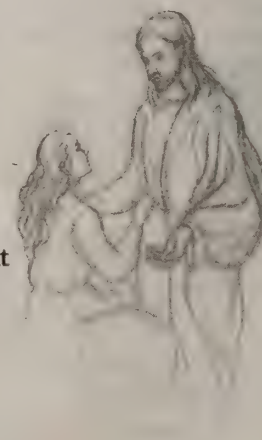
Seeking healing and forgiveness after an abortion?

Experience God's love and compassion once again —

The Charlotte Diocese Respect Life Office of Catholic Social Services offers both men and women help, in confidence, at 704-370-3229.



You may also want to visit Rachel's Vineyard Web site at www.rachelsvineyard.org for helpful articles, retreat information and other direction to new hope and meaning for your future.



STEWARDSHIP

Ensuring a bright future

Priests include foundation in estate plans

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Most people probably think of stewardship in terms of time, talent and treasure: How much time can I spend at the soup kitchen this week? Does the newsletter committee need a graphic designer? Can I really afford to tithe 10 percent of my income?

Msgr. William Pharr, a retired priest of the Diocese of Charlotte, thinks of stewardship from a "senior perspective," with a focus on past, present and future.

"Most of us reflect on our past opportunities with a mixture of regret and satisfaction," said Msgr. Pharr.

"We discern the present with current possibilities and limitations. Our hope for the future is that we can still make a difference as we assume a new role in the communion of saints," he said.

"Although intercessory prayer should be our primary expression of stewardship, we may still share the fruits of time and talent through treasure when we have 'moved on,'" Msgr. Pharr said.

Mgr. Pharr has ensured that the work of the Diocese of Charlotte will continue for many years after he has "moved on." He and a dozen other diocesan priests have designated the Foundation for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte as a recipient of their assets in their estate plans.

"These priests have given us, as laypeople, an example to follow," said Jim Kelley, director of the diocesan office of development.

"They love the church and want to remember the church in their estates, and we can do the same," he said.

In the last few years, five deceased priests of the diocese — Fathers Vincent Erb, Ramon Berg and Aloysius D'Silva, and Msgs. Richard Allen and Arthur Duncan — have left part of their estates to the church.

The church is an important part of many families, Kelley said. The development office asks laypeople to consider the church as another child in their families, providing for it financially as they would for their children.

"Through ongoing stewardship, my prayer is that many others will experience these same blessings."

— Msgr. William Pharr

The income may be used in accordance with the wishes of the donor organization or individual. Once an endowment is established, anyone may contribute to the fund.

"I have been pleased to designate the foundation (as a benefactor) as my personal way of continuing to give after I am 'gone,'" said Msgr. Pharr. "This is a means of saying thanks to the Lord for his gifts of the Catholic faith and my vocation to the priesthood."

"Through ongoing stewardship, my

prayer is that many others will experience these same blessings," said Msgr. Pharr.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on the diocesan foundation and endowments, call Jim Kelley at (704) 370-3301 or e-mail jkkelley@charlottediocese.org.

Foundation facts and figures

The diocesan foundation was incorporated in 1994 to provide endowments for the Diocese of Charlotte and its parishes, agencies and organizations.

An endowment is a permanent fund in which the principal is never touched. The income may be used in accordance with the wishes of the donor organization or individual. Once an endowment is established, anyone may add to the fund.

Over the past 11 years, more than \$2.5 million has been distributed by the foundation to parishes, schools and agencies.

We Love Blessed Sacrament Academy !!




- ◆ A classical curriculum in the Catholic tradition
- ◆ Latin, French, Music & Art
- ◆ Grades K-8
- ◆ Excellent scores on standardized tests



Call now to guarantee your child's enrollment.
Space is LIMITED! 704-841-2292
Visit us on the web: www.blessedsacramentacademy.org

Located behind Windsor Square in Matthews, NC. Independent of Charlotte diocesan schools. Member of NAPCIS.

ABBOTSWOOD SENIOR LIVING



For more than 17 years, Abbottswood at Irving Park has built a reputation on providing exemplary retirement living services to independent seniors. Residents enjoy the largest 1 and 2 bedroom floorplans in Irving Park, delicious meals, a full-time wellness director and month-to-month rental with NO BUY-IN FEES. Optional in-home health care services are available. Call today to schedule your personal tour.

(336) 282-8870

ABBOTSWOOD
at Irving Park

The only full service retirement living address in the heart of Irving Park
3504 Flint Street • Greensboro, NC 27405 • www.kiscoseniorliving.com

Join Monsignor Renken and other Roman Catholics on this Holland America Line Special!

Mexican Riviera Cruise

12 Days starting at **\$899***

This will be Monsignor Renken's third cruise as YMT's Catholic Chaplain. He is co-pastor for six parishes in the Diocese of Springfield, Illinois.

DAILY MASS ABOARD SHIP!

On October 12, 2006, board your 5-STAR deluxe cruise ship the *ms Ryndam*. There are fewer guests aboard, dazzling shows, daily tea at "tea time," spa with heavenly massages, facials or pedicures, and wine tasting. Fresh flowers, over a million dollars worth of art and classy décor create an elegant ambiance throughout the *Ryndam*. HAL's *Signature of Excellence* focuses on spacious, elegant ships and accommodations; sophisticated five-star dining; gracious, unobtrusive service; and extensive enrichment programs and activities aboard ship. Sail for three days along the Mexican Riviera to **Acapulco** (famous for the 'high-divers'); **Zihuatanejo** (a tranquil fishing village); **Puerto Vallarta** (the quintessential resort overflowing with the charm of Old Mexico); **Mazatlan** (with a massive city market and the historic colonial villages of Sierra Madres); and **Cabo San Lucas** (one of the most popular sun-drenched vacation spots in Mexico). Fly home October 23. *Prices (per person, double occupancy) start at only \$899 for inside staterooms, \$1199 for outside ocean view staterooms, and \$1899 for larger outside staterooms with private balcony. Add \$299 port/taxes/gov't. fees/service charges. Add \$500 round trip airfare from Charlotte.

\$100 deposits are now due. Family and friends are welcome.

For information, reservations, letter from Monsignor Renken with his phone number, and brochure call 7 days a week:

'YOUR MAN' TOURS 1-800-968-7626

Providing Help. Creating Hope. Changing Lives.

Catholic Social Services The Diocese of Charlotte

Executive Director: Elizabeth Thurbee (704) 370-3227
Refugee Office: Cira Ponce (704) 370-6930
Justice & Peace: Joe Purello (704) 370-3225
Family Life: Gerard Carter (704) 370-3228


Charlotte Region: 1123 South Church Street, Charlotte, NC 28203
 Area Director: Geri King (704) 370-6155

Western Region: 50 Orange Street, Asheville, NC 28801
 Area Director: Debra Braese (828) 255-0146

Piedmont-Triad: 621 W. Second Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27108
 Area Director: David Harold (336) 727-0705
 Greensboro Satellite Office (336) 274-5577
 High Point Satellite Office (336) 884-5858

For information on specific programs, please call your local office.

1123 South Church Street, Charlotte, NC 28203
www.cssnc.org





CNS PHOTO BY NANCY WIECHEC

Judas kisses Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane as Jesus is handed over to soldiers in this detail from a contemporary Bible illumination. The National Geographic Society April 6 released the first modern translation of an ancient gnostic text that describes conversations between Jesus and Judas Iscariot.

Catholic leaders decry gospel of Judas

JUDAS, from page 1

so that he could fulfill his mission.

But during his April 13 homily at the Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper, Pope Benedict said Judas is the clearest example Christians have of someone who refuses God's saving love.

For Judas, the pope said, "only power and success are real; love does not count."

"And he is greedy: Money is more important than communion with Jesus, more important than God and his love. He also becomes a liar, a double-crosser who breaks with the truth," Pope Benedict said.

Purposefully ignoring the truth, he said, Judas "hardens, becoming incapable of conversion ... and throws away his destroyed life."

Unworthy gospel

The National Geographic Society

A brief explanation of gnosticism

WASHINGTON (CNS) — An understanding of gnosticism is key to making sense of the newly unveiled gospel of Judas, a gnostic writing put on display April 6 at the National Geographic Society in Washington.

Early Christians used the term to describe various sects that arose in the second century which exalted arcane knowledge, mixing Christian belief with pagan speculation and theories.

"Gnosis" is the Greek word for knowledge.

Repudiated as heretics, gnostics claimed that salvation could be obtained only through the knowledge and acceptance of certain divinely revealed mysteries that they alone possessed.

Until the 20th century, most of what was known about gnosticism came from the anti-gnostic writings of Christian theologians of the second and third centuries.

That has changed since 1945, when an ancient library of about 50 gnostic works in Coptic, including the so-called Gospel of Thomas, was discovered in a cemetery near the modern Egyptian village of Nag Hammadi.

"did a disservice to Christian people and has exploited this old manuscript for its own purposes," said Santa Fe Archbishop Michael J. Sheehan.

"In the early church there were many writings such as the gospel of Judas which were rejected as unworthy to be included in the Bible," Archbishop Sheehan wrote in the May issue of his archdiocesan newspaper.

"We believe that the early church fathers had the guidance of the Holy Spirit in determining which writings were truly authentic and inspired by God and which writings were not," he said. "Obviously the gospel of Judas did not 'make the cut.'"

Jesuit Father O'Collins, who has convoked a series of ecumenical studies of the historical Jesus, said the gospel of Judas, like the gospels of Mary Magdalene and Philip, "does not merit the name 'gospel.'"

"A 'gospel' is a literary genre — established by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John — focusing on the life, death and resurrection of Jesus," said Father O'Collins, a longtime professor of Christology at Rome's Pontifical Gregorian University.

While including events supposedly related to the life of Jesus, the gospel of Judas and the others really are texts "attempting to bolster the importance" of the personalities they are named after, not of Jesus, the priest said.

"They are not summaries of the good news," he said.

The texts come from the gnostic tradition, a religious-philosophical current popular in the second, third and fourth centuries. The gnostics claimed to have secret knowledge unavailable to the vast majority of people and focused so strongly on the spiritual and intellectual that they despised material creation, including the human body.

In the year 180, St. Irenaeus condemned the gnostics, mentioning particularly a gospel of Judas.

Father O'Collins said the most important thing about the text released in early April is that "it shows just how right Irenaeus was in saying the gnostics were against mainstream Christianity and Judaism, they were against our God."

"To give Judas greater credit," the Jesuit said, the gnostics "portray Jesus giving him secret knowledge. It was a nice try," but there is no evidence to support the claim.

"It was junk then and it is junk

now," he said.

"The Bible clearly contradicts the heretical teaching" of that text, said Archbishop Sheehan.

He noted that Mark's Gospel "clearly describes Judas Iscariot as an unworthy disciple who betrayed Christ."

Father O'Collins, who between 1996 and 2003 convoked a series of ecumenical, interdisciplinary summits for scholars on the historical Jesus, said it was "ridiculous" for anyone to claim publication of the gospel of Judas will challenge mainstream Christianity.

Fighting the fads

A day after the pope's April 13 homily, his preacher also weighed in against the recent wave of "pseudohistorical literature" gaining popularity as well as the soon-to-be-released film, "The Da Vinci Code."

In his April 14 homily during the Good Friday liturgy of the Lord's Passion, Capuchin Father Raniero Cantalamessa said that millions of people today were being "crassly manipulated by the media," which is more interested in touting the newest fad or insight rather than the truth and, as a consequence, turning a pretty penny for it.

"There is much talk about Judas' betrayal without realizing that it is being repeated" today, he said during his homily given before the pope and hundreds of people in St. Peter's Basilica.

"Christ is being sold again," he said, but this time "to publishers and booksellers" for billions of dollars.

People seem to be always itching for something new, and there are those who take advantage of that by carrying out or promoting "the clever rewriting of ancient legends," he said.

The fantasies and speculation will only "flare up with the imminent release of a certain film," the Capuchin friar said, in reference to the movie "The Da Vinci Code," based on the novel by Dan Brown.

The preacher of the papal household said he felt it was his duty to address the current swirl of controversy surrounding the many interpretations of the life and death of Jesus because "we cannot allow the silence of believers to be mistaken for embarrassment" nor allow the media to manipulate the truth about Christ's life, his death on the cross and his resurrection.

Contributing to this story were Cindy Wooden and Carol Glatz.

Earthbound ANGELS...

POSITIONS AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY
HOME HELPERS, COMPANIONS & CNA'S



Join our team of people who make a real difference in the lives of seniors —

Home Instead Senior Care is seeking friendly and dependable people in the Mecklenburg County area to provide home care assistance and companionship to seniors.

Call 704-344-9739

8 AND 12 HOUR SHIFTS AVAILABLE
Part Time, Full Time, AM/PM and Weekend Hours
Position requires a vehicle.

Home Instead
SENIOR CARE

Groce
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

1401 Patton Ave. 72 Long Shoals Road
Asheville, NC Arden, NC
(828) 252-3535 (828) 687-3530

**Assuring
Absolute
Integrity**

Asheville's Catholic Funeral Directors
Dale Groce • John Prock
Toll-free (888) 874-3535

Pre-arrangements and obituaries on-line at www.grocefuneralhome.com

FROM THE COVER

CSS touches many lives

CSS, from page 1

programs providing services for all stages of life, from adoption to marriage preparation to elder ministry.

Three programs enjoying success in the diocese are Host Homes, New Horizons for Children and Families, and grief counseling.

A helping hand for families

After raising five children of her own, Margie Cooper took custody of her great-granddaughter Quenisha 11 years ago. Two years ago, she took in another granddaughter, Alexi.

Like most seniors, Cooper lives on a fixed income, and sometimes has trouble navigating the complicated channels of the Department of Social Services and other agencies.

CSS in the Diocese of Charlotte, in partnership with Smart Start of Mecklenburg County, developed New Horizons, a program in support of grandparents and "kinship families" parenting children younger than five years old.

New Horizons is the only program in Mecklenburg County that provides comprehensive services including professional mental health intervention, parenting education and case management to benefit families in which children are being raised by other relatives.

In April, New Horizons began offering a series of cooking classes to teach caretakers how to prepare nutritious, economical meals. About 13 families have attended each of the weekly classes, which are followed by support group sessions.

Skills for a new life

At 12 years old, Bradley Smith had a fierce temper. So fierce, in fact, that he stabbed another child during a fight.

His future looked bleak until the judge ordered Bradley to receive counseling at Host Homes in Winston-Salem.

Host Homes, a program of CSS, is committed to providing a variety of services to young people and their families, including counseling, foster care, mentoring, a 24-hour hotline and Project Safe Place.

Some time after Bradley completed his counseling, he was accosted in his neighborhood by two older boys who wanted his shoes. Instead of attacking the boys, he maintained his self-control.

He walked away shoeless, but he walked away. Bradley's mother is sure her son would have died had he challenged the boys.

"Because of Host Homes, I have my son again," she said.

Moving on after loss

When John Richardson was only 36 years old, his wife, Rosanne, died of breast cancer at age 42.



COURTESY PHOTO

John Richardson speaks with Debra Braese, director of the Western Regional Office for Catholic Social Services. Richardson joined a CSS-run grief support group after his wife died at age 42.

To help deal with all of his feelings — grief, anger, hurt — he joined a support group for widows and widowers. The group was led by Sister Marie Frechette, a Missionary Servant of the Most Blessed Trinity, then-regional director of Western Regional Office of CSS.

"Most of the people in the group were twice my age, but we were all going through the same thing," Richardson said.

"The support group kept me from feeling like I was the only one going

through this," he said. "It helped me come to terms with Roseanne's death."

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information about Catholic Social Services, visit www.cssnc.org. To contact the Charlotte Regional Office, call (704) 370-3228. For the Western Regional Office, call (828) 255-0146. For the Piedmont Triad Regional Office, call (336) 727-0705.

Thanks, Mom,
For The
Beautiful
Gift of Life



To mothers on this day of honor, we thank you for your courageous love in giving us life... and to those birth mothers who lovingly choose adoption for their children and those who give the love of their hearts to adopted children, we say to all "Happy Mother's Day!" We love you and give you our thanks every day of our lives.



We Salute the Dignity of Motherhood and The Gift of Life.

We believe that innocent human life, born and unborn, should be protected because ... God's Gift of Life is precious.

Respect Life Office, Catholic Social Services, Diocese of Charlotte: (704) 370-3229, Maggi Nadol, Director

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Opus Dei forms new institute, issues video on members

NEW YORK (CNS) — Opus Dei will take a hard rap when "The Da Vinci Code" premieres May 19, if the movie at all resembles the best-selling book of the same name by novelist Dan Brown, which portrays Opus Dei as a secretive cult within the church plotting to take over the church.

But U.S. leaders of Opus Dei — a Catholic organization with more than 87,000 members worldwide who seek to make their faith infuse all aspects of life, including their jobs — are using the occasion as a teachable moment to spread the word of what they are really about.

A month in advance of the movie's release, Opus Dei's U.S. branch announced the formation of the St. Josemaria Institute and the release of a free DVD with interviews of several U.S. members who tell how belonging to Opus Dei has affected their lives.

The institute, named after Opus Dei's founder, St. Josemaria Escriva de Balaguer, is at the organization's U.S. headquarters in New York.

Charles Thornton, the institute's director of development, told Catholic News Service that the best way to order the DVD is on the institute's new Web site, www.stjosemaria.org.

He said most of the content of the DVD is also available in a series of separate video clips on the Web site.

The institute's commentary on the new DVD, titled "Passionately Loving the World," describes Opus Dei members as "real people with real lives."

"They work hard, love their families, celebrate successes and endure failures. Through joys and sorrows, they try to grow closer to God without ever leaving the ordinary circumstances of their daily lives," the Web site says.

There are about 3,000 Opus Dei members in the United States.

Opus Dei is Latin for "God's work." Most members are laypeople who continue their secular jobs or careers but seek to bring a strong Christian spirituality into all aspects of their lives.

Some Opus Dei members commit themselves to lifelong celibacy and some are ordained priests.

In "The Da Vinci Code" one of the chief characters is an Opus Dei monk — although Opus Dei has no monks — who goes around murdering people in an effort to uncover the secret of the Holy Grail.

The book portrays all of Christianity as a vast, historic conspiracy to suppress people's knowledge of the "sacred feminine."

Deadline June 9 for Christophers' video contest for college students

NEW YORK (CNS) — Entries are due by June 9 for the Christophers' 19th annual video contest for college students, which awards more than \$6,000 in cash prizes.

The competition challenges students to interpret the theme "One Person Can Make a Difference" in a short film of five minutes or less. Past winners have used a variety of styles and genres, including drama, comedy, documentary, news format, music video and animation.

Dennis W. Heaney, president of the Christophers, said the contest "is our positive way to encourage the idealism and enthusiasm of the talented young people who participate."

"No matter how technology changes, it remains true that each of us can use our talent in a positive and creative way to help change the world," he added.

This year for the first time, DVD entries will be accepted, as well as standard, full-sized NTSC-format (analog) VHS tapes.

WANT MORE INFO?

More information is available by writing to: College Video Contest, The Christophers, 12 E. 48th St., New York, NY 10017; by calling the youth department at: (212) 759-4050; or on the Web at: www.christophers.org/contests.html.

Join our Oratorian Congregation to SERVE GOD AS PRIEST OR BROTHER

As priests and lay men, our community lives without vows and serves God's people numerous ways, including:

Parishes Youth Camps Nursing
Retreats Campus Ministry Hospital Chaplains

Find out more about serving God with us:

Fr. Ed McDevitt, CO The Oratory
P O Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: MAY 14, 2006

May 14, Fifth Sunday of Easter

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Acts 9:26-31
- Psalm 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32
- 2) 1 John 3:18-24
- 3) Gospel: John 15:1-8

Partaking in church life connects us to Jesus

BY DANY LUBY
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

It never fails.

He has shaved his preparation time for a class or meeting too close. He rushes madly into his office at the last minute to print a document he needs, only to find his computer utterly unresponsive. He moves the mouse wildly, taps the keyboard manically — nothing works.

And so he finds himself, panicky and muttering darkly, plunged into the forbidding, dust-bunny intensive darkness beneath his desk. Experience has taught him that somewhere in the snaking, snarling welter of cords, wires and cables running between computer and desktop a connection has come loose.

Until he finds which one and reconnects it, he can pound the keys and jiggle the mouse all he wants, but the computer will still be useless.

Sunday's Gospel lifts up Jesus' image of the vine and the branches, reminding us that, apart from a solid connection to Christ, we cannot do the work we are called to do.

Like a disconnected computer, even our most determined actions will remain fruitless, dead.

How do we "remain in him," stay connected to the vine that is Christ? How do we sustain the energy and life that communion with Jesus offers?

We do it by giving priority to active participation in the life of the church, the community of his disciples. That means partaking — actively, consciously, intentionally — in the community's life of prayer and worship, especially through the sacramental life and pre-eminently the Mass.

It means listening to Christ in the Scriptures, proclaimed at liturgy, but also read and reflected upon at home. It means letting our consciences be shaped according to the model of Jesus.

It means bearing fruit, giving our faith flesh and blood and bones, through the daily exercise of love in family life and work, in leisure and civic involvement.

Questions:

Where are my connections to Christ most likely to come unplugged? What are some of the visible fruits of my being in communion with him?

Scripture to be Illustrated:

"Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit" (John 15:5).

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 7-13

Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Easter), Acts 4:8-12, 1 John 3:1-2, John 10:11-18; **Monday**, Acts 11:1-18, John 10:1-10; **Tuesday**, Acts 11:19-26, John 10:22-30; **Wednesday (Bl. Damien de Veuster)**, Acts 12:24-13:5, John 12:44-50; **Thursday**, Acts 13:13-25, John 13:16-20; **Friday (Sts. Nereus and Achilleus, St. Pancras)**, Acts 13:26-33, John 14:1-6; **Saturday (Our Lady of Fatima)**, Acts 13:44-52, John 14:7-14.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 14-20

Sunday (Fifth Sunday of Easter), Acts 9:26-31, 1 John 3:18-24, John 15:1-8; **Monday**, Acts 14:5-18, John 14:21-26; **Tuesday**, Acts 14:19-28, John 14:27-31; **Wednesday**, Acts 15:1-6, John 15:1-5; **Thursday (St. John I)**, Acts 15:7-21, John 15:9-11; **Friday**, Acts 15:22-31, John 15:12-17; **Saturday (St. Bernardine of Siena)**, Acts 16:1-10, John 15:18-21.



Making your will?

Request a free Wills Kit from Catholic Relief Services.

It will help you practice good stewardship and create a lasting legacy to help the poor overseas.

1-800-235-2772 ext.7318.



End-of-world flicks should be 'Left Behind'

Preachy scripts, shaky theology characterize three films

BY DAVID DiCERTO
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW YORK — Three movies based on the hugely popular apocalyptic "Left Behind" books by evangelical authors Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins have been gathered in a three-disc boxed set.

Though the production value of fundamentalist-flavored films increases along with their respective budgets, all three are handicapped by preachy, convoluted scripts riddled with clichés, corny dialogue and acting that is serviceable at best.

All three contain bonus features ranging from "making-of" documentaries and deleted scenes to music videos inspired by the series. Though some may enjoy the films as action thrillers with a Christian twist, Catholics should be aware that they contain ideas about the end times that are incongruent with Catholic eschatology (the branch of theology dealing with the end of the world).

All the films are rated A-III — adults — for mostly action violence, and all but the second installment, which was not rated, received a PG-13 rating — parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13 — from the Motion Picture Association of America.

In "Left Behind: The Movie" (2000), a handful of survivors — including TV reporter Buck Williams (Kirk Cameron), a born-again pilot (Brad Johnson), his teenage daughter (Janaya Stephens) and a Protestant minister (Clarence Gilyard) — try to make sense out of the mysterious mass disappearance of people worldwide, leading them to conclude that an apocalyptic prophecy is unfolding.

The second film, "Left Behind:

Tribulation Force" (2002), continues the efforts of Williams and his band of believers — caught in the anarchy of the approaching apocalypse — to expose a charismatic U.N. official (Gordon Currie) as the Antichrist and forestall his shadowy designs on world domination.

The sequel shows little improvement over the first film's awkward writing and underdeveloped characters.

The third time is not the charm with "Left Behind: World at War" (2005), which finds the Christian ranks decimated by biological weapons, while Williams tries to avert global conflict by convincing the U.S. president (Lou Gossett Jr.) that the architect of the new world "peace" is actually planning an attack on the United States that will trigger Armageddon.

The film's beefier budget can buy bigger explosions and an Oscar winner in Gossett, but not a better script.

All three films hinge on a literalist interpretation of certain Scripture passages and are informed by a pessimistic brand of Protestantism known as "premillennial dispensationalism," which took root among certain fundamentalist Christians in the early 19th century.

Central among its tenets is "the rapture," here meaning a sudden, unexpected taking up to heaven of those faithful to Christ, in advance of his second coming and presaging a seven-year period of tribulation for those "left behind."

While Catholic teaching accepts a rapture event at Christ's return in glory, the church rejects the notion of it occurring prior to the second coming as suggested by the films.

DiCerto is on the staff of the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Family-friendly drama is a 'Hoot'



CNS PHOTO BY NEW LINE

Logan Lerman (left) and Brie Larson star in "Hoot," an amiable, family-friendly drama about an eighth-grader (Lerman) who moves with his parents to small-town Florida. There he gets caught up in the crusade of an enigmatic boy (Cody Linley) and his stepsister (Larson) to save a colony of burrowing owls whose habitat is threatened by a real-estate developer hoping to bulldoze the endangered birds' nesting zone to make way for a pancake franchise.

The film, directed by Wil Shriner, is based on Carl Hiaasen's award-winning children's book of the same name.

The three young actors are bright and buoyant, and Hiaasen's tale imparts a warm and breezy message about friendship, respect for nature and taking a stand for what's right. Though the children's vandalism and occasional disregard for authority may ruffle some feathers, parents will find the amiable movie's noncynical tone refreshing. However, the film suffers from an overall weak script and a slow-starting plot, and the saucer-eyed critters get very little screen time.

Some schoolyard bullying and a few mildly crass expressions. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-I — general patronage.

The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

BINGO

it's here!!!

Doors open: 6 pm
BINGO starts: 7 pm sharp!

Food and refreshments available
NON-SMOKING FACILITY
CASH ONLY - ATM AVAILABLE



9009 Bryant Farms Rd.

Directions: from 485- exit Rea Road (south). Right on Ballantyne. Past St. Matthew, turn left on Elm Lane (which turns into Bryant Farms Road). K of C Banquet Center is approximately 2 miles on the left.


St. Matthew K of C
BINGO at the new
South Charlotte Banquet Center
every Monday evening

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels. 

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065

Around the world at OLA



COURTESY PHOTO

Students representing Greece show off their display during Multicultural Week at Our Lady of the Assumption School in Charlotte April 3-7. The event, coordinated by the school's PTO, highlighted more than 25 countries, from which the students, parents and teachers come. The halls, gymnasium and outdoors were filled with food, art, games, crafts and colorful presentations of cultures from continents around the world.

"The depth of research, abundant creativity and wealth of treasures shared by the school's families transformed the building into a cultural museum worthy of the highest praise," said Assistant Principal Allana-Rae Ramkissoon.

The multicultural theme was infused into the students' lessons leading up to the week's activities. For example, students learned origami and weaving, how to make sushi and write their names in Chinese. They learned a variety of cultural songs and games.

During the multicultural festival April 7, Linda Cherry, Catholic schools superintendent; Msgr. Mauricio W. West, vicar general and chancellor of the diocese; and Bernie Moorman, board president of Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools, were on hand to judge the hallway presentations.

During the festival, students learned how to use chopsticks (from Asia), hair braiding (from Africa), pasta making (from Europe) and how to potato sack race (from North America).

"Students were able to accumulate stamps in their personalized passports and shop for duty-free items, much to their delight," said Ramkissoon.

Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT

RETAIL SALES: Educational Outfitters is looking for high energy, hard working employees for available summer positions. Call 704-525-3344 or email mandy@educationaloutfitters.com.

CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT: Live in or live out. Female. Over 20 years of experience. References provided. St. Gabriel parishioner. 704-748-6719.

SERVICES

COUNSELING SERVICES: Individuals. Couples. Family. Lucille Moses, BSN, M.Ed. North Carolina Licensed Professional Counselor. 1801 East 5th Street, 108-B, Charlotte. 704-366-6507 or 704-942-4334.

FOR RENT

LAKE LURE VACATION HOME! New! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, all amenities. 3 minutes to Rocky Broad River, Lake Lure beach; fishing, boating, hiking, swimming. Reasonable! 828-299-3714.

Classified ads bring results! Over 135,000 readers! Over 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

MAINTENANCE MECHANIC

Sisters of Mercy of NC needs a full-time, experienced Maintenance Mechanic to join the Plant and Grounds Department. Must have HVAC experience, experience in ordering and purchasing as well as a minimum of 3 years maintenance field experience. Please send resume including references to: **Director of Plant & Grounds, 100 Mercy Dr., Belmont, NC 28012, or email to: ncreg@mercync.org.**

DIOCESAN REGIONAL COORDINATORS (OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION)

Charlotte Diocese seeks two persons with master's degrees in Religious Ed/allied field, and five years of demonstrable successful experience in parish/diocesan work. Well-rounded in catechist formation skills. Collaborative. Sensitive to cultural minorities. Good written/oral communication skills. Spanish a plus. Office locations: one in Maggie Valley, NC and the other in Greensboro, NC.

For copy of Job Description, e-mail paonaindia@charlottediocese.org.

Please send resume, salary requirements and three letters of recommendation to:

Dr Cris V. Villapando, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203-4003 or

cvvillapando@charlottediocese.org.

Application deadline is May 19, 2006.

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Church of St. John the Beloved, a 1400-family parish located outside of Charleston, SC, is seeking a full-time Director of Religious Education. As a member of the pastoral staff, this position includes faith formation for Pre-K to grade 5, sacramental preparation for baptism, reconciliation, Eucharist and confirmation, children's liturgy of the Word, adult formation, catechist formation and collaboration with the administration and teaching staff of the parish school. Master's degree and experience preferred. Salary and benefits are negotiable.

Please send resume to: DRE Search Committee, 28 Sumter Avenue, Summerville, SC 29483. Fax: (843) 873-1431

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

J.S. Paluch Co., established in 1913, the nation's oldest Catholic Publisher, is now interviewing for the position of Sales Representatives for parish church bulletins. Realistic earnings potential of 40K+, health insurance, paid vacation, 401K. Some travel required. Self-motivation a must. Bilingual helpful in some areas. To arrange an interview call Les Black at 800-432-3240. Seniors welcome to apply. EOE



High School Youth Minister

Christ Our King Catholic Church located in Mt. Pleasant, near Charleston, South Carolina, is seeking a full-time High School Youth Minister. The successful candidate must be a practicing Catholic who is able to continue to implement "Renewing the Vision of Youth Ministry" within our community of 2500 families.

The candidate must have a minimum of three years' experience in Youth Ministry. A degree in a related field is preferred. Salary will be commensurate with experience and degree. Position is available July 1, 2006.

Your resume with references may be submitted to Christ Our King Catholic Church, 1149 Russell Drive, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464, or by email to dfisher@christourking.org.

These items must be received by Friday, May 12, 2006.

Poll: Americans more pro-life

POLL, from page 1

respondents to a recent survey said they were very familiar or somewhat familiar with *Roe v. Wade*, only 29 percent were able to select the most accurate description of the decision from among four options, said Karen Smith of the polling company at a Washington press conference.

Most respondents — a total of 50 percent — chose an incorrect description, saying *Roe* made abortion legal only in the first trimester (18 percent), only in limited circumstances (17 percent) or only in the first and second trimester (15 percent).

Another 15 percent said they did not know, while 1 percent each said the correct description of *Roe* was "other" or "all of the above," 3 percent said "none of the above" and 2 percent refused to answer.

When asked to choose their position on abortion from among six choices, 54 percent said abortions should not be allowed or should be permitted only in cases of rape or incest or to save the mother's life — all of which the poll described as "traditional pro-life statements."

A total of 41 percent chose a position supporting legal abortion, saying abortion should be legal up to three months into the pregnancy (21 percent), up to six months (8 percent) or at any time for any reason (12 percent).

The rest said they didn't know or refused to answer.

Among the groups more likely to identify with one of the three pro-life positions described in the poll were 18- to 34-year-olds, those with household incomes under \$30,000, high school graduates and those who identified themselves as Republicans, Smith said.

The margin of error for the national poll, conducted by telephone April 13-14 among 1,000 adult Americans, was plus or minus 3.1 percent.

"It is encouraging to know that people between the ages of 18 and 34 are identifying with the pro-life side," said Maggi Nadol, Respect Life director in the Diocese of Charlotte.

"Other generations have a lot to learn from them. They have grown-up with the use of ultrasound machines that clearly show that abortion does not take the life of a 'blob of tissue.' Abortion takes the life of an unborn baby girl or boy," said Nadol.

Marjorie Dannenfelser, director of the Susan B. Anthony List, which works for the election of pro-life women candidates and the passage of pro-life legislation, said the recent poll and other earlier surveys show that there is "a growing pro-life trend, especially among women."

"We've come a long way since the Freedom of Choice Act," she said, referring to legislation first introduced in 1993 that would have overturned all restrictions on abortion and mandated government financing of abortions.

"We're in a very different place right now," Dannenfelser said. "The pro-life trend is almost impossible to deny."

Authors and political commentators joined Smith in a panel discussion, moderated by Dannenfelser, on why America is trending more toward the pro-life position and how that trend might be accelerated.

Those who support keeping abortion legal are carrying out "an ongoing disinformation campaign" that aims to "keep the issue in the courts; beyond the reach of the nation's pro-life sentiments," said Kate O'Beirne, Washington editor for *National Review* and the author of "Women Who Make the World Worse."

She called abortion "a 'women's issue' that doesn't have the support of most women."

Kristen Day, national director of Democrats for Life, said that by supporting abortion the Democratic Party has not been faithful to its "historic principle ... of fighting for the little guy."

Although pro-life Democrats often "didn't get support from the party or the pro-life community" in the past, "that's changing now," Day said. "There's a growing realization (among politicians) that the public would like to see fewer abortions."

Ramesh Ponnuru, a senior editor with *National Review* and author of "The Party of Death," credited the rise in pro-life sentiment in the United States to incremental progress on such issues as partial-birth abortion and parental notification and to the increased use of ultrasound machines.

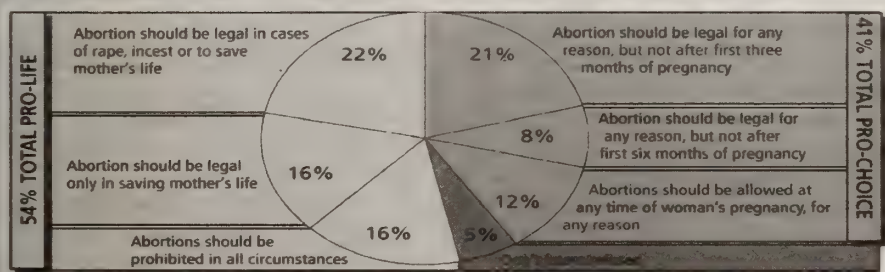
The poll and press conference were organized on behalf of the Real Women's Voices coalition, which was sponsoring a lobbying day April 26 for about 120 pro-life women from around the country.

Another 200 women had pledged to contact their senators about pro-life issues from their homes on that day.

Contributing to this story was Editor Kevin E. Murray.

Stances on Abortion

U.S. adults who say these statements reflect their position on abortion



Based on April 2006 national survey of 1,000 adults with a sampling error of +/- 3.1 percent

Source: Real Women's Voices coalition ©2006 CNS

Earn college credits early! Attend summer classes at "the Abbey."

- Financial Aid available
(for those who did not attend college in Spring 2006)
- 4-week classes begin in May and again in June
- 8-week evening classes begin May 23
- Summer tuition is the lowest of the year
- Earn credits towards your degree and still have almost two months of vacation
- A perfect way for adults to work towards finishing a degree and for high school students to begin earning theirs!

For more information:

Please call the Summer School Office at 704-825-6671, email CACE@bac.edu or log onto BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu



BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Moved to tears on Holy Thursday

Conversion leads to community of faith

The late Whittaker Chambers, a celebrated man of letters, was perhaps the 20th century's most effective anti-Communist. Although he is acclaimed as a formidable intellectual with uncanny powers of persuasion, Chambers was hardly immune to sentiment.

In fact, he rejected the long-held belief that "weeping in men is unmanly." On the contrary, Chambers wrote:

"I have found most men in whom there was a depth of experience, or capacity for compassion, singularly apt to tears. How can it be otherwise? One looks and sees: and it would be a kind of impotence to be incapable of, or to grudge, the comment of tears, even while you struggle against it."

I recalled, and was comforted by, Chambers' lines as I participated in Holy Thursday Mass at St. Pius X Church in Greensboro. Msgr. Anthony Marcaccio, pastor, delivered an informative and entertaining homily (as always), at the conclusion of which he was overcome with emotion.

Seated all around me were my RCIA classmates, of whom I have become quite fond. Stealing a glance at them, I was relieved to see that their eyes, like mine, welled and sparkled.

Scores of parishioners — many of them men — unabashedly dabbed their eyes and wiped their cheeks.

This was a profoundly moving Mass, for several reasons. Since early July, my classmates, our sponsors, the RCIA team and I had explored and reveled in the mysteries of the Catholic faith.

Here, in the midst of Holy Week, we were nearing the pinnacle of our spiritual journey: two days later, during the Easter Vigil, we would be baptized and confirmed.

The ceremony and pageantry of Holy Thursday — an ethereal, spine-tingling performance by the parish choir; a lingering, fragrant haze of incense; Msgr. Marcaccio's homily; the near-tangible spirit of reverence that permeated the proceedings — brought home to us the sense of awe and wonder that characterizes St. Pius X Church, and Catholicism itself.

Many of our rites — welcoming,

Guest Column

CHARLES DAVENPORT JR.
GUEST COLUMNIST

acceptance, sending to the bishop, election and call to continuing conversion — were now behind us. (Amber Register and I — the only catechumens in the class — were also the subjects of three scrutinies.)

We were taught the significance of each rite, and capably guided through them by our sponsors and team members Sue Brusnahan, Tracy Welliver, Donna Butterfield and Mike Epps.

Sue, the matriarch of our little platoon, conducts meetings with a gentle but resolute hand; Tracy wows us with an encyclopedic knowledge of Catholic theology, passionately delivered.

And of course, to my godmother, Karen Anderson, I am eternally grateful. A "cradle Catholic," Karen took me under her wing and, with a contagious sense of piety, taught me how to fly on my own.

As the congregation departed St. Pius X Church in silence Holy Thursday, I realized that, in an authentic community, words are often unnecessary. According to Webster's, a "community" is "a united body of individuals" and "people with common interests living in a particular area."

"Community" is a term tossed about carelessly, often used to describe a collection of people with merely superficial commonalities, such as skin color or sexual orientation. Individuals cast into such "communities" often share little or nothing in common.

Conversely, my RCIA classmates and I have joined a community in the true sense of the word. The warmth and sincerity with which St. Pius X Church has encouraged and welcomed us is worthy of the comment of tears, and this neophyte no longer struggles against it.

Charles Davenport Jr. is a freelance columnist for the Greensboro News & Record.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

Pope says Jesus stays with his disciples through church's tradition

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Through the living tradition of the church, Christ remains with his disciples until the end of time, teaching, guiding and comforting them, Pope Benedict XVI said.

"Tradition is not a collection of things or words — a box of dead things — but tradition is the living river of life that flows from Christ to us," the pope said May 3 at his weekly general audience.

The pope said his current series of audience talks is aimed at helping people understand "what the church is."

A key to understanding, he said, is to recognize how Christ entrusted the Gospel message to his apostles, who handed it on to others throughout history.

The earliest Christian communities, he said, were gathered together by the apostles, who were the first to know Jesus Christ and who were sent by him to spread his message of salvation.

The communities "knew they could count on the guidance of the Twelve, as well as on ... those who little by little succeeded them in the ministry of the word and in the service of communion," he said.

The apostles' successors formed new communities and appointed their own successors, who would spread the Gospel even further, the pope said.

The message they handed on was

The Pope Speaks

POPE BENEDICT XVI



not their own experience, but what was given to them through the church's living tradition, he said.

While the face-to-face experience of the apostles' relationship with Jesus was "unique and unrepeatable," he said, Jesus promised to remain with his disciples until the end of time and does so through the power of the Holy Spirit.

"Tradition, then, is the story of the Holy Spirit who acts in the history of the church through the mediation of the apostles and their successors in faithful continuity," the pope said.

Through tradition and apostolic succession, he said, "it is Christ himself who reaches those called to faith. The distance of centuries is overcome and the risen Lord offers himself alive and working for us in today's church and today's world."

"This is our joy: that through the living river of tradition, Christ is not 2,000 years away from us, but is truly with us always," Pope Benedict said.

Happy 80th, 'Papa'

Memories are to be treasured, shared

Reverence for ancestors is an admirable thread in Chinese culture.

It was wonderful to see that thread running through an 80th birthday celebration for retired neurosurgeon Paul Lin, who was born in China and left at age 21 when the communists took control.

Lin came to Philadelphia for his neurosurgical residency and subsequent career. He married an Italian-American nurse and raised a family of six.

Lin's friends and family gathered on a recent Sunday for a mid-day, full-course meal in one of Philadelphia's Chinese restaurants.

Memories were recalled for the grandchildren as children produced memories of their own by reading personalized tributes to "Papa."

A central theme that ran through their admiring words was an expression of gratitude for Papa's quiet presence to and with them. He was there for their recitals, performances and games.

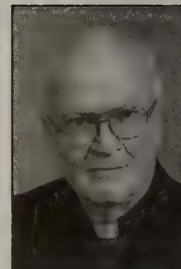
"I still enjoy sitting on the couch and reading with Papa, with or without conversation," said one. "I've always admired and respected my grandfather's intellectual gifts and his appreciation for silence."

One granddaughter said, "Papa reminds us how in China one does not wither away as the years pile up; rather, one gains respect, honor and knowledge."

Several of the youngsters expressed

Looking Around

JESUIT FATHER WILLIAM J. BYRON
CNS COLUMNIST



gratitude for his persistence in putting vocabulary-builders in their hands in attractive tapes, books and word-game formats:

"Papa has always wanted all the young kids to succeed in school. He always asks how our grades are."

And another child said: "I broke a board with my elbow at karate. Papa knew that I liked Chinese characters, so he took one of the boards and painted 'Merry Christmas' on it for me. We hung the board on a wall in my bedroom."

"Thank you, Papa. That board will always be very special to me."

There were more memories of the fishing pier on the New Jersey shore, trips to the penny arcade, boardwalk breakfasts, first-ever swings with a golf club.

There was a "contract" awarded a would-be filmmaker to make a documentary for his grandparents' 50th wedding anniversary based on interviews and old-photo montages.

"Now he calls me, 'Mr. Spielberg,'" says this proud grandson of a perfect Papa!

E-mail: wbyron@loyola.edu.

Judging Pope Benedict's first year

Spiritual conduct should be considered first

The first year of Pope Benedict XVI's reign is receiving mixed reviews by the press.

Some hoped the new pope would place his emphasis on the defense of orthodoxy and use a heavy hand against those who disagree with church policies.

There was anticipation that he would be very strict with theologians, bar all homosexuals from the seminary, block the new feminism, slow down the lay leadership movement and perhaps restore the Tridentine Mass.

Others were hoping he would consolidate Rome's bureaucracy and dismantle the "old guard," vigorously support the spirit of the Vatican Council II, do away with priestly celibacy and return to the style of thinking that characterized him during his early days as a theology professor.

So far, Pope Benedict has not met any of these expectations. In fact, his first encyclical was a refreshing treatise on love that was highly praised.

To the surprise of many he even writes about the pros and cons of eros!

Compared with Pope John Paul II, the new pope has kept a low profile. Perhaps this is due to his age or his personal preference, but he travels little.

The Human Side

FATHER
EUGENE HEMRICK
CNS COLUMNIST



Though he is the center of attention, he tends to shy away from it.

A person of stature, like the pope, is constantly under the microscope. His every move and utterance are analyzed and commented upon. This is normal, but it often tends to miss what is most important.

Pope Benedict is not only responsible for the Catholic Church as an institution, he also is responsible for its spirituality. To carry out the latter responsibility, he must first be responsible for his own spirituality.

As of now, little has been written on this. If someone were to write on the pope's spirituality, what would the analysis look like?

First, what exactly attracted this pope to the priesthood, to serving God through this particular vocation rather than in marriage? Did his vocation result from an instantaneous inspiration by God, a catastrophic event, an inspiring person or author, or a liturgical event?

Who are his favorite saints, and why one saint more than another? Who is he reading at the moment? We know that the pope loves Scripture, but what exactly in it most inspires him and why?

Some might say that these are pious questions about matters to be kept private. I beg to differ.

Too often journalists and the public only want to talk about the pope as if he were a politician, statesman or the CEO of a big business corporation. Even when people write of him as a theologian, it is as though theology were a sterile science unrelated to spirituality.

When popes are canonized saints, it isn't primarily because of their political skills on the world stage or theological theses they developed. Rather, it is because of who they were spiritually — their spiritual conduct in the midst of church politics and theological debate.

This is where an analysis of Pope Benedict XVI's first year should begin.

Gen-Xers and divorce

Our Turn

THERESE J.
BORCHARD
CNS COLUMNIST



Study shows harmful effects on children

Gen-Xers who grew up in the divorce explosion of the '70s and '80s still feel the wounds of their parents' split, argues Elizabeth Marquardt in her book "Between Two Worlds: The Inner Lives of Children of Divorce."

Marquardt chronicles her own experience with dividing time and energy between her mom and dad as a child and adolescent. Research she conducted with sociologist Norval Glenn of the University of Texas at Austin concluded that:

1. There's no such thing as a good divorce, say grown children of divorce.

2. Because of time spent alone, children of divorce tend to have some emotional distance between themselves and their parents.

3. Children of divorce grow up between the two distinct worlds of their parents, who usually differ in values and priorities. This causes quite a bit of confusion.

4. Internalizing the conflict of these two worlds, children of divorce say they feel as though they had to grow up prematurely.

They felt a need to act differently around their parents and to keep secrets in order to preserve the peace of the family.

Before now, most research on divorce was done by people who didn't experience it themselves. In 2000, Judith Wallerstein published "The Unexpected Legacy of Divorce," arguing that divorce surely harms children.

This book was criticized by some because the survey sample was so small.

Conversely, in 2002, E. Mavis Hetherington wrote "For Better or For Worse," in which she argued that divorce doesn't necessarily leave children with lasting damage.

Marquardt's book, told from the perspective of a child of divorce, deals with the more subtle influences of divorce.

Although she acknowledges that sometimes divorce is necessary, as in cases of domestic violence, drug abuse or alcoholism, she believes all divorce is tragic because it uproots the basic foundation needed for children to thrive.

As a child of a divorce, I know this lack of foundation contributes to bouts of insecurity and depression. I need an excessive amount of reassurance and feedback, especially when I venture into something new.

And without a good role model, my husband — also raised in a divorced home — and I wing it a lot of the time. We try harder to communicate, knowing how easily couples drift apart.

That is the purpose of Marquardt's book: to urge couples to try harder in order to give their children the gift of one home and one family.

'The Da Vinci Code': Blessing in disguise?

Catholic social teaching can overcome falsehoods

The film version of the popular novel "The Da Vinci Code," scheduled for U.S. release May 19, presents seriously distorted information about Jesus and the Catholic Church: that Jesus never said he was God; that Jesus was married to Mary Magdalene; that she became his successor; and that the Catholic Church conspired to keep these "facts" from the world.

Woo! Wait a minute! How can such nonsense be taken seriously?

Nonetheless, it appears that many believe "The Da Vinci Code" portrays solid history. Unfortunately, such belief probably will lead many people farther away from the real Jesus and the truth taught by the church.

But, maybe not.

Actually, "The Da Vinci Code" presents a teachable moment. For instance, the U.S. bishops' Catholic Communication Campaign has developed an informative Web site (www.jesusdecoded.com) to help readers understand historical facts surrounding Jesus and the early church.

"The Da Vinci Code" may be a blessing in disguise. One hopes it will challenge us to take up a serious, ongoing study of faith.

One reason "The Da Vinci Code" became so popular is that many Christians do not have a truly satisfying, adult understanding of Jesus and the church. Such an understanding takes time, prayer, study and action.

It doesn't take a degree in theology, but it does take effort — ongoing,

committed, lifelong effort.

A weak knowledge of Catholicism is no match for the many powerful economic, political and social neopagan forces in our world. A committed, mature grasp of faith is required here.

And nowhere else is that more lacking than in the area known as Catholic social teaching.

Often called the church's best kept secret, Catholic social teaching is blessed with more than 100 years of outstanding documents on social justice and peace authored by popes, Vatican Council II, world synods of bishops and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Sadly, these documents attract more dust than readers.

Catholic social teaching is a highly developed set of principles and reflections designed to guide us in applying the Gospel's liberating message to the social, economic and political problems facing modern humanity.

Its central themes are:

—The protection of all human life and the promotion of human dignity.

—The call to participate in family and community life.

—The promotion of human rights and responsibilities.

—The preferential option for the poor and vulnerable.

—The safeguarding of workers' dignity and rights.

—The building of global solidarity and the common good.

Making a Difference

TONY
MAGLIANO
CNS COLUMNIST



—The care for God's creation.

—The universal destination of goods.

—The call to become peacemakers.

Among the most important documents of Catholic social teaching are Vatican Council II's "Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World" and Pope John Paul II's encyclicals "On Social Concerns" and "The Gospel of Life."

The Vatican's new "Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church" is the official summary of the entire body of Catholic social teaching. An excellent concise collection titled "Our Best Kept Secret" is available from the Washington-based Center of Concern.

Only the real Jesus can fully satisfy the longings of the human heart and mind.

"The Da Vinci Code" and other imposters of the truth are no match for believers who have a strong relationship with Christ, who well understand the Gospel and teachings of his church, and who boldly proclaim them in word and deed!

A chance to contribute

President Bush visits a New Orleans home, praises Catholic Charities volunteers

BY CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW ORLEANS — President George W. Bush praised the work of Catholic Charities volunteers in helping to rebuild New Orleans during an April 27 visit to a Ninth Ward home ravaged by Hurricane Katrina and the floods that followed.

He also called for another 2,500 volunteers "to come down to New Orleans to help people get back on their feet" through Operation Helping Hands, the Catholic Charities volunteer project that has already gutted 311 damaged homes to prepare them for rebuilding.

Another 776 homes remain on the project's waiting list.

At the home of Ethel Williams, a 72-year-old widow, the president said, "The amazing thing that's happened in her home is that there are people across the country who are helping to rebuild it."

"Catholic Charities, in this case, has provided the volunteers to help Ms. Williams reclaim her life," Bush said.

"So I'd like to first start by thanking the volunteers who are here in the home. I want to thank them for setting such a good example," he said.

The 15-member volunteer team that worked on Williams' home came from Alabama, Michigan, North Carolina, Vermont and Washington, D.C.

Williams lost nearly everything in Hurricane Katrina and now lives temporarily with her daughter, Wanda.

"If you're interested in helping the victims of Katrina, if you're interested in helping them get back on their feet, come down here and volunteer," Bush said.

"A good place to start is in Catholic Charities. You can get right there on the Web page (www.catholiccharities-no.org); they'll find work for you. They'll give you a chance to contribute something to your country," he said.

Since Catholic Charities of New



CNS PHOTO BY ERIC DRAPER, WHITE HOUSE

President George W. Bush laughs with resident Ethel Williams at her damaged home during an April 27 visit to New Orleans. During his tour of the area, the president praised the work of Catholic Charities volunteers in helping rebuild homes in the Ninth Ward that were ravaged by Hurricane Katrina and the floods that followed.

Orleans launched Operation Helping Hands late last year, 2,817 people from across the country have participated.

Bush was joined in his visit to Williams' home by Jim Kelly and Gordon Wadge, CEO and president, respectively, of Catholic Charities of New Orleans; Louisiana Gov. Kathleen Blanco; New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin; and other officials.

"We need the hearts and hands of the nation in this journey to rebuild," said Wadge in a statement. "Anyone who

enters a home like Mrs. Williams' and sees, smells and touches the devastation will come away with a greater sense of the suffering and the challenge."

"We are committed to doing all that we can to allow people to come home and begin their lives again," said Kelly.

During his visit to New Orleans, Bush also presented the President's Volunteer Service Award to Tris Coffin Jr., a volunteer with Second Harvest Food Bank, a program of the archdiocesan Catholic Charities.

Coffin, 87, has been a volunteer for nearly 22 years at the food bank, which annually distributes millions of pounds of food to needy families in New Orleans and the surrounding area.

The President's Volunteer Service Award is given by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation to individuals, families and groups who have demonstrated outstanding volunteer service and civic participation.



**Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center**

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

WALK WHERE JESUS WALKED ON A DIOCESAN-SPONSORED PILGRIMAGE TO

THE HOLY LAND

September 5 - 14

with Fr. James Hawker, Diocesan Vicar
of Education and Pastor, St. Luke Church

Deepen your understanding of our Catholic faith and watch the pages of the Bible come alive as you experience daily Mass at many of the historical sites of our faith.

Highlights include:

- Tiberias, Mt. Carmel, Sea of Galilee area
- Mt. Tabor, Cana, Nazareth - Jesus' boyhood area
- Capernaum, Mount of Beatitudes, River Jordan
- Jerusalem area: Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Via Dolorosa, Lord's Tomb at Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Mount Zion, Upper Room, Dormition Abbey, Wailing Wall
- Dead Sea (excavations and scrolls), Masada, Holocaust memorial
- Bethlehem's historic sites - PLUS much more!



Price: \$2,499 from Charlotte (\$2,599 after June 22) includes airfare, most meals, first-class hotels and all tours. Airport taxes/fees, tips and insurance are extra.

Call Cindi Feerick at 704/370-3332 for a brochure with complete details or Pentecost Tours 800/713-9800 for registration.

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



Special gifts and necessities for
First Communion
and Confirmation celebrations!

- ✙ Beautiful veils
- ✙ Mantillas on sale
- ✙ Unique spiritual mementos

Video series: Teachings of Fulton Sheen
7 pm Tuesdays (Monroe Road location only)

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

\$5 OFF
Any Purchase
of \$35 or More
Present coupon. Not valid with any
other offers. Expires 5/31/06

Roman Catholic
Diocese of Charlotte



Established Jan. 12, 1972
by Pope Paul VI

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

Youths in Action

Youths earn pastoral care awards; students bring song, smiles to seniors

|PAGE 5

MAY 12, 2006

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 15 No 30

Ups and downs

POPE COMPLETES FIRST LAP
ON ROLLER COASTER OF
CHINA-VATICAN RELATIONS

BY JOHN THAVIS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Pope Benedict XVI has completed his first lap around the roller-coaster ride that is China-Vatican relations.

After the giddy heights of

See CHINA, page 12

Witness and teacher

Mary Magdalene
an important,
enigmatic saint

BY JERRY FILTEAU
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — St. Mary Magdalene was a leading disciple of Jesus and used her resources to support him and the apostles. She was a woman from whom Jesus cast out seven demons. She was a

See SAINT, page 6



CNS PHOTO BY CARLOS BARRIA, REUTERS

A migrant stands on a cargo train heading north to the Mexican border city of Nuevo Laredo May 5. Each day migrants from Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Mexico use Mexican trains to travel to the U.S. border. The U.S. Border Patrol reported May 4 an increase in arrests of undocumented migrants crossing the border as U.S. lawmakers debate proposals to curb illegal immigration.

Queen of heaven and earth



COURTESY PHOTO

Eighth-grader B.J. Alyea assists second-grader Sarah Price as she places a crown of flowers on a statue of Mary outside St. Michael School in Gastonia May 8.

The school held a May procession, led by the second-graders dressed in their first Communion attire. Pre-kindergarten through eighth grade took part in the songs and prayers.

The month of May is devoted to Mary and is traditionally celebrated with a crowning and praying the rosary.

Toward the unknown future

Demographic, poll data show complexities of immigration issues

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Amid the enthusiastic rallies and dueling politicians' rhetoric about immigration of the last few weeks, recent demographic analyses and opinion polls put the debate into numerical perspective.

Among the conclusions drawn from the data are that the nation's illegal immigrants include many families in complex situations, and that the opinions of Americans on the subject don't line up easily into neat rows.

By the numbers

Some of the demographic information may surprise people who think the illegal immigrant population consists largely of single young men.

About 36 percent, or 2.3 million of the 6.3 million "unauthorized families" that are headed by an illegal immigrant are single men with no children; another 12 percent, or 740,000, are single women with no children.

About 540,000 families, or about 9 percent, are couples without kids.

According to a Pew Hispanic Center analysis of census data,

the other 41 percent or so break down into an assortment of "mixed status" families where the parents aren't here legally.

Pew estimates the total number of illegal immigrants in the country at between 11 million and 12 million. Those 6.3 million "unauthorized families" are made up of a total of 13.9 million people, who include illegal immigrant adults and citizen or legal resident children and spouses.

Those "mixed status" categories include 1.5 million families where all the children

See POLLS, page 9

1000-6652 NC 27599-0001
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
UNC
NC COLLECTION
#420836#
#BXNPDVQ.....3-DIGIT 275
S36 P1

Culture Watch

Hollywood and religion;
Scripture readings

| PAGES 10-11

Perspectives

'Da Vinci Code' bomb;
'the convict Christ'

| PAGES 14-15

Enter the Swiss

New, former Swiss Guards
march to Vatican

| PAGE 16

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

FROM CRASH TO COMMUNION



CNS PHOTO BY DON BLAKE, THE DIALOG

Christina Trice, 7, receives her first Communion from Father Chris LaBarge as Joan Muschner, principal of Immaculate Conception Sunday School, assists her during the celebration at Immaculate Conception Church in Marydel, Md., April 30. Eleven days earlier, Christina was critically injured in a car accident in nearby Dover, Del.

Injuries don't stop accident victim from receiving first Communion

MARYDEL, Md. (CNS) — Christina Trice processed into Immaculate Conception Church in Marydel April 30, her hands piously folded and a look of determination on her face.

Like the other girls receiving their first Communion, 7-year-old Christina wore a white dress, veil and shoes. But she also sported white satin wheel covers on her wheelchair.

Her presence was a testament to the prayers of loved ones, the care of her doctors and nurses, and her own willpower.

Eleven days earlier, Christina was critically injured in a car accident in nearby Dover, Del. She was knocked unconscious and suffered a concussion, fractured pelvis, lacerated kidney and spleen, and punctured lungs, according to her mother, Barbara Trice, who was driving the family car when the accident occurred.

Christina's right ear was almost severed, and she was bleeding profusely.

The immediate concern was not whether Christina would make her first Communion, but whether she would survive.

"We're lucky to be here," Barbara Trice said. "I thank God for her being here."

Father Chris LaBarge, pastor, cited Christina's recovery in his homily.

"One of the things we are witnessing today is the power of prayer," he said. "A week ago, we didn't think Christina would be here."

He called on Christina "to tell people how much a difference prayer has made in your life. Prayer is powerful."

Father LaBarge noted that many people in Marydel and beyond had prayed for her recovery.

The Saturday after the accident, Christina "asked, 'Am I going to be able to receive first holy Communion?'" Barbara Trice said. "At that point I didn't have an answer for her."

But, "You can't hold this child down. She's got a very strong will," she said.

Christina returned home from the hospital April 28. The doctors, nurses and staff "worked really hard to make sure that when we left there Friday, she was good to go," said Trice, who was not seriously injured in the accident.

Christina's first Communion classmates helped the girl's spirits, making her cards and signing a quilt, which was later signed by her doctors and nurses.

Christina must stay off her feet for six to eight weeks so her pelvis can heal.

Trice marvels at how Christina survived the accident. Christina had sat in the front seat of the car that day rather than the back. Had Christina been in the rear passenger-side seat where she normally sits, Trice said, she would have been killed; that part of her car bore the brunt of the impact.

"I think the angels were holding on to her," Trice said. "Somebody had to be looking after us."

National black Catholic leaders pledge to help with Katrina recovery

NEW ORLEANS (CNS) — A contingent of bishops, religious and laity representing the National Black Catholic Congress promised to use their influence and resources to help restore the lives and property of those still suffering from the effects of Hurricane Katrina.

Bishop John H. Ricard of Pensacola-Tallahassee, Fla., and Auxiliary Bishop Joseph N. Perry of Chicago spoke to the student body at MAX High School in mid-April, telling them they came to New Orleans to see firsthand the devastation, listen to their storm stories and take back recommendations on how to help with the recovery.

Bishop Ricard is president and Bishop Perry is vice president of the board of trustees of the National Black Catholic Congress. Representatives of Catholic services and organizations from 15 cities joined the bishops in their visit to the region.

"These African-American Catholic leaders, priests, sisters, deacons and lay-

men are very concerned about what happened to you," Bishop Ricard said. "We're looking for ways to extend our hands in a way of providing you some help."

Three Catholic high schools suffered heavy damage from flooding, while another was virtually spared. One of the damaged schools is not scheduled to reopen.

"The overwhelming majority of our children lost everything," Father Ricard said. "It was the African-American neighborhoods that were hit the hardest. The faculties at these three schools also lost a lot."

Father Ricard said one displaced student is living in a home with three other families. He told them how each family occupied one bedroom.

"A lot of our kids live in trailers ... they may be living in trailers for two or three years," he said.

While the hurricane was terrible, "The rainbow is coming, and we're going to help you rebuild," Bishop Perry told the students.

Diocesan planner

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — Father Matthew Buettner, parochial vicar of St. Dorothy Church in Lincolnton, will present the *Catholic Response* to "The Da Vinci Code" May 15 at 7 p.m. in the Msgr. Pharr Activity Center of St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd. RSVP for this free event to Renee O'Brien at rdobrien@earthlink.net or (704) 770-0003.

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., is hosting a "Community Shred" May 20, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Identity theft is the fastest growing crime in the U.S. according to the FBI; shredding personal documents is one way to help stop it. Everyone is encouraged to bring personal and confidential documents to the church, where PROSHRED Security will destroy them. For more information, call the church office at (704) 543-7677.

CHARLOTTE — St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd., will host an *Estate Planning Seminar* May 24 at 6:30 p.m. in the Ministry Center. Estate planning information will be provided by Jim Kelley and Judy Smith in the diocesan Planned Giving office and attorney Tom Gorman with Gorman and Dittman law firm. Please call (704) 370-3320 with any questions. To register, call (701) 364-5431, extension 212.

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., will host a *Christian Coffeehouse* May 20, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Single and married adults are invited for an evening of contemporary Christian music, food and fellowship. For more information, call Kathy Bartlett at (704) 400-2213.

CHARLOTTE — *Healing Hearts*, a support group for people coping with the death of a

spouse, meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall of St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Rd. For more information, contact Sister Therese Galligan, facilitator, at (704) 362-5047, ext. 216.

CHARLOTTE — The *Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians*, St. Brigid Division 1, an Irish-Catholic group of women dedicated to their faith, country and Irish heritage, meet the third Wednesday of each month. Anyone interested in membership, call Jeanmarie Schuler at (704) 554 0720.

GASTONIA VICARIATE

MOUNT HOLLY — Father John Vianney Hoover invites all to celebrate the 30th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood May 28 at 4 p.m. at St. Joseph Church on Hwy. 273. Bring a picnic dinner and chairs to share after Mass. For details, call (704) 541-5026.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

HIGH POINT — The Holistic Health Ministry of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 4145 Johnson St., will sponsor an *Alzheimer's Seminar* May 18 at 7 p.m. in meeting room 1. Dr. J. Keith Miller will be the guest speaker. The Alzheimer's Association will have information available. Please call the church office at (336) 869-7739 to reserve your space for this informative session.

GREENSBORO — Jesuit Father Joseph Koterski will present "The Contribution of Pope John Paul II to Catholic Social Thought" May 25, 7-8:30 p.m., at St. Pius X Church, 2210 North Elm St., in the Kloster Center. Father Koterski is a professor of philosophy at Fordham University. This event is sponsored by St. Pius X Church and the diocesan offices of Justice and Peace and Family Life of Catholic Social Services. For reservations and information, call (704) 370-3228 or e-mail sabeason@charlottediocese.org.

HIGH POINT — *Hope of Seeing Everyone Again* (HOSEA) is a six-week program for Catholics who

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

MAY 12, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 30

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Pope says missionary societies help Catholics know God's love

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The pontifical missionary societies help every Catholic in every part of the world let others know of God's love and his promise of salvation, Pope Benedict XVI said.

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith, the Holy Childhood Association and the other societies always have focused on communicating "the love of God revealed in his plan of salvation," the pope said.

Pope Benedict met May 8 with 114 national directors of the pontifical missionary societies who were holding their general assembly.

While the societies' financial support may be directed at different segments of the church in mission territories, such as

children or seminarians, they all are involved in promoting awareness of each Catholic's missionary obligation and in helping local churches grow and mature.

"All of this has given rise among the Christian people to a reawakening of faith and love, connected to a great missionary enthusiasm," the pope said.

The work the national directors do in their own countries, he said, helps Catholics understand that missionary involvement — through prayer, financial support or working in the missions — is an essential part of a Christian's life.

In addition, he said, the fact that Catholics around the world support the pontifical missionary societies is a sign of the catholicity of the church.

have been away from the church for a while, but may wish to return. HOSEA will meet Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in the parlor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 4145 Johnson St., May 23-June 27. Small group settings will offer an opportunity to enrich spiritual growth and help inactive Catholics bond and share their faith. It will also provide an opportunity for them to discuss any questions or issues with other Catholics and get a sense of the modern-day church. For more information, call Larry Kwan at (336) 688-1220 or e-mail hkkwan@lexcominc.net.

GREENSBORO — The Greensboro Council of Catholic Women invites all Catholic women to a luncheon May 24, at 11:30 a.m. at Cardinal Country Club, 5700 Cardinal Way. Lunch will be followed by a fashion show by Belk and installation of officers. For more information, please contact Carmen Wood (336) 545-9266.

HICKORY VICARIATE

HICKORY — St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St. NE, is offering a weekly *Catholic Scripture Study*. Catholic Scripture Study is a program whose members not only learn the Scriptures, but come to a deeper understanding of their faith in a setting that builds Christian fellowship. Evening and daytime classes meet at the church, Wednesdays, 6:45-8:30 p.m., and Thursdays 9:30-11:15 a.m. For more information, call Ann Miller at (828) 441-2205, or e-mail stalscss@charter.net.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

CONCORD — A four-part series of *Natural Family Planning* classes will begin May 16 at 6:30 p.m. at Northgate Family Medicine Clinic, 1028 Lee-Ann Drive Suite 100. Couples will learn the Sympto-Thermal method from Dr. Matthew and Kat Harrison, a certified teaching couple. Childcare is available upon request. Registration is required. For more information, call Kat Harrison at (704) 786-8799 or e-mail katmatt@ctc.net.

MOORESVILLE — Jesuit Father Joseph Koterski will present "*The Contribution of Pope John Paul II to Catholic Social Thought*" May 22, 7-8:30 p.m., at St. Therese Church, 217 Brawley School Rd. Father Koterski is a professor of philosophy at Fordham University. This event is sponsored by the diocesan offices of Justice and Peace and Family Life of Catholic Social Services. For reservations and information, call (704) 370-3228 or e-mail sabeason@charlottediocese.org.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

MAGGIE VALLEY — Jesuit Father Joseph Koterski will present "*The Contribution of Pope John Paul II to Catholic Social Thought*" May 24, 7-8:30 p.m., at St. Margaret of Scotland Church, 37 Murphy Dr. Father Koterski is a professor of philosophy at Fordham University. This event is sponsored by the diocesan offices of Justice and Peace and Family Life of Catholic Social Services. For reservations and information, call (704) 370-3228 or e-mail sabeason@charlottediocese.org.

SYLVA — A four-part series, "*Prayer of the Church*," will be presented at St. Mary Church, 22 Bartlett St. The sessions will meet 10-11 a.m., May 27, June 24 and July 22. Please call the church office at (828) 586-9496 to pre-register.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Pope ordains 15 priests, warns against clerical careerism

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI said the priesthood should be understood as a commitment to service and not an opportunity for career-climbing.

The pope made the comments shortly before ordaining 15 priests during a lengthy liturgy in St. Peter's Basilica May 7. Twelve of the new priests came from Italy, with one each from Honduras, Israel and Poland.

The Mass highlighted the annual celebration of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. In his sermon, the pope said the priest as "good shepherd" must be ready to sacrifice himself, know his flock and serve unity.

He prefaced his remarks with a warning about "careerism, the temptation to reach 'the top,' to acquire for oneself a position through the church" and to help oneself instead of helping others.

"This is the image of someone who uses the priesthood to make himself important, to become a personality, the image of one who aims at self-acclaim and not the humble service of Jesus Christ," Pope Benedict said.

Instead, he said, a priest should have an attitude of total self-giving and realize that following a vocational call may be in contrast with one's desire for self-realization and esteem.

The pope said a pastor's willingness

to sacrifice himself for his faithful is not something that happens only in martyrdom, but day by day, in being there for others even at the cost of abandoning his own goals.

To serve his flock, he said, a priest must know them well — which means going to talk to them and being open to their questions and needs.

"The pastor cannot be satisfied with knowing names and dates. His knowledge must always be knowledge with the heart," he said.

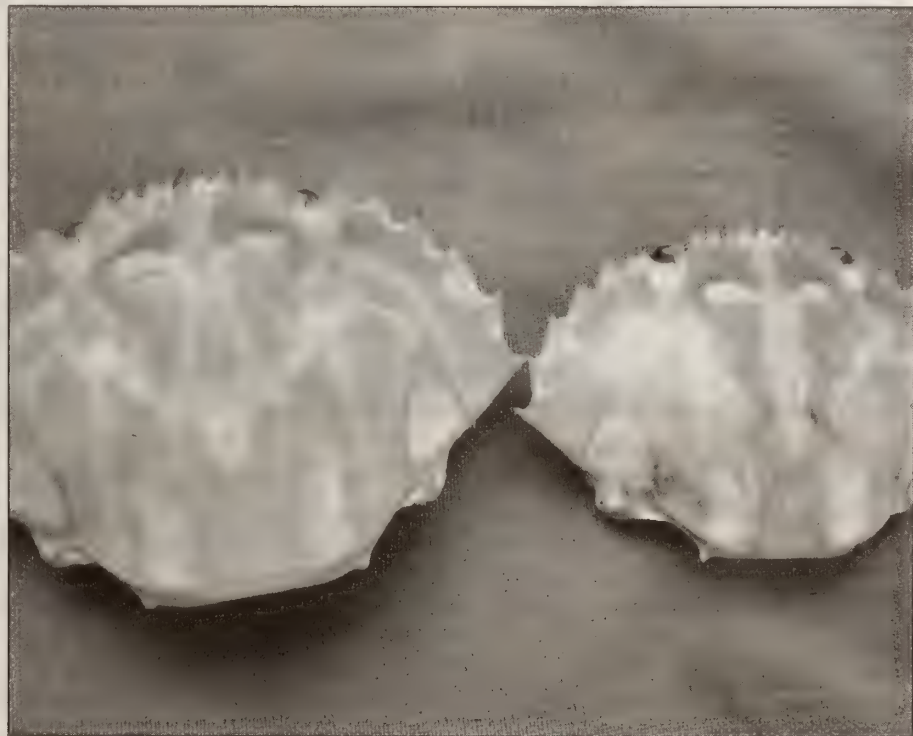
In working for unity, the pope said, the priest needs to look beyond the horizons of his immediate community and be aware that Christianity has a universal mission aimed at all people.

"The mission of Jesus involves all humanity, and therefore the church has a responsibility to help all humanity recognize God — the God who, for all of us, was made man in Jesus Christ, suffered, died and rose from the dead," he said.

The pope said the church can never withdraw into the confines of its own structure; it has a duty to bring the Gospel to all people.

He said the priest's mission was irreplaceable in the church. Even if some regions currently show a shortage of clergy, he said, the church can be certain that God will continue to call young men to the priesthood.

Cross-bearing crab?



CNS PHOTO BY UCAN

Many Catholics in Goa, India, believe an uncommon class of local crab, seen April 18 with a cross mark on its shell, is a descendant from a crab that St. Francis Xavier blessed in 1546. Some Jesuit records say that in February 1546, while voyaging in what today is eastern Indonesia, the Basque missionary was caught in a storm. In an attempt to calm the storm, he took his crucifix and dipped it into the sea, but it slipped from his grasp and fell into the water. The next morning, as he paced on the seashore of Seram Island, he saw that a crab approaching him was holding his cross. He knelt down, retrieved the cross and blessed the crab.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

May 15 — 1 p.m.
"Why Catholic?" adult faith formation program presentation
St. Matthew Church, Charlotte

May 15 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Monroe

May 16 — 1 p.m.
"Why Catholic?" adult faith formation program presentation
Catholic Conference Center, Hickory

May 17 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
Immaculate Conception Church, Forest City

Appreciating angels

Volunteers honored at annual banquet

BELMONT — Holy Angels recently paid special tribute to those who give of their time and talent.

The 2006 Volunteer Awards were presented during the 16th annual volunteer appreciation awards banquet held on the Sisters of Mercy campus in Belmont April 27. The banquet, celebrated during National Volunteer Appreciation Week, saluted the more than 100 people who serve Holy Angels through its Volunteer and Volunteer programs.

"Each volunteer at Holy Angels helps bring miracles to life through generous service, each time he or she walks through the door," said Regina Moody, Holy Angels president and CEO.

"Our residents look forward to seeing our volunteers. Their eyes light up when they hear the voices of these very special people," said Moody.

Founded in 1956 by the Sisters of Mercy, Holy Angels is a nonprofit corporation that provides residential services and programs for children and adults with mental retardation and physical disabilities, some of whom are medically fragile.

Moody said Holy Angels could not offer its specialized services without the help of its volunteers.

Melissa Todd, a resident of Rock Hill, S.C., and a volunteer for more than four years, received the Dennis McClain Volunteer of the Year award, named for a longtime Holy Angels volunteer.

Jenny Rice, a nursing volunteer and

a resident of Charlotte, received the Ed Sabatini Advocacy Award, which recognizes those who serve as advocates for Holy Angels.

Kaye McGarry, a Charlotte resident, received the Angel of Friendship award, which honors the one-on-one personal time and commitment of volunteers that results in a special friendship extending beyond regular volunteer service.

Jeanine Dibble, Margaret Ross, Michael Howren and volunteer Jonathan Kane received the Kevin Patrick Crosby Touched by an Angel Award, which honors volunteers who offer an "angelic touch" to their volunteer work.

Dibble, of Belmont, assists residents with art projects; Ross, of Dallas, volunteers at Holy Angels' Cherubs Café in Belmont; Howren, of Gastonia, assists Holy Angels' maintenance department; and Kane, of Belmont, volunteers with Holy Angels' Great Adventures program.

Kara Hamm, 15, of Cherryville, received the Volunteer of the Year award. She has been a volunteer for four years.

Knights of Columbus Council 770 received the Volunteer Group of the Year award for their numerous fundraisers for and outreach to Holy Angels residents and staff.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information about Holy Angels, visit www.holyangelsnc.org.

HONORING 'PARTNERS IN HOPE'



COURTESY PHOTO

Fran and Paul Breitbach accept awards for their years of service to Catholic Social Services' Piedmont Triad Office during the third annual Partners in Hope fundraising event in Winston-Salem May 3.

Annual event raises awareness, funds for CSS office

WINSTON-SALEM — Catholic Social Services' Piedmont Triad Office recently celebrated its third annual Partners in Hope fundraising event, at which two longtime volunteers were honored.

The event, with Bishop Peter J. Jugis as the keynote speaker, was held at the Millennium Center in Winston-Salem May 2, during Catholic Social Services Awareness Week.

"Catholic Social Services has served the Piedmont Triad for more than 20 years," said David Harold, Piedmont Triad Office's director.

"While we look forward to Partners in Hope as a celebration of the work we do, the event is also an opportunity to gain support and awareness for the people we serve."

Partners in Hope featured a dinner and silent auction. Proceeds support programs and services including adoption, pregnancy support,

counseling, youth programs and immigration services.

During the event, Paul and Fran Breitbach were recognized for their years of service and support.

"They simply live the Gospel every day," said Jack McAleer, a supporter of Catholic Social Services.

"From the first day I met Paul and Fran, I have witnessed their commitments to making our community a better place through their family, their work and through volunteering to make a difference in many great organizations and charitable events," he said.

"Together, they have been an inspiration for so many to grow in their faith," said McAleer.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on Catholic Social Services in the Diocese of Charlotte, visit www.cssnc.org.



COURTESY PHOTO

Volunteers and staff at Holy Angels are seen in this photo taken at the annual volunteer appreciation awards banquet in Belmont April 27.

Pictured are (from left) Dennis Kuhn, Holy Angels COO/vice president; volunteers Michael Howren and Margaret Ross; volunteer Jonathan Kane; volunteers Jeanine Dibble and Kay McGarry; volunteer Kara Hamm; volunteer Charlie Nesto; and Regina Moody, Holy Angels CEO/president.

ATTENTION READERS! HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?

Is something special happening at your parish? Do you know of anyone exemplifying Christ's love to others? Have any photos of parish or school events? Let us know so we can share them with the readers of The Catholic News & Herald!

Please contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans at (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

ABBOTSWOOD SENIOR LIVING



For more than 17 years, Abbotswood at Irving Park has built a reputation on providing exemplary retirement living services to independent seniors. Residents enjoy the largest 1 and 2 bedroom floorplans in Irving Park, delicious meals, a full-time wellness director and month-to-month rental with NO BUY-IN FEES. Optional in-home health care services are available. Call today to schedule your personal tour.

(336) 282-8870

ABBOTSWOOD
at Irving Park



The only full service retirement living address in the heart of Irving Park
3504 Flint Street • Greensboro, NC 27405 • www.kiscoseniiorliving.com



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Fourth-graders from St. Gabriel School in Charlotte entertain residents of Beverly Healthcare Nursing Home April 24.

Sharing songs and smiles

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — It was a day of song and fun for both children and seniors.

Fourth-graders from St. Gabriel School in Charlotte entertained the residents of Beverly Healthcare Nursing Home April 24. The students sang several classic songs for the residents, including "Amazing Grace," "She'll be comin' 'round the mountain" and "Take me out

to the ballgame."

The fourth-graders have been interacting with residents of the home since September, singing Christmas carols, sending Valentine's Day cards and crosses.

Betsy DesNoyer, fourth-grade teacher at the school, said the ongoing outreach is a way to teach the children how to live the beatitudes and Catholic social teaching, particularly regarding life and dignity of life issues.

Celebrating peace and unity



COURTESY PHOTO

Fourth-graders at St. Gabriel School in Charlotte are pictured beneath 1,000 origami white paper cranes created in celebration of the Children's Peace Monument in Hiroshima, Japan, March 8. The cranes were made in conjunction with and were on display during the school's PTO-sponsored International Fair March 7-8.

Each grade represented a different country, including Japan, Egypt, Czech Republic, Germany and Ecuador. Displays showcased artifacts and students dressed in costumes of their various heritages.

Many students helped fold the paper cranes, on which some students wrote prayers. They will be sent to Hiroshima and join thousands of other paper cranes to be used for Peace Day in August 2006.

Exemplifying Christ's love



COURTESY PHOTO

Father Tim Reid, parochial vicar of St. Mark Church in Huntersville, stands with members of the parish's Life Teen youth program, which recently won a Bishop William G. Curlin Pastoral Care Award at the Diocesan Youth Conference.

Youth groups earn pastoral care awards

RIDGECREST — Two youth groups have earned special honors this year.

The youth council at St. James the Greater Church in Concord and the Life Teen youth program at St. Mark Church in Huntersville both were awarded the 2006 Bishop William G. Curlin Pastoral Care Award.

The awards were presented during the annual Diocesan Youth Conference, held at Lifeway Ridgecrest Conference Center near Black Mountain April 28-30.

The award recognizes individuals, groups and/or parishes in the Diocese of Charlotte who exemplify the principles of Christ's love in the ministry of pastoral care.

St. Mark Church's Life Teen program, under the direction of youth minister Debra Lemmon, was recognized for assisting two Hmong refugee families who settled in Charlotte last fall.

Working with Catholic Social Services' Refugee Resettlement Office, the youths spent more than 250 hours planning and executing their project to prepare the families' homes and collect furnishings, clothing and donations.

St. James the Greater Church's youth council won for a number of

efforts in the parish and beyond throughout the year.

The youth council, under the direction of Karen Sutton, served as facilitators for the parish's confirmation classes and weekend retreats. They held monthly fundraisers and planned all parish youth events, including Vacation Bible School and Lenten dinners.

The council also performed a number of community service projects and participated in and assisted with diocesan events.

While the Bishop Curlin Award originated in the diocesan youth ministry office, it is not limited to youth ministry, said Paul Kotlowski, director of diocesan youth ministry.

"Each year we invite parishes to nominate individuals who are deserving of the award," he said. "The hope is that potential applicants might come from any part of the church, not just the youth ministry population."

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on diocesan youth ministry, visit the diocesan Web site at www.charlottediocese.org/youthministry.html.



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the youth council at St. James the Greater Church in Concord stand with their Bishop William G. Curlin Pastoral Care Award at the Diocesan Youth Conference in Ridgecrest.

FROM THE COVER

Mary Magdalene an important, enigmatic saint

SAINT, from page 1

firsthand witness to his crucifixion and burial and the first person to witness his resurrection and proclaim it to the apostles.

That is what the Gospels say about her.

Was she also the unnamed repentant sinner (often thought to be a prostitute) in Luke's Gospel, who anointed Jesus' feet and washed them with her tears? Or the Mary who was the sister of Martha and Lazarus of Bethany?

In the West, Christian teaching and preaching have made those identifications for centuries. But modern scholars say these were three distinct women, not one.

Eastern Christianity has consistently

'Da Vinci Code' author Dan Brown's version of Mary Magdalene is "two legendary steps away from" the real person found in Scripture.

— Father Raymond F. Collins

regarded the three as distinct individuals.

Was she the wife of Jesus? Did she bear his child? Were she and Jesus ancestors of the Merovingian dynasty of early French kings?

Even ancient heretical sects and fantasy-laden medieval Christian legends that exalted Mary Magdalene did not make those claims, though Dan Brown's best-selling novel "The Da Vinci Code" does.

When the book comes out as a movie May 19, it will almost certainly draw new attention to Mary Magdalene, one of the most prominent women in the New Testament but an enigmatic figure about whom nothing is known apart from the references found in the Gospels.

A 'teachable moment'

Father Raymond F. Collins, a New Testament scholar at The Catholic University of America in Washington said in an interview that the Dan Brown version of Mary Magdalene is "two legendary steps away from" the real person found in Scripture.

But in interviews he and Sister of St. Joseph Elizabeth Johnson, a theologian at Fordham University in New York, concurred that the widely popular curiosity about Mary Magdalene generated by Dan Brown's tale has created a "teachable moment."

Father Collins, who wrote the "Mary Magdalene" entry in the six-volume Anchor Bible Dictionary, said the first legends about Mary Magdalene come in some of the apocryphal gnostic gospels of the second and third centuries.

There in addition to her role as the first witness to Jesus' resurrection, she is treated as receiving other special revelations from the risen Jesus. But even in the gnostic gospels she is not called Jesus' wife.

One gnostic text, the gospel of Philip, portrays her as Jesus' closest companion but not his wife.



CNS PHOTO BY ALINARI, COURTESY ART RESOURCE

St. Mary Magdalene is depicted in a sketch by artist Leonardo da Vinci. According to the Gospels, Mary Magdalene was a leading disciple of Jesus and used her resources to support him and the apostles.

Sister Johnson has written extensively on the place of women's experience and female imagery in Christian theology. She said the legends developed in the gnostic gospels are interesting not because they portray Christ's life and times accurately, but because they offer insight into struggles in the early church.

The legends about Mary Magdalene show struggles over the leadership role of women in the early church, she said.

Fictional ideas

Father Collins said novelist Brown goes well beyond such early legends by imagining the disciple from Magdala to be Jesus' wife and the mother of his child.

In the novel, Jesus and Mary Magdalene were ancestors of the

Merovingian dynasty that ruled from about 500 to 751 in what is now France, and secret survivors of the royal line continue to the present day to guard (much like the gnostics of the second and third centuries) arcane secret knowledge about Jesus that the official church rejects and seeks to suppress.

Sister Johnson said those early gnostic texts — 13 of which were only uncovered in 1945 when a farmer found them buried in a large jar near Nag Hammadi, Egypt — show some groups in early Christianity "wanting to promote women as bearers of knowledge, as wisdom figures, as those whom Christ trusted" with special revelations.

She noted that Mary Magdalene is the first witness to the Resurrection in all four canonical Gospels, and because of her role in announcing the good news to the rest, St. Augustine referred to her as "apostola apostolorum," the apostle to the apostles.

Another strand of legend behind Brown's novel is the fact that according to medieval pious legends that circulated in France — which relied on identifying Mary Magdalene as being the same person as Mary of Bethany — Mary Magdalene and Lazarus were cast out of Palestine and set adrift in an oarless boat that landed in southern France.

They then became among the first to preach the faith there.

Father Collins said that legend, along with the one in Eastern Christianity that has Mary Magdalene accompanying John and Jesus' mother to Ephesus, is simply not credible.

Summing up the real Mary Magdalene with what she called the "w's," Sister Johnson said, "Let's get this straight: She was not Jesus' wife ... neither a wife nor a whore, but a witness."

Join other Roman Catholics!

24 Days - Tour Italy, Cruise

The Mediterranean, Atlantic, and Caribbean

Save on this repositioning cruise special! Costa Cruise Lines has to get the new "state-of-the-art" "COSTA MAGICA" from Italy to Ft. Lauderdale. Take advantage of this exclusive 'Your Man' Tours vacation package departing October 27, 2006. You'll spend three nights in Rome with two days of sightseeing including Ancient Rome; Pantheon & Piazza Navona; Roman Forum; Colosseum; Vatican Museum; Sistine Chapel; St. Peter's Square and Basilica; Via della Conciliazione & Castle Sant'Angelo and more! Spend two nights in Tuscany with guided sightseeing visiting Siena; Florence; Montecatini-Terme; and Pisa (leaning tower). On Thurs., November 2, your group will "motor-coach" to the Italian Riviera to the town of Savona where you'll board your deluxe Italian ship. **Costa Cruise Lines provides daily Mass aboard ship.** Your exciting ports include: Barcelona, Spain; Funchal, Madeira; St. Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands; Barbados; St. Lucia; St. Maarten; Catalina Island, Dominican Republic; and Grand Turk Island. Arrive in Ft. Lauderdale November 19, 2006. Prices (per person, double occupancy) including taxes and port charges start at only \$2647 for outside staterooms and \$2847 for outside staterooms with private balcony. Add \$800 airfare from Charlotte.

Space is very limited and \$100 deposits are now due!

For information and brochure call 7 days a week:

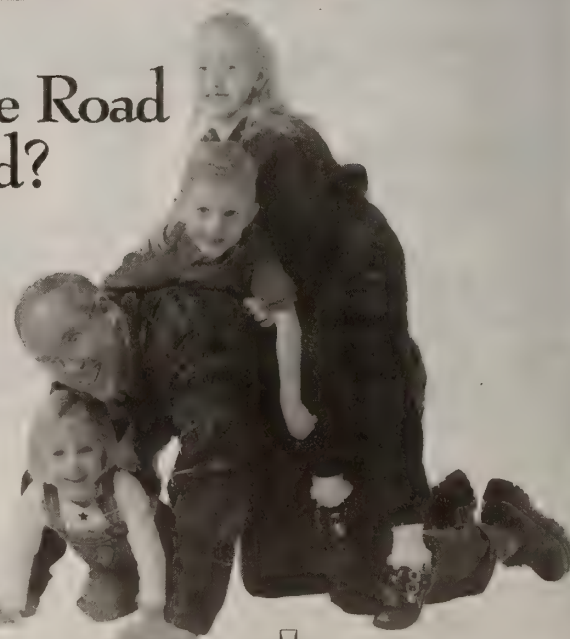
'YOUR MAN' TOURS 1-800-968-7626

Carefree vacations since 1967!

What's The Road Like Ahead?

The road we have to travel is different for each of us. The only certainty is that we all must end the journey some day.

If you take the time to prepare for that journey's end now, your family, favorite parish, school and diocesan ministry will be supported. A will is an essential part of that overall plan for your life's journey.



The Foundation
of the
Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte

To receive the free booklet "Better Estate Planning" contact Judy Smith, Director of Planned Giving, 704-370-3320; 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203. jmsmith@charlottediocese.org

Reconfiguring the Curia

Pope temporarily merges four Vatican councils under two presidents

BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — At the start of what may be reform of the Roman Curia, Pope Benedict XVI merged the leadership of four of the Vatican's councils under two presidents.

The Vatican announced in March that French Cardinal Paul Poupard, head of the Pontifical Council for Culture, also would serve as the interim president of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue and that Italian Cardinal Renato Martino, head of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, temporarily would head the Pontifical Council for Migrants and Travelers.

The Vatican announced that the pope accepted the retirement of the head of the migrants' council, Japanese Cardinal Stephen Fumio Hamao, who turned 76 March 9.

To fill the vacancy, the pope united "for the time being" the presidency of the office with that of justice and peace.

Cardinal Poupard's assignment as president of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue filled a post made vacant after the pope Feb. 15 named its former head, Archbishop Michael Fitzgerald, to be the new ambassador to Egypt and the Arab League.

The pope decided "in order to favor a more intense dialogue between people of culture and members of various religions," to unite "for the time being, the presidency of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue with that of the Pontifical Council for Culture," the Vatican said in a written statement.

Cardinal Poupard said he was

surprised by his appointment, especially since he is 75, the age when bishops must submit their resignations.

But "I obeyed and thanked the Holy Father for his benevolence and trust," the cardinal told Vatican Radio March 11.

The cardinal said the pope sees an "intrinsic link between the intercultural and interreligious dimensions." He recalled a speech the pope made during a meeting with Muslims Aug. 20 in Cologne, Germany, when he told the president of the Turkish Muslim Union that "interreligious and intercultural dialogue is a vital necessity."

The pope alone has the authority to make changes in the Roman Curia, the church's central administrative offices; he can name a new person to head an office, create a new office or merge existing offices.

Rumors had circulated for months that Pope Benedict would implement changes to trim the Curia, which, when he was Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, he often described as being overly bureaucratic.

As then-Cardinal Ratzinger, a top curial official, he once said there should be "an unlimited examination of conscience at all levels of the church" to see what structures should be reformed so that "the authentic face of the church shows through once again."

During a Sept. 1, 1990, gathering with members of the Catholic lay group, Communion and Liberation, he said, "This examination of conscience is to be extended to the Curia. How many agencies are really necessary?"

Then head of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, he said



constant reform was needed by the church and its institutions in order to remove the "superfluous scaffolding" that obscures its divine mission.

The changes announced March 11 suggested any broad reform would be taken in a step-by-step, see-how-it-goes approach; the Vatican's wording that the new appointments were made "for the time being" also indicated that the joint presidencies may be temporary.

Pope John Paul II established the Pontifical Council for Culture in 1982 and, in 1993, he assigned to the council the tasks previously covered by the council for dialogue with nonbelievers.

The move to merge the interreligious dialogue council, an office created in 1964 by Pope Paul VI, with the office for culture reflects Pope Benedict's view that religions and cultures should be seen together.

In his 2004 book, "Truth and Tolerance," the then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger said, "Only in modern Europe has a concept of culture been developed that portrays it as a sphere separate from religion or even in opposition to it."

"In all known historical cultures, religion is an essential element of culture, is indeed its determinative center; it is religion

that determines the scale of values and, thereby, the inner cohesion and hierarchy of all these cultures."

Culture, he said, is an attempt to understand the world and human existence within the world, so it naturally includes people's perception of the relationship between human beings and the divine.

Therefore, he said, the only way for cultures to dialogue with each other is to dialogue about truths concerning the person, "within which the truth about God and about reality as a whole is always involved."

"Faith itself is cultural," he wrote. "It does not exist in a naked state, as sheer religion. Simply by telling man who he is and how he should go about being human, faith is creating culture and is culture."

Pope Paul created the council for migrants and travelers in 1970 to study and provide pastoral care to people on the move.

Some of the issues the council had been dealing with recently, such as the problem of human trafficking, should carry over easily into the work of the justice and peace council, an office also created by Pope Paul in 1967.

Archbishop Agostino Marchetto, secretary of the Pontifical Council for Migrants and Travelers, said he had not been informed about any future plans for the council, only that the pope has decided that "for the time being" Cardinal Martino will serve as its president.

"We are here to do the will of God through the guidance of our pope," he told Catholic News Service March 13.

The archbishop said pairing his office with the council for justice and peace makes sense if one considers that injustice and war often force people to flee their homes.

However, he said, "our pontifical council from the beginning has focused specifically on providing pastoral care in the field of human mobility in general, so the connection with justice and peace is less immediate than it may appear."

In addition to providing pastoral care and advocacy for refugees and migrants, the council also coordinates pastoral programs for circus workers, fishers and other seafarers, foreign students, Gypsies, pilgrims and tourists, he said.

Contributing to this story was Cindy Wooden.

Seeking healing and forgiveness after an abortion?

Experience God's love and compassion once again -

The Charlotte Diocese
Respect Life Office of Catholic
Social Services offers help to
both men and women, in
confidence, at **704-370-3229**.



You may also want to visit Rachel's Vineyard Web site at www.rachelsvineyard.org for helpful articles, retreat information and other direction to new hope and meaning for your future.



NEW COVENANT BOOKSTORE

- Books
- Cards
- Videos
- Jewelry
-and more!

336-760-1673

304 Upton St.,
Winston-Salem, NC
www.newcovenantbookstore.com

IMMIGRATION REFORM

Calling for reform

SISTERS OF MERCY HIT THE HILL TO LOBBY ON IMMIGRATION

BY CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — The presidents of 25 regional communities of the Sisters of Mercy, including North Carolina, and representatives of several national Catholic agencies met on Capitol Hill May 4 for a day of lobbying for immigration reform legislation.

According to a press release from the Sisters of Mercy, the lobbying group delivered letters to senators calling for "humane reform" of the U.S. immigration system "to respect the rights of all persons while responding to values of family unity and community life."

The sisters — including Mercy Sister Paulette Williams, president of the Sisters of Mercy regional community of North Carolina in Belmont — were joined by representatives of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops; Network, a national social justice lobbying group; the Catholic Alliance for the Common Good; and the Catholic Legal Immigration Network.

Their lobbying efforts came as the Senate works to craft an immigration reform bill that addresses a wide range of concerns, from cracking down on illegal border crossing to debating whether to offer people already in the country illegally a chance to regularize their status.

A bill passed by the House in December addresses enforcement almost exclusively and has been widely criticized by Catholic organizations as unnecessarily harsh.

The women religious and other church representatives were pushing for legislation that includes a path to legalization, a guest worker program and dramatic changes in how applications for legal immigration are handled, among other provisions.

Senate efforts to pass a comprehensive bill in April broke down

"What possible public interest is served by deporting children who ... have or are getting a high school diploma or GED?"

— Mercy Sister Gaye Moorhead

and Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., has said he hopes to get a bill passed by Memorial Day.

Sister Mary Waskowiak, president of the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, urged senators to "use your influence and your vote to change economic and trade policies that force people to leave their countries to seek the basic needs for survival."

Other sisters described their experiences working with immigrants.

Sister Gaye Moorhead, president of the Sisters of Mercy regional community in Rochester, N.Y., talked about representing immigrants in El Paso, Texas, as an attorney.

One, Enrique, was an orphan who was brought to the United States by his aunt at the age of 8 after his mother's death, she said.

The boy was deported to Mexico two days after graduating from high school.

"What possible public interest is served by deporting children who have come here before the age of 16, not on their own volition, but with their parents; who have lived here at least five years, are of good moral character, and have or are getting a high school diploma or GED?" she asked.

A provision incorporated into a bill approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee — the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act,



COURTESY PHOTO

Mercy Sister Paulette Williams (left of speaker), president of the Sisters of Mercy regional community of North Carolina, is one of 25 regional community presidents of the Sisters of Mercy lobbying for immigration reform legislation on Capitol Hill May 4. The sisters were joined by representatives of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and other Catholic organizations.

known as the DREAM Act — would allow students in similar circumstances to become legal U.S. residents and enable them to seek college educations at in-state tuition rates.

Many states now disqualify illegal immigrants from in-state tuition rates, no matter how they came to be in the

country and regardless of whether they otherwise qualify for reduced tuition.

Sisters of Mercy nationwide observed May 4 as a day of prayer and fasting for immigration reform.

Contributing to this story was Editor Kevin E. Murray.

The Catholic Conference Center

The Center is centrally located in the Piedmont of North Carolina. Located only an hour's drive from three major cities assures meeting planners and attendees a meeting that is more accessible than ever. Being accessible to the country and a peaceful setting is a meeting place only we can offer!

1551 Trinity Lane
Hickory, NC 28602

(828) 327-7441
Toll-free (888) 536-7441
info@catholicconference.org
www.catholicconference.org

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



Special gifts and necessities for
First Communion
and Confirmation celebrations!

- ✠ Beautiful veils
- ✠ Mantillas on sale
- ✠ Unique spiritual mementos

Video series: Teachings of Fulton Sheen
7 pm Tuesdays (Monroe Road location only)

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

\$5 OFF

Any Purchase
of \$35 or More

Present coupon. Not valid with any
other offers. Expires 5/31/06

Mark your calendar now for the
Second
Diocese of Charlotte
Eucharistic Congress —
Charlotte Convention Center
OCTOBER 6 & 7



Diocese of Charlotte
EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS
2006

Visit the Web site
www.GoEucharist.com
often for the latest updated
information about programs and
speakers, as well as opportunities
to volunteer.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

Demographic, poll date show complexities of immigration issues

POLLS, from page 1

are U.S. citizens, but at least one parent is in the country illegally; 630,000 families where all the children are also here without legal papers; and 460,000 families in which some minor children are U.S. citizens and others are not.

Among Mexicans, who make up about half the illegal immigrant population, 48 percent are married or have a common-law spouse; more than two-thirds of that percentage live with their spouses in this country.

The Pew report noted that about one-third of illegal Mexican immigrants with families have left all their children in Mexico.

Pew also concluded that those 1.5 million children — who, like their parents, are here illegally — are vastly outnumbered by more than 3 million children who are U.S. citizens with parents who lack the proper paperwork.

To be sure, there is a large population of unattached men, according to Pew, particularly among those who have arrived since 2000. Slightly more than half — 53 percent of the 4.4 million people who arrived between 2000 and 2005 — were unmarried, compared to about 45 percent of those who came to the United States before 2000.

The study was based on census data through 2005.

Polling the people

As Congress struggles to pass an immigration bill, what has been more widely reported than such demographic information are opinion polls about the problems with immigration and how they can best be fixed.

A poll of 800 likely voters nationwide conducted March 20-22 by the Tarrance

Group and Lake Research Partners for the National Immigration Forum and the American Immigration Lawyers Association found that 75 percent favored an immigration proposal that included a plan to admit more temporary workers.

The plan would allow people already in the country to register and legalize their status without giving them priority over legal immigrants, would emphasize reuniting families and would penalize workers and employers who violate laws.

That combination of provisions mirrors the key elements supported by a range of organizations including the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Catholic Charities USA, major unions including the Service Employees International Union and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

A poll by Time magazine of 1,004 adults conducted March 29-30 showed similar support for specific components of that plan.

It found that 78 percent support allowing illegal immigrants to legalize their status and eventually seek U.S. citizenship if they learn English, have jobs and pay taxes.

Many immigrants already pay taxes, said Franciscan Sister Andrea Inkrott, director of Hispanic ministry for the Diocese of Charlotte. Additionally, anyone who buys merchandise or owns property has paid taxes.

A Gallup/USA Today poll conducted April 7-9 of 1,004 adults found 63 percent support allowing illegal immigrants to stay in the country under certain circumstances, while another 17 percent said they should be able to stay for a limited time.

At the same time, all three polls found people strongly believe the U.S. government is not doing enough to stop illegal immigration and they want better enforcement at the border.

In the Time poll, 82 percent said the



CNS PHOTO BY RICK WILKING, REUTERS

A group of undocumented Mexicans, caught by the U.S. Border Patrol 10 miles from Mexico, walk with border agents through desert brush in 102-degree-Fahrenheit heat outside Laredo, Texas, May 4. The group covered the distance from the border mostly in the dark.

government doesn't do enough to control illegal immigration. The Gallup poll had 81 percent agreeing that "illegal immigration to the United States is out of control."

The Tarrance Group found 90 percent agreed with the statement "the immigration system is broken and needs to be fixed."

"This is all connected with the fact that there are not economic opportunities sufficient to support their families in their home countries," said Sister Inkrott. "People will continue to immigrate until the conditions at home improve."

Prevention and deportation

Opinions about how to prevent illegal immigration were somewhat less cohesive.

In Gallup's opinion poll, 84 percent said instituting tough penalties for companies that employ illegal immigrants would be somewhat or very effective. Time's survey found 71 percent favored enforcing penalties against employers.

The notion of building a wall along the Mexican border has been fairly roundly

rejected by most people in the polls. A version of legislation passed by the House in December calls for building a wall along 700 miles of the 2,000 mile border.

Gallup found 48 percent think a wall would be at least somewhat effective. In the Time poll, 56 percent said they'd favor building a security fence.

Time found 47 percent support deporting all illegal immigrants. The Tarrance poll found that 79 percent think deporting all illegal immigrants currently in the country is unrealistic.

Gallup's poll found 18 percent said all illegal immigrants should be deported.

"It is my hope and prayer that all involved will work for legislation that will implement an immigration policy that will protect our national security interests, ensure the common good, and maintain respect for the law as well as respect the human rights of those who come to our country as refugees from political and economic hardship in their home countries," wrote Bishop Peter J. Jugis in a March 25 letter in support of immigration reform.

Contributing to this story was Staff Writer Karen A. Evans.

children + books + sun = A summer of learning fun!

Summer is the ideal time to strengthen

- Phonetic skills
- Reading Comprehension
- Written Language skills
- Math skills
- Study skills

Call today for information. 704-752-4234

South Charlotte

Felicia Susi, Owner/Director
Parishioner, St. Matthew Catholic Church &
Parent, St. Matthew Catholic School student

Carolina Funeral & Cremation Center

Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

THE ORATORY

434 Charlotte Avenue, P.O. Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586
(803) 327-2097

VISIONS IN FAITH

Sunday, June 18 –
Wednesday, June 21

Fr. Simon Harak, S.J.

Fr. Harak is director of the Fellowship of Reconciliation and will explore the connections between spirituality and justice in our tradition.

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Does Hollywood get religion right?

Critics' reactions vary to studio offerings

BY MARK PATTISON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Does Hollywood get religion right when it makes movies? The answers are almost as diverse as the cinematic fare coming to mall multiplexes.

"Some people do their homework and get it right; other people exploit it," said Paulist Father Frank Desiderio, head of Paulist Productions and overseer of the Humanitas Prize.

"If you mean the studios, then no they don't," said Barbara Nicolosi, who runs the Act One screenwriting program for Christians who aspire to a Hollywood career.

"Studios are not in the habit of hiring people of faith to either write, direct or be in any creative capacity for projects that involve religion," she said.

"In the old days, Hollywood would bend over backward not to offend," said Harry Forbes, director of the U.S. bishops' Office for Film & Broadcasting; Forbes defined "old days" as "from the dawn of sound through the '60s."

While that era may have been inaccurate by portraying "an overly idealized view of religious types," he added, "that is preferable to a disparaging view of religion, as you often get today."

Interviews with Forbes, Nicolosi and Father Desiderio were prompted by the impending release of "The Da Vinci Code," a movie based on the best-selling novel of the same name by Dan Brown, a work criticized for its treatment of Catholic figures and institutions.

"Hollywood knew there was money to be made from striking that grand religious chord" in films such as "The Robe," "Ben-Hur," "The Ten Commandments," and Bing Crosby's "Father O'Malley" movies, "Going My Way" and "The Bells of St. Mary's," Forbes noted.

A modern example of a positive portrayal of faith, Forbes said, is "Ladder 49," a 2004 film about firefighters and the bonds they share.

It had "a fairly extraordinary, for this day and age, portrayal of a Catholic societal subculture, where everyone in

that film — all blue-collar working-class firemen — were clearly Catholic. Throughout the film many of the rituals, from baptisms to weddings ... were very nicely dramatized," he said.

Father Desiderio said Barbara Hall, the Catholic woman who created "Joan of Arcadia" for CBS, was "the best recent example of someone who got it right."

He also pointed to James Cromwell's guest appearance on NBC's "ER" as a chronically ill bishop and Rita Moreno's nun-social worker on the old HBO series "Oz" as examples where Hollywood got it right.

But he said there are also significant failures, including the recent NBC drama "The Book of Daniel," in which the Episcopal clergyman of the title has an Italian Catholic priest as a friend.

"He needs a favor and he goes to the Catholic priest, and the Catholic priest goes to the Mob and gets the favor — which I found offensive, as an Italian Catholic priest," Father Desiderio said.

Nicolosi said ABC missed "the entire theological heart of the Moses story" in its recent miniseries "The Ten Commandments" with its cursory treatment of the first Passover.

"The people who make this movie, they don't believe this stuff and they don't get the most important stuff," she said.

Even the film blockbuster "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe," which was "very good for what it was," Nicolosi said, "didn't pack the punch it could have" because the screenwriters "didn't get Aslan," a lion character viewed by readers of C.S. Lewis' novel as a Christ figure.

"We choose not to prejudge it before it comes out," Forbes said of "The Da Vinci Code." "Anyone is within their rights to get into high dudgeon about the book," he added, for its treatment of theology "couched as fact."

"The movie's going to come and go," Father Desiderio said. "I've got my opinions on Dan Brown's agenda, but there are so many people who've written anti-Dan Brown books they don't need me (commenting on it)."

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: MAY 12, 2006

May 21, Sixth Sunday of Easter

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48
Psalm 98:1, 2-3, 3-4
- 2) I John 4:7-10
- 3) Gospel: John 15:9-17

Freedom is opting for God's goodness, truth

BY SHARON K. PERKINS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

In my household, there are a variety of culinary tastes. I happen to like almost everything.

My youngest won't eat meat but loves cabbage. The others eat meat but wouldn't touch cabbage with a 10-foot pole. My oldest could live on bananas, chicken fingers and salad — and everyone but me has a persistent aversion to eggs, tomatoes and cheese.

The only family meal in which everyone gets to choose what they like is in a cafeteria or one of those super buffets.

In a way, a buffet is symptomatic of contemporary culture. Disposable income and a global economy have made avid consumers of a certain portion of the world's population.

Exercising the freedom to choose what one will eat, wear, watch and even whom to marry is a hallmark and an expectation for many.

The expectation of options often has been applied to "religious preferences" as well. A dizzying array of religions, sects and movements has ensured that people can choose whom, when and how they

worship — or they can opt out of religious belief altogether.

Even Christians fall prey to the "pick and choose" mentality and often view their discipleship as strictly voluntary, performed on their own terms.

Today's Gospel is in complete contrast to that notion.

Jesus tells his disciples (that includes us) that ultimately he is the one doing the choosing. While baptism into Christ results from a choice that you or your parents made, it is a choice made possible and guided by the Holy Spirit for a purpose — to "bear fruit" that remains throughout the shifting seasons of economic cycles, cultural revolutions and personal taste.

St. Augustine, St. Thomas Aquinas and others in the Christian tradition taught that freedom is not the license to pursue one's personal preferences. Rather, the true liberty of the sons and daughters of God consists of opting freely for God's goodness and truth even if it is at odds with other attractive possibilities on the "menus" of our lives.

In the Easter season, the Gospel invites us not to a cafeteria but to a banquet where all are welcome to fellowship with their host, the risen Christ, and where all bring the living fruits of his love to the table.

Let the feasting begin!

Questions:

How do you exercise personal preference in your religious life? Has the pursuit of your preferences ever prevented you from "bearing the fruit" of God's love?

Scripture to be Illustrated:

"It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain" (John 15:16).

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 14-20

Sunday (Fifth Sunday of Easter), Acts 9:26-31, 1 John 3:18-24, John 15:1-8; **Monday**, Acts 14:5-18, John 14:21-26; **Tuesday**, Acts 14:19-28, John 14:27-31; **Wednesday**, Acts 15:1-6, John 15:1-5; **Thursday (St. John I)**, Acts 15:7-21, John 15:9-11; **Friday**, Acts 15:22-31, John 15:12-17; **Saturday (St. Bernardine of Siena)**, Acts 16:1-10, John 15:18-21.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 21-27

Sunday (Sixth Sunday of Easter), Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48, 1 John 4:7-10, John 15:9-17; **Monday (St. Rita of Cascia)**, Acts 16:11-15, John 15:26-16:4; **Tuesday**, Acts 16:22-34, John 16:5-11; **Wednesday**, Acts 17:15, 22—18:1, John 16:12-15; **Thursday (Ascension of the Lord)**, Acts 1:1-11, Ephesians 1:17-24, Mark 16:15-20; **Friday (Philip Neri, priest)**, Acts 18:9-18, John 16:20-23; **Saturday (St. Augustine of Canterbury)**, Acts 18:23-28, John 16:23-28.



Let stairs be our problem... not yours!

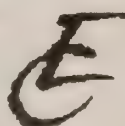
Ask about our Stairway lifts.

- Easily attached to steps (not walls)
- Folds out of the way
- Fits most stairways (straight & curved)
- Very affordable (rent or buy)
- We install

Chair & Equipment Rentals & Sales, Inc.

800 Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC • (800) 333-8431

Member of St. Thomas Aquinas



St. Thomas Aquinas Academy

Asheville, North Carolina

www.stthomasaquinasacademy.org

(828) 687-7714

Accepting applications for ninth, tenth and eleventh grades.

Member, National Association of Private, Catholic and Independent Schools

St. Thomas Aquinas Academy is a private school, independent of the Charlotte Diocesan school system.



Happy Mother's Day

from Pennybyrn at Maryfield!

You've earned it: a rare opportunity to embrace life as never before, free from chores or concerns about the future, in a beautiful retirement community with premier services and amenities. Surrounded by good friends and healthy choices, you can stay active, involved and in control.

Now under construction in High Point, Pennybyrn at Maryfield will have everything you want or need, as well as a plan for tomorrow...what a wonderful gift for you, and your family!

Call (336) 886-4103 or toll-free (866) 627-9343.



PENNYBYRN
at MARYFIELD
A Continuing Care Retirement Community

1315 Greensboro Road, High Point, NC 27260

www.pennybyrnatmaryfield.com

Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor Servants
of the Mother of God



SPCHMOM

'Poseidon' remake makes minimal waves



CNS PHOTO BY WARNER BROS.

Jacinda Barrett, Jimmy Bennett and Josh Lucas star in "Poseidon," a reasonably effective but inferior remake of 1972's luxury-liner disaster film, as a tidal wave capsizes the vessel.

The plot involves a sparring father (Kurt Russell) and daughter (Emmy Rossum), her boyfriend (Mike Vogel), a professional gambler (Lucas), a single mother (Barrett) and child, and a Latina stowaway (Mia Maestro) as they attempt to flee through the bottom of the boat.

The character setup is dispatched within minutes and once disaster strikes, director Wolfgang Petersen keeps the action going, with above-average special effects and decent performances.

A few instances of profanity and crass expressions, intense but not gruesome disaster violence, brief veiled sexual exchange, gambling and a suicide attempt.

The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels. 

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065

Pope completes first lap in China-Vatican relations

CHINA, from page 1

last fall, when the Vatican's approval of three Chinese bishops led to talk of a "breakthrough," movement appeared to stall on the tracks.

The pope invited four Chinese bishops to the Synod of Bishops in October, in what seemed a promising sign. But they were not allowed to come, and four chairs sat empty in the synod hall.

Then in February, the pope named new cardinals, among them Cardinal Joseph Zen Ze-kun of Hong Kong, a sometimes sharp critic of the government. That prompted rumblings from Chinese authorities.

In March, the Vatican's top foreign affairs official, Archbishop Giovanni Lajolo, sent a positive signal when he told the Chinese press that the "time is ripe" for improvement in Vatican-China relations.

The nosedive came in late April and early May, when two Chinese bishops were ordained without papal approval. The Vatican reaction was unusually tough, calling the step a violation of religious freedom and an obstacle to improved relations.

Over the last year, hopes for Vatican-China normalization have speeded up, slowed down and looped the loop. In a sense, that's nothing new.

"For 50 years we've seen things swing from good to bad many times. This latest episode was a little surprising, because we had been able to approve four bishops over the last year without a problem," said one Vatican official, who asked not to be named.

Divisive issues

The appointment of bishops has long been the most divisive issue between China and the Vatican.

For many years, the government-approved Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association has elected its own bishops

"If it's a new way of doing things, then we'll go backward 50 years."

— a Vatican source

with government approval. Then last year, the bishop nominees were submitted for the pope's approval.

The last jointly approved bishop's appointment came in early April — which made the subsequent illegitimate ordinations all the more mysterious to the Vatican.

According to Italian Father Giancarlo Politi, a member of the Pontifical Institute for Foreign Missions and a longtime China watcher, several elements may have come into play.

First, the authorities may have wanted to send a clear message of displeasure over the recent raising of Cardinal Zen's profile.

Second, he said, Chinese Catholics need bishops. With more than 40 sees currently unfilled and others headed by very elderly prelates, the church's leaders there may feel they cannot afford to wait for papal approval on every candidate.

A third element, Father Politi said, was that whenever Vatican-China relations move significantly forward — as they appeared to do last year — a backtracking seems to occur.

"The main problem in China is still very basic: It hasn't yet decided to pass from a revolutionary regime to a more democratic one," he said.

"This impacts the church, of course, especially in the nomination of bishops, which is the crucial thing," he said.

A hard line

A Hong Kong daily quoted Cardinal Zen as saying after the first ordination April 30 that dialogue between China and



CNS PHOTO BY REINHARD KRAUSE, REUTERS

Chinese Catholic women pray during an early morning Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Xian county, in China's rural northern Hebei province, May 7. Three Chinese bishops were ordained within eight days; one had papal approval, and two did not.

the Vatican "cannot continue."

But despite the strong tone of its statement, the Vatican did not declare a rupture in communication. On the contrary, it invited Chinese authorities to "honest and constructive dialogue" to find solutions acceptable to both sides.

And although the Vatican made reference to the canonical penalty of excommunication for those ordaining and those being ordained in such cases, it deliberately left an ambiguity by suggesting that political coercion was involved. That would mean canonical penalties would not apply.

The reference to excommunication was seen by some as a tougher line taken

by Pope Benedict regarding China. But in fact, the Vatican made a similar statement the day before an illegitimate ordination in China in 2000 — another year marked by a steep downturn in China-Vatican relations.

The Vatican took a hard line in its most recent statement in part because it fears this could be the start of a series of unapproved ordinations, the Vatican source said.

"We need to wait and see whether these were two isolated cases, to send some kind of message, or if it's the beginning of a new style of doing things. If it's a new way of doing things, then we'll go backward 50 years," he said.

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Church of St. John the Beloved, a 1400-family parish located outside of Charleston, SC, is seeking a full-time Director of Religious Education. As a member of the pastoral staff, this position includes faith formation for Pre-K to grade 5, sacramental preparation for baptism, reconciliation, Eucharist and confirmation, children's liturgy of the Word, adult formation, catechist formation and collaboration with the administration and teaching staff of the parish school. Master's degree and experience preferred. Salary and benefits are negotiable.

Please send resume to: DRE Search Committee, 28 Sumter Avenue, Summerville, SC 29483. Fax: (843) 873-1431

Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT

CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT: Available to live in or live out. Female. Over 20 years of experience. References provided. St. Gabriel parishioner. 704-748-6719.

FOR RENT

LAKE LURE VACATION HOME: New! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, all amenities. 3 minutes to

Rocky Broad River, Lake Lure beach; fishing, boating, hiking, swimming. Reasonable! 828-299-3714.

CONDO: Myrtle Beach. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath condo available weeks of 6/17, 7/8, and 8/19. Call (336) 924-2842.

MAINTENANCE MECHANIC

Sisters of Mercy of NC needs a full-time, experienced Maintenance Mechanic to join the Plant and Grounds Department. Must have HVAC experience, experience in ordering and purchasing as well as a minimum of 3 years maintenance field experience. Please send resume including references to: **Director of Plant & Grounds**, 100 Mercy Dr., Belmont, NC 28012, or email to: ncreg@mercync.org.

Classified ads bring results! Over 135,000 readers! Over 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

A race well run



COURTESY PHOTO

Students from various grades stand together as the winners of a 5K race at St. Leo the Great School in Winston-Salem March 25. The school's annual 5K and Fun Run races this year saw a record number of more than 500 participants. The event raises funds for the school.

HITTING HIGH NOTES

Middle school band resonates at festival

CHARLOTTE — Two bands from Holy Trinity Catholic Middle School in Charlotte recently garnered top honors.

The concert band, consisting of seventh- and eighth-graders, and the jazz band took home plaques and trophies from the Heritage Music Festival held in Myrtle Beach, S.C., April 6-9.

The bands, the only ones repre-

senting a middle school among several high school bands, were awarded most outstanding band and the sweepstakes trophy for highest cumulative score at the event.

The awards mark the second time in three years that the bands, under band director Alan Kaufman, received top awards at national band festivals.

Sprinkling praise



COURTESY PHOTO

Weatherman Larry Sprinkle congratulates students of St. Mark School in Huntersville at an April 21 rally celebrating their raising more than \$35,000 in the third annual School Walk for Diabetes April 7, benefiting the American Diabetes Association.

Last year's total of \$27,000 placed St. Mark School at number three nationally and, for the second year, the school maintained its status of number one in the southeast.

The school has raised more than \$78,000 in three years. Both Sprinkle and Dianne Roth, executive director of the Charlotte American Diabetes Association office, were on hand to applaud the students' achievements.

The walk program offers participating schools a percentage of the funds raised to be redeemed for physical education equipment. St. Mark School will share its funds with a Catholic school in Louisiana to help replenish equipment lost in Hurricane Katrina.

There are currently two students with Type 1 diabetes at St. Mark School.

"The lessons of this service-oriented project are many and meaningful," said Marie Kenyon, the mother of one of the students. "The entire school learns about diabetes risk factors, the importance of physical fitness, and healthy food and lifestyle choices."

Earn college credits early! Attend summer classes at "the Abbey."

- Financial Aid available
(for those who did not attend college in Spring 2006)
- 4-week classes begin in May and again in June
- 8-week evening classes begin May 23
- Summer tuition is the lowest of the year
- Earn credits towards your degree and still have almost two months of vacation
- A perfect way for adults to work towards finishing a degree and for high school students to begin earning theirs!

For more information:

Please call the Summer School Office at 704-825-6671, email CACE@bac.edu or log onto BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu



**BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE**

MAINTAIN ALL THINGS GOD-MAY 30, 2006-2011

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

'The Da Vinci Code' — a bomb about to go off

FLIMSY FILM IS HARDLY WORTH BOYCOTTING OR ATTENTION

Sometimes you can tell by the pre-release hype that a movie is going to be a bomb.

The clamor around the upcoming "The DaVinci Code" tells me that this flick is going to fall somewhere between "Police Academy 7: Mission to Moscow" and "Waterworld."

What, you haven't seen those duds? Congratulate yourself.

Much of the publicity around "The Da Vinci Code" film is built on the always-irresistible storyline of David and Goliath, with the filmmakers as David and guess-whose church as Goliath.

Take "The DaVinci Code" story that appeared in the secular media during the first week of May.

I attended a Rome conference for Catholic Church communications personnel April 28 where a Vatican official made a reference to the upcoming release of the movie.

The speech by Archbishop Angelo Amato, secretary of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, was about communicating church teaching in a media-dominated world. He made several interesting points about how the Catholic press should not take on the agenda of the secular news media. Amen to that.

Then, in what sounded like an off-hand remark, he suggested that those in the room — about 300 people — should boycott "The DaVinci Code." When pressed during a question-and-answer session, he said he would not call for all Catholics to boycott the film. I thought that was the end of it.

But the archbishop is secretary in the same congregation once run by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, now Pope Benedict XVI. And so even though Archbishop Amato wasn't speaking for the church, his position entitled the news media to look at it differently. The media has reported stories that gave the impression that the Catholic Church's power could prevent a historically inaccurate piece of fiction from reaching the public.

In short order, the story hit the international wires with headlines like, "Vatican calls for 'Da Vinci Code' boycott," a triumph of headline over reality. The next day, when I checked e-mail in my Rome hotel, a North Carolina reporter wanted to know the Diocese of Charlotte's position on the "boycott."

It took me a while to realize this reporter's inquiry was based on an event that I had witnessed and had written off as no big deal. I used to be a reporter and I know a story when I hear one, and this one just didn't strike me as having much depth.

Catholics & the Media

DAVID HAINS
GUEST COLUMNIST



No one in this diocese is suggesting that Catholics boycott the movie. Bishop Peter J. Jugis summed up the attitude toward the movie in a recent statement:

"'The DaVinci Code' is a work of fiction. The book's author and the movie's producers have no claim to a factual basis for the story. All who read the book or view the movie should understand that they are not experiencing any eternal or divine truth, and that what they are seeing is the creation of one man's imagination.

"Answers to questions that arise from viewing the movie or reading the book can be found by reading sacred Scripture or the teachings of the Catholic Church," said Bishop Jugis.

A boycott would, of course, give reporters a story for another day, the movie would receive free publicity and more tickets would be sold. Ca-ching! But a boycott would say also that our faith in Jesus Christ and his church is somehow threatened by the whimsy of a writer with no apparent ability as a scholar.

In the past few months we have seen deadly demonstrations of protest by Muslim fundamentalists over the publication of a political cartoon. "The Da Vinci Code" depiction of Jesus hiding an illicit relationship with Mary Magdalene is insulting, but in the 22nd chapter of Mark's Gospel we see a proper response.

In it, Jesus is insulted, mocked and abused on Good Friday. He responds with silence. For the "hype masters" in Hollywood and the news media, we Catholics should do the same.

And remember, Tom Hanks may have won an Academy Award for "Forrest Gump," but he also was the star of the megadud "The Bonfires of the Vanities."

David Hains is director of communications for the Diocese of Charlotte. Contact him at dwhains@charlottediocese.org.

WANT MORE INFO?

Still curious about "The Da Vinci Code" film? Find answers at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd. in Charlotte, when Father Matthew Buettner presents "The Catholic Response to 'The Da Vinci Code'" at 7 p.m. on Monday, May 15.

Church unity through the bishops transmits apostolic faith, says pope

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Communion with the church of Rome, specifically through the apostolic succession of bishops, is "the sign, criterion and guarantee of the uninterrupted transmission" of the faith of the apostles, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Continuing his series of audience talks about the church May 10, Pope Benedict said that in order to ensure fidelity to Christ and his word through time a Christian community needs an individual who witnesses to the message "that was entrusted to him, not invented by him."

The first individuals to fulfill the function of witness and guardian were the Twelve Apostles, who in turn chose other men to succeed them in witnessing to the truth of Christ and in guiding the Christian community, the pope said.

Although the membership, role and structure of the college of bishops "evolved progressively," the Greek word "episcopos," or bishop, already was used in reference to the second generation of the apostles' successors, the pope said.

The term refers to "one who has a view from above or who watches, watches with his heart."

Apostolic succession is not simply a matter of believing what the apostles believed, he said. The call and appointment of individual bishops must be traceable back to the apostles.

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



Very early in Christian history, he said, the successors of the apostles identified communion with St. Peter and his successors, the bishops of Rome, as a key sign of the authenticity of their succession and their role within the church.

"Apostolic succession — verified on the basis of communion with the church of Rome — is, therefore, the criterion for the permanence of the individual churches in the tradition of apostolic faith," he said.

Just as Christ called the Twelve Apostles, the pope said, he has called their successors, the bishops of the church today.

The Holy Spirit makes Jesus, the good shepherd, present in the church through those he has called to lead, Pope Benedict said.

"In the words of the apostles and their successors, it is he who speaks to us; through their hands, it is he who acts in the sacraments; in their gaze, it is his gaze that surrounds us and makes us feel loved, welcomed in the heart of God," the pope said.



CNS ILLUSTRATION BY LUCAS TURNBLOOM, THE SOUTHERN CROSS

God delights in you

Lord's love for us is eternal, infinite

The continuing message of this post-Easter season is clear for those who have faith:

"God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son so that everyone who believes in him ... may have eternal life" (Jn 3:16). The key to this passage is found in the word "love."

When you love someone, you do not merely love in theory, you actually take delight in loving that person. One of the most obvious characteristics of love is that the lover desires to be with the loved one, "My soul longs for you O God" (Ps 42:2).

Did you ever stop to think that God longs for you personally?

Pope Benedict XVI, in his new encyclical "God Is Love," had this to say: "I want my first encyclical to speak of the love which God lavishes upon us."

He explained that God actually woos us. He lures us so that we will leave behind everything that is counterproductive to our union with him. He wants us to abide in him: "God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God" (1 Jn 4:16).

The pope continued, "Authentic self-discovery, and indeed the discovery of God, is a journey, an ongoing exodus out of the closed, inward-looking self."

Spirituality for Today

FATHER JOHN CATOIR
CNS COLUMNIST



He referred to the mysterious words of Jesus: "Whoever seeks to gain his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will preserve it" (Lk 17:33).

We know that Jesus, in his love for us, followed the path of the cross and the resurrection. Just as the grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies in order for new life to begin, so did Jesus give up his life that we might awaken to a new life of love.

He wants us to share this love with others.

First, God desires union with you. He knows you yearn for him; in fact he put that yearning in you. But as difficult as it might be for you to imagine, he has a corresponding desire to be with you. He

longs for you to come to him.

Therefore, cast away any doubts you may have, and put on the indomitable will to believe in God's personal love for you. His love for you is eternal and infinite despite your unworthiness.

God sent his prophets to prepare you for the amazing revelation of his love. Zephaniah was a prophet who lived around 650 B.C. He denounced the worship of false gods and idols.

In his day the people worshiped the stars, the moon and the sun, all of which are inanimate objects incapable of love. He condemned this pagan practice, upholding the glory of the one, true God, proclaiming the pure monotheism taught by Moses, the God of love.

To those who embraced this personal God, Zephaniah promised the fullness of joy. He ended his book with a hymn of joy, which is sung jubilantly by the faithful remnant.

The passage I like best in Zephaniah is found in Chapter 3:17. It speaks poetically about God's love:

"God will exult with joy over you. ... He will renew you by his love. He will dance with shouts of joy for you, as on a day of festival" (Jerusalem Bible).

Energy crisis or crisis of imagination?

The Human Side

FATHER EUGENE HEMRICK
CNS COLUMNIST



As I sat in gridlock, at least 100 cars and buses were around me with their engines idling. It had taken me approximately an hour to drive from the U.S. Capitol to the White House, a distance of one mile.

I wondered how many barrels of gasoline are wasted daily in similar circumstances.

Addressing the nation, President Bush said we need to depend less on oil. He should have been more imaginative and said that we need to be more visionary in conserving energy.

Among the automobiles in gridlock that day were hybrid Toyotas that shut off when standing still. Thus, gas is saved, pollution is minimized.

Perhaps skyrocketing gasoline prices will wake us up to the energy we waste. Relying on catastrophic events, however, is not the way to solve our energy problems.

A new movement that encourages us to use our imaginations to the maximum is needed. Creative thinking, not crises, is our best weapon for achieving conservation.

The simple, creative insight to have hybrid cars that shut down when traffic isn't moving now saves us countless barrels of oil each year. The brilliant insight that energy could be generated from the use of their brakes to power their electrical motors enables hybrids to get 50-plus miles per gallon of gas.

Automobiles aren't the only consumers of oil. Our energy consumption ranges from heating and cooling our homes to producing everyday goods. Ironically, the wide range of energy uses affords us a wide range of possibilities for imaginatively conserving it.

Take, for example, energy-efficient homes that employ enterprising solar systems capable of heating and cooling year around. Other homes are constructed of innovative insulating materials that are extremely efficient.

More efficient automobiles and homes are just a few examples of ways to reduce our dependency on oil. They are the result of the use of imagination — the No. 1 secret to success.

If we are to win the battle of energy efficiency, another major principle must come into play. The unleashing of imagination must begin in pre-school. At a very young age, children must be encouraged to develop an eye for imaginative conservation in situations of every kind.

Our times require imagination. The more we and our children stretch our imaginative capacities now, the more secure the future of our energy resources will be.

The great model for prisoners: 'The convict Christ'

We must take seriously conditions Jesus gave us

I have a heartwarming story to tell of a man, Michael Donofrio, who was once a prisoner and is now a friend, like a son.

Just before Easter I was set to work with Dominican Sister Ave Clark in her Heart-to-Heart Ministry at a church in Queens, N.Y. Sister Clark is someone who knows pain. She made headline news two years ago when she was hit by a runaway train in Queens.

We were bringing people together to speak of God's wondrous mercy. I asked Sister Clark if I could invite Michael, a devout Catholic who has lived a true story of redemption, to work with us. This beautiful Christ-formed nun said she would welcome him.

I met Michael some eight years ago when he was incarcerated at Green Haven Correctional Center and then later met him again when he was transferred to Fishkill, both New York state prisons where I had been doing "prison ministry work," begun after my son and daughter-in-law were murdered.

Their deaths had taught me to embrace God's love, mercy and forgiveness so that I would never become vengeful.

Going to prisons was the best place to learn if I was being truly honest in putting my trust in God.

The Bottom Line

ANTOINETTE BOSCO
CNS COLUMNIST



In both prisons, Michael spoke to me of his love of the Lord, which he really had found after meeting two remarkable Christ-like priests — Msgr. Ed Donovan at Green Haven and, at Fishkill, Father Donald Licata (who died this March 3), who guided Michael into accepting his punishment for his crime and asking God's forgiveness.

After serving 13 years, Michael was able to return to his "big Italian family" and two teenage daughters in the summer of 2005.

Michael and I became "pen pals," and in letters he strengthened me to continue the anti-violence, anti-death penalty work I do in the name of Christ Jesus.

Michael spoke to us at Sister Clark's retreat, and his words will be remembered:

"You know, life is funny, and it took me to come to prison to appreciate life,"

he said. "I was a bad guy at one time, and now I love where I'm going in life. I love the little things in life — to see a smile on someone's face, to look in someone's eyes and know that life can be wonderful if you walk in God's footsteps."

The same week that Michael, Sister Clark and I worked together, I had received a copy of "The Convict Christ" by Jens Soering. So providential!

Serving a life sentence, Soering has written a powerful book that puts a spotlight on the inhumane, punishment-focused criminal justice system in the United States, while telling his story of personal redemption, having found the compassion, humanity and love of Jesus.

From his prison cell, relating to the "convict Christ" who was on death row and was executed, he has looked for truth about crime and punishment in a place few people go: the Gospels.

So has Michael, and many other men and women prisoners and former prisoners I have worked with. Their search for faith in the Lord underscores why we must respect them.

To do this, we must unhardened our hearts and take seriously the conditions Jesus gave us for making this his Father's world: compassion, mercy, forgiveness and love.

Faithful, loyal, honorable

Pope says Swiss Guard is still an invaluable asset after 500 years

BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Half a millennium since it was founded by Pope Julius II, the Swiss Guard, whose members pledge to risk their lives for the safety of the pope, is still an invaluable asset to the Vatican, Pope Benedict XVI said as he blessed a contingent of former guards who took part in a 439-mile trek from Switzerland to Rome.

After walking for nearly a month, some 70 former guardsmen arrived in St. Peter's Square May 4 to receive the pope's blessing and pay tribute to the first 150 Swiss soldiers who came to Rome at the request of Pope Julius.

Pope Benedict praised the guards, saying their re-enactment of the arrival of the first Swiss Guards 500 years ago was "a beautiful initiative."

He said their march from Bellinzona, Switzerland, to St. Peter's Square "recalls the courage of the 150 Swiss citizens who, with valiant generosity, defended unto death the sovereign pontiff, writing an important page in the history of the church with their sacrifice."

The pope was referring to the guards who died saving Pope Clement VII's life during the sack of Rome May 6, 1527. On

this anniversary each year, the Vatican swears in new guards to help remind them of the seriousness of their commitment.

Pope Benedict gave thanks to God for all the hard work and "good carried out by your predecessors and for the priceless contribution the papal Swiss Guard continues to offer the Holy See today."

Pope Benedict also presided over a special Mass May 6 in St. Peter's Basilica to mark the Guard's anniversary. In his homily, he said every pope after Pope Julius has always reaffirmed the need to maintain the special soldiers.

To be a member of the Swiss Guard "means to adhere to Christ and the church without reservations, ready to give (one's) life for this," he said.

While offering the current soldiers and veterans a "well-deserved and cordial thanks," Pope Benedict also invited them to look to the future "with courage and faithfulness."

Later that same day in St. Peter's Square, 33 new recruits for the Swiss Guard were sworn in during a ceremony attended by their families as well as former guards and Vatican officials.

One by one, each new recruit took an oath to "faithfully, loyally and honorably" serve the pope with all his strength and to sacrifice his life, if necessary, to

defend the pontiff.

To help honor the world's oldest army, the pikemen and musketeers of the Honorable Artillery Company of London and the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts — respectively, the second- and third-oldest military corps in the world — took part in the event.

They, along with a historic corps from Madrid, Spain, and another from the Swiss canton of Fribourg, marched across St. Peter's Square; many of them

were wearing historic uniforms and bearing antique weaponry or playing the fife and drums.

Local city officials took part in May 4 celebrations that re-enacted the arrival of the first contingent of Swiss soldiers in Rome.

Two groups of former guards — one regiment dressed in their ceremonial uniforms, and the other in hiking gear with matching red and white sport shirts — entered Rome's ancient city walls.

A squadron of current Swiss Guard members then led the former guards through Rome's downtown streets to St. Peter's Square to receive their papal blessing and be reunited with family members.

Seven days of Swiss Guard jubilee celebrations in Rome included several concerts and fireworks.



CNS PHOTO BY CAROL GLATZ

Swiss Guards, former and present, make their way up the main road leading to the Vatican May 4 in Rome. They joined a re-enactment of the 1506 arrival of 150 Swiss soldiers at the request of Pope Julius II. The Swiss Guard is marking its 500th anniversary this year.



The Contribution of Pope John Paul II to Catholic Social Thought

presented by
Rev. Joseph Koterski, S.J., Ph.D.
Department of Philosophy, Fordham University

Ever since the 1891 encyclical *Rerum Novarum* by Pope Leo XIII, popes have been expressing the principles of Catholic Social Teaching in the modern world. This presentation will review those basic principles and focus on Pope John Paul II's special contributions to this field.

Attendance is FREE. Please register in advance.



Rev. Joseph Koterski, S.J., Ph.D.
Philosophy Dept., Fordham University

Moorestville: Monday, May 22 — 7-8:30 pm
St. Therese Catholic Church, 217 Brawley School Road

Maggie Valley: Wednesday, May 24 — 7-8:30 pm
St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church, 37 Murphy Drive

Greensboro: Thursday, May 25 — 7-8:30 pm
St. Pius the Tenth Catholic Church, 2210 N. Elm Street

Sponsored by the Office of Justice and Peace and the Respect Life and Elder Ministry programs of the Office of Family Life of Catholic Social Services.

Questions? Call Catholic Social Services:
704-370-3228

Please call **704-370-3228** or email
sabeason@charlottediocese.org if you
plan to attend.



WALK WHERE JESUS WALKED ON A DIOCESAN-SPONSORED PILGRIMAGE TO

THE HOLY LAND September 5-14

with Fr. James Hawker, Diocesan Vicar
of Education and Pastor, St. Luke Church

Deepen your understanding of our Catholic faith and watch the pages of the Bible come alive as you experience daily Mass at many of the historical sites of our faith.

Highlights include:

- Tiberias, Mt. Carmel, Sea of Galilee area
- Mt. Tabor, Cana, Nazareth — Jesus' boyhood area
- Capernaum, Mount of Beatitudes, River Jordan
- Jerusalem area: Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Via Dolorosa, Lord's Tomb at Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Mount Zion, Upper Room, Dormition Abbey, Wailing Wall
- Dead Sea (excavations and scrolls), Masada, Holocaust memorial
- Bethlehem's historic sites — PLUS much more!



Price: \$2,499 from Charlotte (\$2,599 after June 22) includes airfare, most meals, first-class hotels and all tours. Airport taxes/fees, tips and insurance are extra.

Call Cindi Feerick at 704/370-3332 for a brochure with complete details
or Pentecost Tours 800/713-9800 for registration.



A respect for life

*Science that tampers
with human life
threatens humanity,
pope warns*

BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY —

Medical and scientific progress becomes a threat to humanity when people think they can fill in for God and tamper with creation, specifically human life, Pope Benedict XVI said.

The human embryo "must always originate from an act of love" between a man and a woman and "already be treated as a person," he said in a May 13 address to members of the Pontifical Council for the Family.

Scientific and technological advancement in the field of

See SCIENCE, page 9

Patrolling the perimeter

**U.S. bishops wary of
posting Guard on border,
urge immigration reform**

BY CATHOLIC NEWS
SERVICE

WASHINGTON —

President George W. Bush's address May 15 on immigration reform got mixed reviews from advocates for immigrants, who expressed gratitude for his support of legalization for illegal immigrants but had concerns about his plan to deploy National Guard troops on the border.

Bishop Gerald R. Barnes of San Bernardino, Calif., chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Domestic Policy, said he welcomed the president's speech on the need to reform the immigration system, but expressed concern about "the introduction of military



CNS PHOTO BY DAVE GATLEY, REUTERS

A U.S. Border Patrol agent rides along the fence separating Tijuana, Mexico, from California May 15. U.S. President George W. Bush, in his recent address to the nation, declared that the U.S.-Mexico border was broken and he would deploy up to 6,000 National Guard troops there.

See BORDER, page 12



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Frank Villaronga (second from left), director of evangelization, discusses the Why Catholic? program with other participants at St. Matthew Church in Charlotte May 15.

Why Catholic? Why not?

*New program offers adults chance to
explore, expand faith*

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — It's often said that Catholics who have come into the church as adults know more about the Catholic faith than "cradle Catholics."

Adult Catholics — converts and cradle Catholics alike —

throughout the Diocese of Charlotte will soon have the opportunity to expand their knowledge and practice of Catholicism beginning in 2007.

Pastors, directors of religious education and representatives of some 23

See CATHOLIC, page 5

History and prophecy

**Vatican marks place in
St. Peter's Square where
late pope was shot**

BY JOHN THAVIS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — The Vatican observed the 25th anniversary of the shooting of Pope John Paul II with a Marian pilgrimage and the laying of a marble marker at the place he was shot.

In a message to participants, Pope Benedict XVI said

See POPE, page 7

Around the Diocese

*Experiencing 'hunger banquet';
ongoing help to many*

| PAGE 4

Perspectives

*Work is divine; Memorial
Day meaning*

| PAGES 14-15

Family bonds

*Program helps unite ****
mothers, kids*

| PAGE 16

CHapel Hill NC 27599-0001
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
UNC
NC COLLECTION
#420836#
S27 P1
#BXNPDVQ*****3-DIGIT 275

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

GROWING WITH A PURPOSE



CNS PHOTO BY THERESA LAURENCE, TENNESSEE REGISTER

Laurie Soileau (center), of Catholic Charities Refugee and Immigration Services, helps Edigno Moreno (right) of Cuba as he prepares to plant lettuce in the new refugee community garden at Holy Name Church in Nashville, Tenn., in late April. Somali Bantu Musa Matan (left) is one of the refugee elders who is taking an active leadership role with the garden.

Community garden gives older refugees a 'place to call their own'

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (CNS) — On a sunny morning, refugees of all ages from Somalia, Cuba, Liberia and Sudan gathered in front of the Holy Name Church Life Center in Nashville to plant a garden.

While digging up the earth to plant vegetables, herbs and flowers, the refugees were also establishing a welcoming place of respite and purpose for their often-isolated community.

Many of the refugees "don't feel like they have a place to go outside of their home. They don't know where they belong," said Laurie Soileau, resources developer for Catholic Charities' Refugee and Immigration Services in Nashville.

Most newly arrived refugees live in apartment complexes with little or no access to a yard or land and have limited access to transportation.

The garden is an outlet that allows the refugees to "have some control over their environment, a place to call their own," Soileau said.

Catholic Charities of Tennessee resettles approximately 250 refugees each year. The refugees, who flee their home countries to escape political or religious persecution, come primarily from African and Latin American nations.

The garden is especially important for the older refugee population, who are among the most isolated, Soileau said.

"A lot of times, the older people are kind of forgotten," she said.

Much more funding and resources, such as English classes, are available to the younger refugee population who are seen to have the most potential for education and employment.

While the refugee elders may be close to retirement age, they still have the

desire to work and be part of the community, Soileau said, but they don't have the language skills.

Since she joined Catholic Charities last December, Soileau has engaged the older population in a variety of activities such as yoga, painting and the gardening that "gives them a creative outlet not tied to language," she said.

A certified instructor in English as a second language, Soileau also incorporates English lessons into the seniors' weekly meetings.

While the newly planted garden is for all refugees, Soileau wants the older refugees to take a strong leadership role with it. Among other duties, they will attend monthly maintenance days and have the final say on harvesting and distributing the produce.

Musa Matan, a Somali Bantu elder who was resettled in Nashville through Catholic Charities three years ago, is eager to take an active role with the garden, including daily watering.

"He really likes to get his hands dirty and have a purpose," said Kerry Marks, program coordinator with Catholic Charities Refugee and Immigration Services.

The garden is also an opportunity for refugee elders such as Edigno Moreno, who was a farmer in his home country of Cuba, to lend their expertise to a project.

"It's nice to have crops like in my home country," he said.

While most crops integral to the refugees' diets are available commercially in local grocery and specialty stores, it is important to them to be able to grow their food themselves.

Just solutions can defeat terrorism, archbishop tells U.N. assembly

UNITED NATIONS (CNS) — Just solutions to political, social and economic problems frustrating young immigrants worldwide "can rob terrorists of the oxygen of hatred" and thwart efforts to "recruit the impressionable," the Vatican's representative to the United Nations said May 11.

Archbishop Celestino Migliore, the permanent representative of the Holy See to the international body, spoke before the General Assembly during its informal consultations on a counterterrorism strategy.

"The political, social and economic exclusion of immigrant communities stokes the frustration of young people and has led to breakdowns in order in some places; but the demand for a just solution to these questions remains a legitimate one," the archbishop said.

"By resolving such questions swiftly and justly, nations can rob terrorists of the oxygen of hatred and of grievances, real or imagined, by which they attempt to legitimize their evil deeds and recruit

the impressionable," he added.

Archbishop Migliore also encouraged U.N. efforts to address bioterrorism and arms buildup and to "incorporate a cultural and religious component in its global strategy."

The Vatican nuncio called bioterrorism "a grave but seriously underaddressed threat" and said "the cost of doing nothing could far outstrip the cost of a major initiative now to strengthen public health systems' capacity to cope with such a terrible eventuality."

On weapons, he said, "it must be the common goal of states to secure, and wherever possible eliminate, nuclear, biological, chemical or radiological weapons and implement effective domestic and export controls on dual-use materials related to weapons of mass destruction."

Archbishop Migliore also spoke May 11 before the U.N. Economic and Social Council's Commission on Sustainable Development, saying that recent progress appears modest "when placed beside a sobering global picture."

Diocesan planner

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd., will host an *Estate Planning Seminar* May 24 at 6:30 p.m. in the Ministry Center. Estate planning information will be provided by Jim Kelley and Judy Smith from the diocesan Planned Giving office and attorney Tom Gorman with Gorman and Dittman law firm. Please call (704) 370-3320 with any questions. To register, call (701) 364-5431, extension 212.

CHARLOTTE — A free program for adults, "Children on the Internet," will focus on the risks of the Internet, particularly to children. The program will take place in the parish hall of St. John Neumann Church, 8451 Idlewild Rd., May 31 at 7:30 p.m. Speakers will address how children are approached and exploited through the computer and how to work with your children and set guidelines plus some down-to-earth practical information on what you can do on your computer to help protect young users. For more information, call Chris Schneider at (704) 566-8818.

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., will host a *Christian Coffeehouse* May 20, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Single and married adults are invited for an evening of contemporary Christian music, food and fellowship. For more information, call Kathy Bartlett at (704) 400-2213.

HUNTERSVILLE — A *Mass to Honor Deceased Loved Ones* is celebrated the last Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. St. Mark Church, 14740 Stumptown Rd. For more information, call Pam Schneider at

(704) 875-0201.

CHARLOTTE — A *Support Group for Caregivers of a Family Member with Memory Loss* meet the last Monday of each month, 10-11:30 a.m., at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, contact Suzanne Bach at (704) 376-4135.

GASTONIA VICARIATE

MOUNT HOLLY — Father John Vianney Hoover invites all to celebrate the 30th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood May 28 at 4 p.m. at St. Joseph Church on Hwy. 273. Bring a picnic dinner and chairs to share after Mass. For details, call (704) 541-5026.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — The *Greensboro Council of Catholic Women* invites you to a luncheon May 24, at 11:30 a.m. at Cardinal Country Club, 5700 Cardinal Way. Lunch will be followed by a fashion show by Belk and installation of officers. For more information, please contact Carmen Wood (336) 545-9266.

GREENSBORO — Jesuit Father Joseph Koterski will present "The Contribution of Pope John Paul II to Catholic Social Thought" May 25, 7-8:30 p.m., at St. Pius X Church, 2210 North Elm St., in the Kloster Center. Father Koterski is a professor of philosophy at Fordham University. This event is sponsored by St. Pius X Church and the diocesan offices of Justice and Peace and Family Life of Catholic Social Services. For reservations and information, call (704) 370-3228 or e-mail sbeason@charlottediocese.org.

GREENSBORO — All practicing Catholic women of Irish birth or descent, or who are the wife of a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians are invited to participate in the *Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians*, a social, cultural and charitable group for an ongoing series of fun and informative

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

MARCH 10, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 31

The Catholic News & Herald, USPS 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Pope, in meeting with Venezuela's president, expresses concern

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI expressed his concern over the nature of reforms under way in Venezuela, specifically concerning abortion, religious instruction in public schools and the independence of Catholic media outlets.

During a May 11 private audience in the Vatican with Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, the pope underlined some of the Vatican's concerns during a closed-door encounter and in a letter he handed the president at the end of their talk.

One issue was the importance of "the protection of life from its beginning," said a statement by papal spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls.

While the country's educational reforms include giving wider access to public education, especially to the poor by building more schools and eliminating entrance fees, the pope said he was worried about moves to eliminate religious instruction from the curriculum.

The statement said the pope "underlined the need for independence for Catholic mass media" and that he reaffirmed "the Holy See's freedom to nominate bishops."

Chavez told the pope that he would take into account the Holy Father's concerns and assured him of his intention to "overcome tensions concerning people's legitimate rights," the Vatican statement said.

Venezuelan bishops and Chavez have been at odds almost since Chavez came to office in 1999.

Church officials have accused the government of trying to restrict democracy, and they supported the 2002 military-led coup against the president. Chavez has denounced church leaders as being elitist.

Human rights organizations and U.S. officials also have criticized Chavez.

At the end of the meeting, the pope gave the Venezuelan president a signed copy of his recent encyclical, "Deus Caritas Est" ("God Is Love").

activities. LAOH will meet June 1 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Paul the Apostle Church, 2715 Horse Pen Creek Rd., in the Earl Louis Center. This will be the final meeting until fall. Please contact Marilyn Conte at (336) 632-1340 for further information.

HIGH POINT — *Hope of Seeing Everyone Again* (HOSEA) is a six-week program for Catholics who have been away from the Church for a while, but may wish to return. HOSEA will meet Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in the parlor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 4145 Johnson St., May 23-June 27. Small group settings will offer an opportunity to enrich spiritual growth and help inactive Catholics bond and share their faith. It will also provide an opportunity for them to discuss any questions or issues with other Catholics and get a sense of the modern-day church. For more information, call Larry Kwan at (336) 688-1220 or e-mail hkwan@lexcominc.net.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

MOORESVILLE — Jesuit Father Joseph Koterski will present "The Contribution of Pope John Paul II to Catholic Social Thought" May 22, 7-8:30 p.m., at St. Therese Church, 217 Brawley School Rd. Father Koterski is a professor of philosophy at Fordham University. This event is sponsored by the diocesan offices of Justice and Peace and Family Life of Catholic Social Services. For reservations and information, call (704) 370-3228 or e-mail sabeason@charlottediocese.org.

MAGGIE VALLEY — Jesuit Father Joseph Koterski will present "The Contribution of Pope John Paul II to Catholic Social Thought" May 24, 7-8:30 p.m., at St. Margaret of Scotland Church, 37 Murphy Dr. Father Koterski is a professor of philosophy at Fordham University. This event is sponsored by the diocesan offices of Justice and Peace and Family Life of Catholic Social Services. For reservations and information, call (704) 370-3228 or e-mail sabeason@charlottediocese.org.

SYLVA — "Prayer of the Church," will be presented at St. Mary Church, 22 Bartlett St. The

sessions will meet 10-11 a.m., May 27, June 24 and July 22. Please call the church office at (828) 586-9496 to pre-register.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

CLEMMONS — Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin will celebrate a *Healing Mass* June 12 at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd., Reconciliation will be offered at 7 p.m. All are welcome to participate with hopeful expectancy. For more information, call (336) 998-7503 or the church office at (336) 778-0600.

KERNERSVILLE — Holy Cross Church, 616 S. Cherry St., invites all Catholics who have been inactive, feel alienated or just want to take another look at the Catholic Church to attend *ReMembering Church*, a series of six sessions designed to address issues that have perhaps caused feelings of estrangement. Those seeking information about annulment are also cordially invited. These evening discussions will offer a welcoming atmosphere, help with misunderstandings and hurts, look at the changes that have taken place since Vatican II and provide an opportunity to ask questions. Sessions will meet in Holy Cross Church Salesian Hall, Wednesdays, June 7-July 12, 8-9 p.m. For more details, call Juliann Demmond at (336) 996-7136 or email rjdemmond@netzero.com.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Episcopal calendar

May 20 — 10 a.m.
Small Christian Communities
Diocesan Conference
St. Paul the Apostle Church, Greensboro

May 21 — 9 a.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. Andrew Church, Mars Hill

May 23 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. Pius X Church, Greensboro

May 25 — 10 a.m.
Board meeting, Foundation for the
Diocese of Charlotte
Catholic Conference Center, Hickory

Loving marriage between man, woman can benefit society, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Only total, self-giving love based on marriage between a man and woman can form a solid enough foundation for building communities and can benefit all of society, said Pope Benedict XVI.

There is a "special urgency" today to avoid confusing marriage with "other types of union based on a weak love," he said in an address to participants attending an international congress on the family.

"Only the rock of total and indissoluble love between a man and a woman is capable of being the base for the building of a society that can be a home for all people," he said.

In a May 11 audience in the Vatican, the pope met with families and other participants attending an international congress celebrating the 25th anniversary of the founding of the John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and the Family.

The May 11-13 congress was titled "Loving Human Love: The Heritage of John Paul II on Marriage and the Family." Pope John Paul founded the institute in 1981, the same year he created the Pontifical Council for the Family.

Pope Benedict said his predecessor saw the need to continue studies and promote church teaching on marriage, life and the family in order to tackle "the difficult moments that followed the publication of that prophetic and always timely encyclical" by Pope Paul VI, "Humanae Vitae."

Pope Benedict said in his encyclical, "Deus Caritas Est" ("God is Love"), that he sought to illustrate how God is showing his people the way to love others.

The image of there being one, monotheistic God "corresponds to monogamous marriage," he said.

"Marriage based on an exclusive and definitive love" for another person mirrors God's relationship with his people and vice versa: "The way of loving God becomes the measure of human love," the pope said, quoting from his encyclical.

Marriage represents the union of life and love and becomes an "authentic good for society."

Authentic love between a man and a woman in marriage becomes "a light that guides one's life to fullness, generating a society that humankind can live in," he said in his address.

On a roll



CNS PHOTO BY CHRIS SHERIDAN

Three members of the Sisters of Life enjoy in-line skating near their convent in the Bronx neighborhood of New York May 6. The religious community was established in the Archdiocese of New York in 1991 to protect and enhance the sacredness of all human life. The nuns pictured asked that they be identified only by their order.

Cardinal McCarrick, Bishop Imesch resign; successors named

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI accepted the resignation of Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick May 16 and named Bishop Donald W. Wuerl of Pittsburgh to succeed him as archbishop of Washington.

The pope also accepted the resignation of Bishop Joseph L. Imesch of Joliet, Ill., and appointed Bishop J. Peter Sartain of Little Rock, Ark., as his successor.

The changes were announced in Washington by Archbishop Pietro Sambi,

apostolic nuncio to the United States.

Cardinal McCarrick, 75, has headed the Archdiocese of Washington since 2001 and previously served as archbishop of Newark and bishop of Metuchen, N.J., and as an auxiliary bishop in the New York Archdiocese.

Archbishop Wuerl, 65, has been bishop of Pittsburgh since 1988 and is known for his syndicated television program, "The Teaching of Christ," and his best-selling adult catechism of the same name.

Helping many



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of Knights of Columbus Piedmont Council 939 at Our Lady of Grace Church in Greensboro are pictured in March with representatives of organizations that received funds collected during the Knights' Operation LAMB drive in 2005. The Knights collected \$36,850 during the annual campaign to assist organizations that work with mentally retarded children.

Organizations receiving the funds included Gateway and McIver education center in Greensboro, RHA Health Services and schools in Guilford County.

Knights pictured are Tom Thompson, co-chairman (third row, far left); Jim Keaney Sr., grand knight (third row, by flag); Dan LaPerriere, co-chairman (third row, far right); and Bill Eastwood, chairman (first row).

Resourceful request



COURTESY PHOTO

Oblate Father Jim Scherer, a visiting priest at St. Paul the Apostle Church in Greensboro, stands with parishioners Mary Orr (left) and Eileen Ware at the dedication of the parish's new Father James Tully Bible Reference Center April 23. Father Scherer, who blessed the center, was a close friend and neighbor of the late Father Tully; Orr is seen holding a photograph of Father Tully, for whom she helped care.

Approximately 25 people attended the dedication of the center, which will be used by parishioners and others for Bible study and research.

Upon his death at age 88 in June 2005, Father Tully left funds to be used toward the Bible reference center in the parish library. The first purchase for the center was the New Interpreter's Bible volumes 1-12, which includes text, commentary and reflections for each book of the Bible.

It is supplemented by reference materials including The New Jerome Biblical Commentary and The Interlinear Bible: Hebrew/Greek/English Bible.

Ordained in April 1944, Father Tully came to Greensboro from the Diocese of Brooklyn, and often celebrated Mass at St. Paul the Apostle Church. Those gathered at the center's dedication shared memories of Father Tully's sense of humor and devotion to the Eucharist.

How the world eats

Basilica parishioners experience 'hunger banquet'

BY CAROLE MCGROTTY
CORRESPONDENT

ASHEVILLE — A row of tables set with white linen tablecloths and napkins, china dishes, a floral centerpiece, and a lone diner enjoying a full-course meal.

Other diners eating small portions of meat and vegetables from paper plates with plastic silverware. The majority of the diners in the room eating a humble serving of rice and a small cup of water.

Such was the "hunger banquet" at the Basilica of St. Lawrence in Asheville May 5.

The service project of the parish's confirmation class, following guidelines set by Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the U.S. bishops' international relief agency, was to represent how inhabitants of the various countries of the world eat on a daily basis.

The dinner was "to raise our awareness of global hunger," said Rita Livezey, a member of the parish's social justice commission and CRS in Asheville.

Dinner participants drew color-coated

slips that determined which countries they represented. Sharon Stosich, who enjoyed the full-course meal, had drawn a level 1 ticket, representing 10 percent of the world's population in industrialized nations, such as the United States and England.

The level 2 diners, representing about 30 percent of the world's population, enjoyed the meat and vegetables. They represented people in countries such as Russia, Poland and the Ukraine.

Most of the participants were level 3, and ate the rice and water. They represented 60 percent of the world's countries, including Bolivia, China, El Salvador, Ghana, Haiti, Peru, India, Vietnam and Thailand.

Members of the confirmation class, who served as the diner's wait staff, said they learned a lot from the service project.

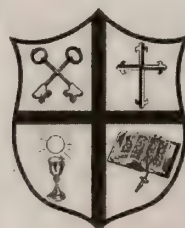
"It made me realize how segregated the world is between rich and poor," said Nicole Kent.

The confirmation class donated \$500 to CRS in Asheville.



PHOTO BY CAROLE MCGROTTY

Parishioners dine on meat and vegetables, representing how 30 percent of the world's population eats, during a "hunger banquet" at the Basilica of St. Lawrence in Asheville May 5. The program, a service project of the parish's confirmation class, represented how inhabitants of the various countries of the world eat on a daily basis.



St. Thomas Aquinas Academy
Asheville, North Carolina
www.stthomasaquinasacademy.org

(828) 687-7714

Accepting applications for ninth, tenth and eleventh grades.

Member, National Association of Private, Catholic and Independent Schools
St. Thomas Aquinas Academy is a private school, independent of the Charlotte Diocesan school system.

"(PEOPLE) WILL BE ABLE TO SAY, 'THIS IS WHY I'M CATHOLIC,' AND SHARE OR EXPLAIN THOSE REASONS TO OTHERS."

Program offers adults chance to explore Catholicism

CATHOLIC, from page 1

parishes, three university campuses and five diocesan Catholic schools attended an overview presentation of the "Why Catholic? Journey through the Catechism" program for adults at St. Matthew Church in Charlotte May 15.

The presentation was repeated at the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory May 16.

"Why Catholic? is a reasonable plan to expand what is already happening in your parish, without a lot of extra time or cost," said Msgr. Tom Kleissler, president of RENEW International.

RENEW International is a Roman Catholic organization that fosters spiritual renewal, evangelization and the transformation of the world through parish-based small Christian communities.

RENEW International's ministries include RENEW, Campus RENEW, Why Catholic?, Theology on Tap and Healing the Body of Christ.

Nineteen archdioceses and dioceses in the U.S. currently participate in the Why Catholic? program.

Bishop Peter J. Jugis is recommending the implementation of Why Catholic? in all parishes of the Diocese of Charlotte.

Why Catholic? is based on the four pillars of the Catholic Church:

1. The profession of faith — what Catholics believe
2. The celebration of the Christian mystery — the sacraments
3. Life in Christ — walking with God
4. Christian prayer — deepening the experience of God

A significant shift

Why Catholic? seeks to address the trends of the past several decades occurring in Catholic families.

"In past generations, Catholics were 'marinated' in Catholicism," said Sister of Providence Terri Rickard, institute organizer at RENEW International. "Even if they didn't practice the Catholic faith anymore, they couldn't shake their Catholicism."

Today, only one in every 10 children who are baptized receives first Communion, Sister Rickard said. Also, many adults in their 20s and 30s don't know church teachings like their parents and grandparents.

In response to these problems, the U.S. bishops promulgated "Go and Make Disciples" (1992), "Catechism of the



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Msgr. Tom Kleissler, president of RENEW International, introduces the Why Catholic? program to parish and school pastors and representatives at St. Matthew Church in Charlotte May 15. Bishop Peter J. Jugis hopes the adult faith formation will be implemented in parishes across the diocese for Lent 2007.

Catholic Church" (1994), "Our Hearts Were Burning Within Us: A Pastoral Plan for Adult Faith Formation in the United States" (1999) and "National Directory of Catechesis" (2005).

Why Catholic? fosters the goals of "Our Hearts Were Burning Within Us," the bishops' pastoral plan for adult faith formation. The Why Catholic? process is comprehensive, containing a full range of elements in both English and Spanish. It includes orientation, small community leader formation, retreat experiences, an invitation video and family-oriented bulletin inserts.

Renewal of faith

"Our faith cannot be simply transmitted by teaching," said Cris Villapando, director of diocesan faith formation programs. "It has to be internalized to sur-

vive and 'owned' to bring about conversion in the lives of people."

Such internalization works best within small Christian communities.

The prime purpose of faith formation is first to awaken people's faith and second is to teach the faith, said Sister Rickard. Why Catholic? provides training in evangelization and faith formation for adults of all ages and education levels in small group settings.

"(People) will be able to say, 'This is why I'm Catholic,' and share or explain those reasons to others," she said.

Why Catholic? is designed to meet in six-week sessions, twice a year, for four years. Each year an aspect of Catholic life is explored in small communities.

Why Catholic? offers parishes another way of serving the Catholics in their community, not just those who regularly attend Mass. It was developed for use by any size parish, even those with small budgets, Sister Rickard said.

"On numerous occasions in parish work, I have encountered adults who feel inadequately prepared to defend or discuss their faith," said Father John Putnam, judicial vicar and pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Salisbury.

"It is easy to lament the situation, but Why Catholic? actually provides a means to begin addressing the problem," he continued. "Anything that we pastors can do to assist our people to embrace their faith more completely is certainly worth exploring."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

Join other Roman Catholics!

24 Days - Tour Italy, Cruise

The Mediterranean, Atlantic, and Caribbean

Save on this repositioning cruise special! Costa Cruise Lines has to get the new "state-of-the-art" "COSTA MAGICA" from Italy to Ft. Lauderdale. Take advantage of this exclusive 'Your Man' Tours vacation package departing October 27, 2006. You'll spend three nights in Rome with two days of sightseeing including Ancient Rome; Pantheon & Piazza Navona; Roman Forum; Colosseum; Vatican Museum; Sistine Chapel; St. Peter's Square and Basilica; Via della Conciliazione & Castle Sant'Angelo and more! Spend two nights in Tuscany with guided sightseeing visiting Siena; Florence; Montecatini-Terme; and Pisa (leaning tower). On Thurs., November 2, your group will "motor-coach" to the Italian Riviera to the town of Savona where you'll board your deluxe Italian ship. Costa Cruise Lines provides daily Mass aboard ship. Your exciting ports include: Barcelona, Spain; Funchal, Madeira; St. Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands; Barbados; St. Lucia; St. Maarten; Catalina Island, Dominican Republic; and Grand Turk Island. Arrive in Ft. Lauderdale November 19, 2006. Prices (per person, double occupancy) including taxes and port charges start at only \$2647 for outside staterooms and \$2847 for outside staterooms with private balcony. Add \$800 airfare from Charlotte.

Space is very limited and \$100 deposits are now due!

For information and brochure call 7 days a week:

'YOUR MAN' TOURS 1-800-968-7626

Carefree vacations since 1967!

Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Charlotte 704-334-6421

Pineville 704-544-1412

Mint Hill 704-545-4864

Derita 704-596-3291

Mambo madness

Fifth-graders enjoy ballroom dance at Asheville Catholic

BY CAROLE MCGROTTY
CORRESPONDENT

ASHEVILLE — The beat of Latin music recently filled Asheville Catholic School's gymnasium.

Andrew Weatherly's fifth-grade class practiced the mambo during a weeklong Latin dance residency in March. The course was based on a 10-week ballroom dance program utilized in more than 60 public schools in New York City and featured in the documentary film, "Mad Hot Ballroom."

Under the direction of Cuban native Nelson Reyes, an instructor with the Asheville Contemporary Dance Theatre, the fifth-graders studied the mambo, building confidence, stamina and skill.

"I thought it would be really boring, but it was fast and exciting and not boring at all," said student Patrick Wilson.

Many of his classmates agreed, although some admitted that learning the steps was not easy.

"Going through the tunnel was my favorite part," said Megan Cavanini, referring to a step when the students formed a human tunnel and went through it in pairs.

"I had expected it to be fun, and it



PHOTO BY CAROLE MCGROTTY

Fifth-graders practice the mambo at Asheville Catholic School in March.

was," she said.

The residency culminated with the students demonstrating their new mambo techniques March 31. Physical education teacher Bonnie Vess assisted with the dance techniques, while Spanish teacher Ester Slater worked with students on Cuban poetry for the demonstration.

Over the rainbow at Asheville Catholic



PHOTO BY CAROLE MCGROTTY

"Dorothy" (center) and "Toto" the dog (lower right) sing with Emerald City townspeople — all played by students — during the drama club's production of "The Wizard of Oz" at Asheville Catholic School in May. More than 100 students participated in some aspect of the production, which played to sold-out crowds during evening performances May 4-6.

Preparation for the performance began in October under the direction of religion teacher Alyssa Kennedy.

Susan Ford, Catholic schoolteacher, dies

HUNTERSVILLE — Susan Ford, a fourth-grade teacher at St. Mark School in Huntersville, died May 10.

A memorial Mass was celebrated at St. Mark Church May 15. Interment was at Mount Zion Cemetery in Cornelius.

Ford is survived by husband Mike, marketing director for Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools; children Matthew, Todd and Victoria; and grandson Andrew.

For Ford, teaching was not a career but a ministry.

Over the past 13 years, she dedicated her love and energy to Catholic schools.

"She was the most dedicated teacher. Her goal was that every student learned; she was determined to make that happen, and she didn't compromise to anybody," said Deborah Butler, principal of St. Mark School.

"She was a teacher who inspired and had the ability to make every child feel special," she said.



Susan Ford

Memorials may be made to the Susan Ford Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools Scholarship Fund and sent to MACS, 1123 S. Church Street, Charlotte, N.C. 28203.

Groce
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

1401 Patton Ave. Asheville, NC (828) 252-3535
72 Long Shoals Road Arden, NC (828) 687-3530

**Assuring
Absolute
Integrity**

Asheville's Catholic Funeral Directors
Dale Groce • John Prock
Toll-free (888) 874-3535

Pre-arrangements and obituaries on-line at www.grocefuneralhome.com

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels.

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065

FROM THE COVER

Vatican marks place where pope was shot

POPE, from page 1

the memorial stone in St. Peter's Square would remind visitors of that "dramatic event" that left his predecessor near death.

The white stone was laid into the pavement where Pope John Paul was riding in his open jeep May 13, 1981, when Turkish assailant Mehmet Ali Agca shot him in the hand and lower abdomen.

The memorial recalled the date of the shooting in Roman numerals.

A similar marker was placed inside the Vatican at the entrance to the Vatican's health center, where the pope received initial medical care before being rushed to a Rome hospital.

The Vatican commemoration featured the release of hundreds of blue and yellow balloons — the colors of the late pope's crest — and ended with a

Pope Benedict recalls late pope's devotion to Mary; pope said "maternal hand" had saved him from death

fireworks display above St. Peter's Square.

More than 10,000 pilgrims came to the square to pray in the late afternoon, the time of the papal shooting 25 years earlier, and laid flowers around the stone marker.

Celebrating Mass in the basilica, Cardinal Camillo Ruini, papal vicar of Rome, asked for prayers for the late pope's beatification. His words were met by long applause.

Prophetic message

A statue of Our Lady of Fatima was flown in from the Fatima sanctuary in



CNS PHOTO BY MAX ROSSI, REUTERS

A statue of Our Lady of Fatima is carried in procession from Castel Sant'Angelo in Rome to St. Peter's Square at the Vatican May 13. Thousands of pilgrims marked the anniversary of the first apparition of the Virgin Mary to three children at Fatima, Portugal, in 1917 and also the 25th anniversary of the May 13, 1981, assassination attempt on Pope John Paul II's life.

Portugal for the occasion and brought by helicopter to the pilgrimage assembly site. Pilgrims then carried it in procession to the square.

The shooting took place on the feast of Our Lady of Fatima, and Pope John Paul always credited Mary with saving his life.

Pope Benedict recalled the late pope's special devotion to Mary in a midday talk May 14. Addressing thousands of people from his apartment window above St. Peter's Square, he said Pope John Paul had always felt that Mary's "maternal hand" had miraculously saved him from death.

The late pope's entire pontificate was marked by the Marian apparitions to three children in Fatima, Portugal, in 1917, and by what Mary foretold in her messages to the young visionaries, Pope Benedict said.

"The message she gave them, in continuity with the message of Lourdes, was a strong call to prayer and conversion," the pope said.

"That is a truly prophetic message, considering that the 20th century was afflicted by unprecedented destruction caused by wars and totalitarian regimes, as well as by extensive persecution against the church," he said.

The pope prayed that Mary would

continue to watch over the church and all humanity, especially families, mothers and children.

Fatima's legacy

Carmelite Sister Lucia dos Santos, the last of the three Fatima visionaries, died Feb. 13, 2005, in her cloistered convent in Coimbra, Portugal, at the age of 97.

She was later buried alongside her two cousins, Blessed Francisco and Jacinta Marto, at the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Portugal. More than 100,000 people gathered at the shrine to pray and witness the burial.

On May 13, 1917 — when Lucia was 10 years old, Francisco was 9 and Jacinta was 7 — the children claimed to have seen the Blessed Virgin Mary at Fatima, near their home.

The apparitions continued once a month until October 1917 and later were declared worthy of belief by the Catholic Church.

In 2000 Pope John Paul beatified Sister Lucia's cousins, who died as children.

In 1984, he had the bullet fragment that was removed from his body placed in the crown of the Marian statue at the Fatima shrine.



CNS PHOTO BY NACHO DOCE, REUTERS

A pilgrim prays on her knees at the shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Portugal May 12. More than 400,000 pilgrims converged on Fatima to celebrate the May 13 anniversary of the first apparition of the Virgin Mary to three shepherd children in 1917.

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



Special gifts and necessities for
First Communion
and Confirmation celebrations!

- ✙ Beautiful veils
- ✙ Mantillas on sale
- ✙ Unique spiritual mementos

Video series: Teachings of Fulton Sheen
7 pm Tuesdays (Monroe Road location only)

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

\$5 OFF
Any Purchase
of \$35 or More
Present coupon. Not valid with any
other offers. Expires 5/31/06



Join us for the

Asheville Eucharistic Conference

Saturday - June 24 9 am to 1 pm

9 am - Mass with Bishop Peter Jugis - Basilica of St. Lawrence

10 am - Eucharistic Procession - through downtown Asheville

11 am - Eucharistic Holy Hour - Asheville Civic Center

12 Noon - Catholic Evangelist Patrick Madrid — "Mission to Evangelize,
Search and Rescue" - Asheville Civic Center

Info: www.GoEucharist.com or (828) 684-6098

Pro-life officials see signs of hope in latest polls on abortion

BY NANCY FRAZIER O'BRIEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — For the first time since the Harris Poll began measuring support for the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision that removed most state restrictions on abortion, fewer than half of all Americans said they favor Roe v. Wade.

Even though the Harris question erroneously stated that Roe v. Wade legalized abortion only in the first three months of pregnancy, only 49 percent said they supported the law and 47 percent said they opposed it.

With a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points, the responses were almost equal.

In earlier years, support for Roe v. Wade in the Harris surveys had ranged from 52 percent to 65 percent.

Roe and its companion decision, Doe v. Bolton, legalized abortion virtually on demand through all nine months of pregnancy.

Shifting opinions

Deirdre McQuade, director of planning and information in the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, said the Harris Poll released May 4 concurs with other recent surveys in showing that "public opinion has moved progressively away from supporting unqualified access to abortion."

"This is a real sign of hope for both women and their unborn children," she said in a statement.

Maggi Nadol, Catholic Social Service's Respect Life director in the Diocese of Charlotte, agreed.

"This is a hopeful sign that Americans are realizing we can and should be able to offer women something better than abortion," said Nadol.

"Those experiencing an unplanned pregnancy or facing hardship during pregnancy are in need of compassion, understanding and assistance. Abortion is not the answer," she said.

McQuade noted that an April survey by the polling company found that 54 percent of respondents support abortion only in cases of rape, incest or to save the life of the mother and another 21 percent backed it only in the first three months of pregnancy.

Those opinions are "a far cry from the abortion license established by Roe v. Wade, which allows abortion for virtually any reason throughout the nine months of pregnancy," she said.

"We expect that Americans will continue to trend pro-life as they learn more about abortion and its impact on women, men and society," she said.

A Zogby poll in March also found majority support for abortion regulations such as informed consent laws and parental notification laws for women under 18, McQuade noted.

The Harris Poll, conducted by telephone April 4-10 among 1,016 adult Americans, also asked whether respondents expected Roe v. Wade to be overturned by the Supreme Court and whether laws should make it easier or more difficult to get an abortion.

About one-third (32 percent) said they thought the decision would be overturned, while 63 percent said it would remain unchanged and 5 percent said they were not sure or refused to answer.

Forty percent of the respondents said they backed laws making it more difficult to get an abortion, 15 percent said it should be made easier to get an abortion, 40 percent said there should be no change and the rest said they were not sure.

Asked specifically about a South Dakota law that would ban all abortions, except to save the woman's life, if Roe were overturned, 44 percent said they supported the law and 52 percent said they opposed it. The rest were not sure or declined to answer.

Criticizing contraception

In a separate statement May 3, McQuade disputed the claim that widespread access to contraception lowers abortion rates, as stated in "Abortion in Women's Lives," a recent report by the Guttmacher Institute.

"Guttmacher's own data show there is no correlation between the two," she said. "States ranking highest for access to contraceptive services, including California and New York, also rank highest in abortion rates."

"Others that Guttmacher considers weak in contraceptive services, such as Kansas and the Dakotas, have among the lowest abortion rates in the country," she said.

Sharon Camp, president and CEO of the New York-based Guttmacher Institute, said the report showed that "wealthier women have quick, convenient access to contraceptives and safe, early abortions, while poor women are less able to prevent pregnancies through contraceptive and are then forced to jump over a series of obstacles in order to obtain an abortion."

But McQuade said states that had reduced their abortion rates did so in part "by choosing not to subsidize abortion, and ensuring informed consent for women and parental involvement for minors seeking abortions — policies which the Guttmacher report demands be rescinded."

Contributing to this story was Editor Kevin E. Murray.

Making 'people for life'

Black Catholic life group pledges to raise abortion awareness in June

NEW YORK (CNS) — For the fourth year in a row, the National Black Catholic Apostolate for Life has designated June as "abortion and all acts of violence awareness month."

The theme for the 2006 observance is "Jesus the Giver of Life — Make Us a People for Life," said Franciscan Father Jim Goode, president of the New York-based apostolate.

"We will witness the sacredness of life in all our churches, institutions, national black Catholic conferences, summer family reunions, festivals, church trips and neighborhood gatherings," Father Goode said in a statement.

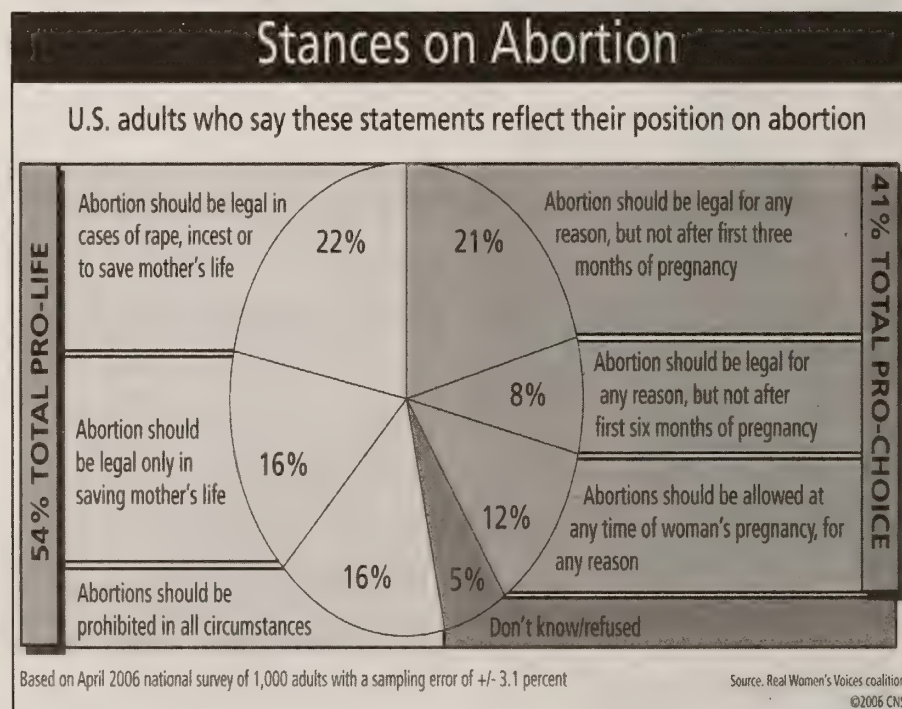
"Wherever our people will assemble during the month of June and throughout the summer months," a representative of the National Black Catholic Apostolate for Life "will be there praying, proclaiming and mobilizing African-Americans to choose life and help others choose life," he added.

Father Goode said June was chosen because it is the month of the Sacred Heart, as well as the month in which the feast day of St. Charles Lwanga and the Ugandan martyrs falls.

The apostolate's board of consultants "has fully embraced this pro-life awareness project," the organization said in a news release.

"Our mission as black Catholics for life during this awareness campaign is to go from heart to heart, soul to soul, life to life, and invite our African-American sisters and brothers to join us in choosing life," said Redemptorist Father Glenn Parker of Richmond, Va., a board member.

Beverly A. Carroll, executive director of the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for African-American Catholics and a founding board member, said the success of the 2005 campaign "has given us renewed enthusiasm."



School's Out Soon!

Call toll free: 888-536-7441
(Hickory residents: 828-327-7441)

Why not plan now for a summer event that will give you something to talk about at next school term's "Show and Tell." The Catholic Conference Center is available for:

- staff planning,
- curriculum planning
- youth conferences
- summer family reflective retreats

The Catholic Conference Center

Check out our website
www.catholicconference.org
info@catholicconference.org

Carolina Funeral & Cremation Center

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

Science that tampers with human life threatens humanity, pope warns

SCIENCE, from page 1

bioethics "becomes a threat when man loses sense of his limits and, basically, claims to supersede God the creator," Pope Benedict said.

Council members met May 11-13 at the Vatican to discuss the achievements, challenges, and current and future projects of the department founded 25 years ago by Pope John Paul II.

Two major themes under discussion at the council's plenary assembly were the sanctity of life and marriage.

Family and faith

Procreation outside the loving act between a man and woman bonded in marriage not only ignores God's plan for creation, it degrades the human body and turns it into "merchandise, a plain thing," Pope Benedict said.

He praised unmarried men and women, especially young people who were "rediscovering the value of chastity, which appears more and more as a sure guarantee of authentic love."

The pope then urged married Christian couples to be open to life and show "with courageous coherence that procreation is the fruit of love."

He said sometimes it seemed that families are afraid of "life, paternity and maternity."

"It is necessary to give them back

"It is necessary to give them back confidence so that they can continue to fulfill their noble mission of procreation in love."

— Pope Benedict XVI

confidence so that they can continue to fulfill their noble mission of procreation in love," he said.

More couples having more children would help "stimulate politicians and lawmakers to safeguard the rights of the family," he said.

The family is under threat by laws trying to give civil unions, which reject the obligations of marriage, the same rights as married couples, he said.

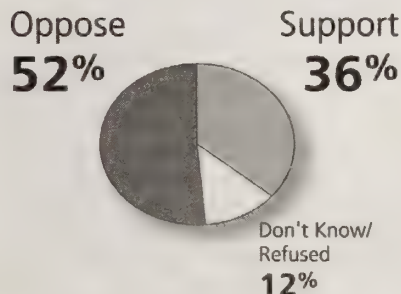
Some governments are trying to come up with a new definition of marriage by legalizing homosexual unions and allowing gay couples to adopt children, he added.

He urged families to stay united and overcome the difficulties that often lead to separation and divorce, which can

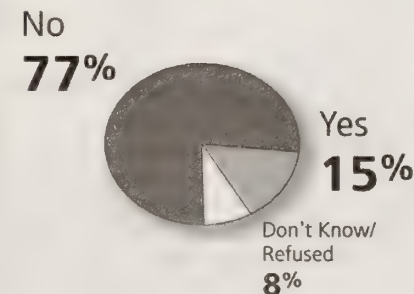
CELL RESEARCH

Study shows more than half of Americans oppose federal funding of embryonic stem-cell research

Do you support or oppose using federal tax dollars for experiments involving the destruction of human embryos?



Should scientists be allowed to clone human embryos to be destroyed in medical research?



Questions were part of a national survey conducted by International Communications Research, which polled over 1,000 American adults by telephone May 6-11.

Survey results rounded.

Source: USCCB

© 2005 CNS Graphics

have negative effects on children.

Patience, sacrifice and understanding as well as prayer and receiving the Eucharist can help couples "remain faithful to their vocation," he said.

Changing society

Archbishop Elden F. Curtiss of Omaha, Neb., who attended the council's plenary assembly, said the family based on marriage between a man and a woman is "fundamental to society," not just the church.

He told Catholic News Service May 12 that the "secular culture tends to look at everything from the point of view of personal rights and personal disposition, and somebody has to say 'Well, what about the common good ... what

happens when you undermine marriage?'"

Another assembly participant, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson of the Knights of Columbus, noted that, as some states start to limit a woman's access to abortion, social programs and services that support women and their pregnancies need to be set up or bolstered.

He told CNS that this is reflected in the pope's encyclical, "God Is Love" ("Deus Caritas Est"), in that even if the United States is able to restrict or overturn Roe v. Wade "you still need room for charity."

"How does one look at the whole question of pregnancy in a post-Roe culture" and help women with unplanned pregnancies? he asked.

Seeking healing and forgiveness after an abortion?

Experience God's love and compassion once again —

The Charlotte Diocese
Respect Life Office of Catholic
Social Services offers help to
both men and women, in
confidence, at **704-370-3229**.



You may also want to visit Rachel's Vineyard Web site at www.rachelsvineyard.org for helpful articles, retreat information and other direction to new hope and meaning for your future.



Church officials criticize Colombian court ruling legalizing abortion

BOGOTA, Colombia (CNS) — Catholic Church officials have criticized a Colombian Constitutional Court decision legalizing abortion in three circumstances.

The court ruled May 11 that abortion was legal in cases of rape or serious congenital malformation or when the pregnancy threatens the woman's life or health. Until the ruling, Colombia, Chile and El Salvador were the only American nations that prohibited abortion in all circumstances.

Colombian Cardinal Alfonso Lopez Trujillo, head of the Pontifical Council for the Family at the Vatican, called the ruling "a very sad piece of news."

Church officials in Colombia said all those who promote abortion, including the five high court members who voted in favor of the legalization, would be excommunicated.

Two of the high court's members responded by asking the church to respect the decision and reminded church leaders that Catholicism ceased to be Colombia's official religion in 1991.

The newspaper El Tiempo reported

that Archbishop Juan Sarasti Jaramillo of Cali called the decision "terrifying" and "a license for mothers to kill their own children."

The church had campaigned against legalizing abortion, holding rallies and collecting millions of signatures before the court decision.

Polls have consistently shown that most Colombians, about 80 percent of whom are Catholic, support legal abortion in cases of rape, when the fetus has serious malformations and when the pregnancy threatens the woman's life.

A survey conducted after the decision confirmed this, with more than 60 percent of respondents in favor of the decision.

However, surveys also have shown that most Colombians oppose legalizing abortion in all cases.

A clandestine abortion industry has flourished in Colombia, and an estimated 300,000 to 400,000 women have abortions annually. Abortion rights advocates have said that botched abortions are a principal cause of maternal mortality.

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Kids at risk



CNS PHOTO BY BOB ROLLER

Studies about content in video games intended for young users has prompted a Catholic congressman to call on the video-game industry to improve its ratings systems.

Video game industry asked to improve ratings system on games

BY CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Multiple studies have been conducted about content in video games related to violence, sexual themes and profanity that goes unlabeled on the games' packaging, even for games intended for the youngest users.

The latest such study has prompted a Catholic congressman, Rep. Joe Baca, D-Calif., to call on the video-game industry to improve its ratings systems and give parents "clear, accurate information that they can understand" so they know what video games are appropriate for their children.

Meanwhile, a video game on making peace won a prize during a huge video-game exposition in Los Angeles.

Results of a new study released by the Harvard School of Public Health's Kids Risk Project found that 81 percent of video games rated "M" for mature contained sex, profanity, violence or other objectionable content not labeled on the game box.

"Parents and physicians should recognize that popular M-rated video games contain a wide range of unlabeled content and may expose children and adolescents to messages that may negatively influence their perceptions, attitudes and behaviors," the study concluded.

A previous study of games rated "T" for teens found nearly half of the games in a random sample contained unlabeled content and those rated "E" for everyone also had a considerable amount of violent content.

Baca, a leading critic of the video-game industry for its marketing of violent and sexually explicit material to children, decried the study's findings at an April 28 press conference in Washington.

"Violent and sexually explicit video games are not merely a modern form of entertainment; they have profoundly harmful impacts on children who use them," said Baca.

"Because the consequences are so

serious, we must make sure parents have accurate information about video games," he said.

Baca and Rep. Tom Osborne, R-Neb., both of whom co-chair the Congressional Sex and Violence in the Media Caucus, wrote a letter with Rep. Frank Wolf, R-Va., to the Entertainment Software Review Board, the video-game industry's self-governing body, asking the board to meet with caucus members and fix the rating system.

Baca is a founder of the caucus.

Elizabeth Carll, chair of the American Psychological Association's interactive media committee, said at the press conference, "Video games may increase learning more than films and TV because the player is an active participant who identifies with a violent character, the violent acts can be repeated many times, and the violent behavior is often rewarded with the winner being the person who kills and destroys the most."

In Los Angeles, in a contest organized by the University of Southern California's Center on Public Diplomacy, a cross-cultural game about the Israel-Palestine conflict called "Peacemaker," and designed by graduate students from Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, won an award May 8.

It was presented at the Electronic Entertainment Expo in Los Angeles, the annual trade show for the \$30 billion industry.

According to the Reuters news agency, the contest challenged designers to modify popular games or create one of their own to include messages of global peace and friendship.

In "Peacemaker" players are Israelis and Palestinians who negotiate dangerous situations.

Other finalists included "Exchanging Cultures," in which diplomats explore new countries, and "Hydro Hijinks," a quiz game about international water issues and conflicts over water rights.

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: MAY 28, 2006

May 25 or 28 Ascension
or Seventh Sunday After
Easter

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Acts 1:1-11
Psalm 47:2-3, 6-9
- 2) Ephesians 4:1-13 or Eph. 1:17-23
- 3) Gospel: Mark 16:15-20

We are to obey, not tempt, God

BY JEFF HENSLEY
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Since most folks' experience of the supernatural comes primarily in the context of daily life and seldom is talked about, these verses in Mark are often troublesome to people. The Gospel is confirmed in signs and wonders.

How can that be in our sophisticated and secularized modern age?

While I understand people being taken aback by stories associated with cults that handle snakes or do other outlandish things to "prove" the validity of the Gospel commands, such cultic interpretations of the text here are not bound up with the original intent.

Handling poisonous snakes in religious ceremonies is more analogous to taking Satan up on his dare and jumping from the rooftop because God has promised to protect his chosen ones.

Though it doesn't have to happen this way when the good news of God's redemptive love is proclaimed, it sometimes does.

In 1982, my wife and I visited Catholic charismatic communities in El Paso, Texas, and Juarez, Mexico, for a story I was writing for New Covenant magazine.

We were told how, a few years before, an El Paso prayer group, led by Jesuit Father Rick Thomas, had decided to take quite literally the Gospel command to give a dinner for those who were not their friends, family and acquaintances, but the poor.

Together, several of them set out on Christmas Day for the dump at Juarez where two warring communities of the poorest of the poor scavenged for discarded metal scraps and bottles to resell to recyclers. Stories of their shared meal tell of the beginnings of a community proclaiming the Gospel to the poor and dispossessed of these two borderland communities.

One participant later recounted watching as a ham failed to grow smaller as slice after slice was pared off for the gathering poor of the dump community.

The two warring factions came together to share in the feast and sing simple Christmas carols. Thereafter they began to learn to work together, eventually taking over the recycling business themselves, cutting out the middle man and increasing the return on their labor in a miracle of both peacemaking and economics.

And why did all of this happen? Not as the result of tempting God, but of obeying him with the signs and wonders following the proclamation.

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 21-27

Sunday (Sixth Sunday of Easter), Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48, 1 John 4:7-10, John 15:9-17; **Monday (St. Rita of Cascia),** Acts 16:11-15, John 15:26-16:4; **Tuesday,** Acts 16:22-34, John 16:5-11; **Wednesday,** Acts 17:15, 22—18:1, John 16:12-15; **Thursday,** Acts 1:1-11, Ephesians 1:17-24, Mark 16:15-20; **Friday (Philip Neri, priest),** Acts 18:9-18, John 16:20-23; **Saturday (St. Augustine of Canterbury),** Acts 18:23-28, John 16:23-28.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 28-JUNE 3

Sunday (Seventh Sunday of Easter, Ascension of the Lord), Acts 1:15-17, 20-26, 1 John 4:11-16, John 17:11-19; **Monday,** Acts 19:1-8, John 16:29-33; **Tuesday,** Acts 20:17-27, John 17:1-11; **Wednesday (The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary),** Zephaniah 3:14-18, Luke 1:39-56; **Thursday (St. Justin, Martyr),** Acts 22:30, 23:6-11, John 17:20-26; **Friday (St. Marcellinus and St. Peter),** Acts 25:13-21, John 21:15-19; **Saturday (St. Charles Lwanga and Companions),** Acts 28:16-20, 30-31, John 21:20-25.

ABBOTSWOOD SENIOR LIVING



For more than 17 years, Abbotswood at Irving Park has built a reputation on providing exemplary retirement living services to independent seniors. Residents enjoy the largest 1 and 2 bedroom floorplans in Irving Park, delicious meals, a full-time wellness director and month-to-month rental with NO BUY-IN FEES. Optional in-home health care services are available. Call today to schedule your personal tour.

(336) 282-8870

ABBOTSWOOD
at Irving Park

The only full service retirement living address in the heart of Irving Park
3504 Flint Street • Greensboro, NC 27405 • www.kiscoseniorliving.com



CNS PHOTO BY COLUMBIA

Tom Hanks and Audrey Tautou star in a scene from the movie "The Da Vinci Code."

A NOVEL FOR 'BRAINGLESS PEOPLE'

Head of Opus Dei says 'The Da Vinci Code' exploited his organization

BY JOHN THAVIS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ROME — The head of Opus Dei said "The Da Vinci Code" had exploited his organization and launched "grotesque" accusations against the Catholic Church.

Bishop Javier Echevarria Rodriguez said the novel's author, Dan Brown, had joined a long line of critics who attack Opus Dei in order to make points against the faith.

"That imaginative man made a profit on us — and not only in dollars — like so many others who attack us. Following the teachings of our father, we pray with the same fervor for those who praise us and those who defame us," Bishop Echevarria said.

The bishop made the comments in an interview published by the Italian newspaper Corriere della Sera May 12, a week before the May 19 worldwide release of the film based on Brown's novel.

In the novel, Opus Dei, a personal prelature, is portrayed as a power-hungry and sinister organization whose members are willing to murder in order to obtain ancient secrets about the church.

Bishop Echevarria said he had not

read the book, but had only paged through it.

"I don't have time to waste on little novels for brainless people," he said.

He said the book should not be rejected for what it says about Opus Dei, which he said are "the usual things that make us laugh."

"What saddens me are the grotesque fantasies about Our Lord and our holy mother church. They can say what they want about (Opus Dei), but they shouldn't curse the faith," he said.

The bishop said he thought Brown and other critics of Opus Dei took aim at Opus Dei because of "our attachment to the pope, our fidelity to the church and our rigor for the orthodoxy of the faith."

"They attack us in order to attack these realities," he said.

In the novel, a great deal of attention is paid to Opus Dei's U.S. headquarters in New York City. Bishop Echevarria said the building, reported to cost \$47 million, simply reflects the vocation of Opus Dei's 85,000 lay members — to be a spiritual force in the real world.

"Our vocation is to call everyone to sanctify themselves through work. We couldn't avoid being present in the professional capital of the world, New York," he said.

A dull decoding

'Da Vinci Code' draws laughs from journalists at press screening

BY JOHN THAVIS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

CANNES, France — Toward the end of the movie "The Da Vinci Code," the main character, Robert Langdon, tells his sleuthing partner, Sophie Neveu: "You are the last living descendent of Jesus Christ."

That line, meant to be the dramatic apex of the film, drew laughs from many of the approximately 900 journalists who viewed the film's first press screening May 16 at the Cannes Film Festival.

The derisive laughter, along with widely critical comments from reporters afterward, summed up the Cannes press reaction to the much-heralded launch of the movie. When the credits ran, silence and a few whistles drove home the response.

The movie sticks to most of the book's controversial religious elements, while softening some of the edges.

Directed by Ron Howard and starring Tom Hanks, it faithfully depicts the novel's story of intrepid American "symbolist" Langdon, who follows a coded trail leading to a supposedly age-old secret: that Christ was not necessarily divine, that he was married to Mary Magdalene and that their descendants survive today.

The church is the bad guy in this conspiracy-theory version of Christianity, and is depicted as suppressing all evidence of Jesus' alleged marriage.

But one striking difference about the movie is that it lacks anything resembling the famous "fact" page that prefaced the novel, in which author Dan Brown claimed that "all descriptions of artwork, architecture, documents, and secret rituals in this novel are accurate."

The film doesn't make any claim to accuracy of any kind — artistic, historical, religious or biblical.

Brown's preface also made a point of saying the Priory of Sion, the novel's organizational keeper of the secret, was real — even though it was unmasked as a fraud years ago.

The film keeps the Priory of Sion as the protagonist of the mystery, but — unlike the book — has Langdon protest at one point that the priory was a known hoax.

Colombia Pictures noted that while Brown "contends" the Priory of Sion was real, the documents he cited were proven to be forgeries.

All this tends to underline that the movie is a work of fiction, and to deflate

some of the historical assertions that irritated critics of the book.

While the movie's portrayal of the Catholic Church is distinctly unflattering, its treatment of the Catholic organization Opus Dei is particularly negative.

The novel placed Opus Dei in the middle of the church's nefarious efforts to keep secret the "truth" about Christ, and had a cruel Opus Dei member commit several murders in the process.

In the book, Opus Dei's fictional leader, Bishop Manuel Aringarosa, is a somewhat unwitting figure in the machinations. In the film, however, the bishop operates with Machiavellian ruthlessness.

The sicko murderer, Silas, is a caricature not only of Opus Dei but of religious sentiment in general. A typical sequence: he crosses himself and says, "God, give me strength"; he pitilessly murders a nun; he prays over her body; he crosses himself; he whips himself bloody as he stands naked in his room; he crosses himself; he phones his superior for further instructions.

Unlike the book, the movie keeps its distance from the Vatican. Instead, unidentified prelates in a sinister "Council of Shadows" pull strings in order to cover up the secret life of Jesus. Their secret meeting room is outfitted with a billiard table.

The film retains several of the claims considered outrageous by many Catholic critics: that the Bible as we know it was collated by the "pagan" emperor Constantine; that alternative gospels recounting the real life of Jesus were suppressed; and that church ritual borrows heavily from pagan mystery religions.

But the film puts these and other claims into the mouth of Leigh Teabing, the story's true villain, and at several points has the hero, Langdon, skeptically questioning these assertions.

That too is a change from the book, and adds a veneer of even-handedness to the story.

The movie's historical flashbacks illustrating these supposedly dark chapters of church history were so overdone that they provoked catcalls during the first Cannes screening. The pandemonium-in-vestments version of the Council of Nicea may especially amuse church historians.

Early reviews from the Cannes screening gave the movie decidedly low marks. Its biggest sin, according to many critics, was that it was dull.

The movie was to be formally presented at the festival May 17 and was to open in theaters worldwide two days later.

We Love Blessed Sacrament Academy !!



Call now to guarantee your child's enrollment.

Space is LIMITED! 704-841-2292

Visit us on the web : www.blessedsacramentacademy.org

Located behind Windsor Square in Matthews, NC. Independent of Charlotte diocesan schools. Member of NARCIS.

- ◆ A classical curriculum in the Catholic tradition
- ◆ Latin, French, Music & Art
- ◆ Grades K-8
- ◆ Excellent scores on standardized tests



U.S. bishops wary of posting Guard on border

BORDER, from page 1

personnel because there has not been an adequate public discussion about its implications, especially for the treatment of migrants."

In his first such nationwide address on a domestic policy matter, Bush gave his most explicit support to date for a program that would provide a way for most of the estimated 11 million to 12 million illegal immigrants in the country to legalize their status.

He proposed requiring them to pay a fine and back taxes, learn English and hold a job for an undefined set number of years to be allowed to stay in the country.

Much of the president's speech focused on border enforcement.

He said up to 6,000 members of the National Guard would be sent to the border states of California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas, where they would assist the Border Patrol in jobs such as intelligence analysis, installation of fences and barriers, building roads and providing training.

In his statement, issued in Washington prior to Bush's address, Bishop Barnes reiterated the U.S. bishops' position that "the real solution to the immigration crisis lies in a comprehensive approach to the problem.

"This approach must include a long-term strategy to address the root causes of flight, such as combating poverty in sending countries," he said.

"It also must include comprehensive reform of our nation's immigration laws which features an opportunity to earn citizenship for the undocumented in our country and the creation of legal avenues for migration for migrants to work and join families in a safe, orderly, and humane manner," the bishop said.

"We are hopeful that the president also will commit himself to these elements as part of a comprehensive immigration reform bill," he added.

The bishop said immigration is an issue of "urgent national priority." He



CNS PHOTO BY JIM YOUNG, REUTERS

U.S. President George W. Bush gestures in front of the fence at the U.S.-Mexican border in El Paso, Texas, as Texas Gov. Rick Perry looks on in a 2005 file photo. Bush's May 15 address on immigration reform got mixed reviews from advocates for immigrants, who expressed gratitude for his support of legalization for illegal immigrants but had concerns about his plan to deploy National Guard troops on the border.

said the U.S. bishops for several years "have urged our elected officials to address our nation's immigration crisis in a just, humane and comprehensive manner."

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., co-author of an immigration bill approved this spring by the Senate Judiciary Committee but still awaiting final resolution, said in a statement that he is concerned that "the urgent work of immigration reform is not sidetracked by the president's proposal to use the National Guard at the border."

Kennedy said Bush's leadership "is essential as we fight to fix our broken system once and for all."

Director of Religious Education

The Parish of St. Vincent de Paul in Charlotte, NC, a parish of 1800 families of diverse nations of origin



and cultures, is seeking a full-time Director of Religious Education. The DRE will design, develop, direct and evaluate the parish catechetical program. An ideal candidate should have a MA in Theology/Religious Education or related theological field with some administrative or educational experience. Conversational Spanish a plus.

If you are interested please send your resume and salary requirements to: St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church — DRE Application, 6828 Old Reid Road, Charlotte, NC 28210.

Classifieds

FOR RENT

LAKE LURE VACATION HOME: New! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, all amenities. 3 minutes to Rocky Broad River, Lake Lure beach; fishing, boating, hiking, swimming. Reasonable! 828-299-3714.

CONDO: Myrtle Beach. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath. condo available weeks of 6/17, 7/8, and 8/19. Call (336) 924-2842.

Classified ads bring results! Over 135,000 readers! Over 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Church of St. John the Beloved, a 1400-family parish located outside of Charleston, SC, is seeking a full-time Director of Religious Education. As a member of the pastoral staff, this position includes faith formation for Pre-K to grade 5, sacramental preparation for baptism, reconciliation, Eucharist and confirmation, children's liturgy of the Word, adult formation, catechist formation and collaboration with the administration and teaching staff of the parish school. Master's degree and experience preferred. Salary and benefits are negotiable.

Please send resume to: DRE Search Committee, 28 Sumter Avenue, Summerville, SC 29483. Fax: (843) 873-1431

Commencing success

Belmont Abbey College presents degrees to students, leaders

BELMONT — Hundreds of families and friends of the 2006 graduating class attended the 128th annual commencement at Belmont Abbey College.

The college presented 179 traditional and adult degree graduates with diplomas during the ceremony held in the Basilica Piazza May 13.

With Benedictine Father Christopher Kirchgessner, an Abbey professor, serving as this year's master of ceremonies, the college announced this year's valedictorian and student of the year, and recognized faculty achievements, including Dr. Mike McLeod as the recipient of the 2006 Adrian Faculty Excellence Award.

Dennis Freehan, senior class president, and Rachel Owens, an adult degree student, both addressed the class of 2006.

The college also presented honorary doctorates to Dr. Edward Sadler, former superintendent of schools for Gaston County; Benedictine Father John Oetgen, former Belmont Abbey College president; and William G. Monroe of WGM Design in Charlotte.

Founded in 1876, Belmont Abbey College is home to students from more than 28 states and 11 countries. The 650-acre campus consists of the college, the monastery and the Abbey Basilica, and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



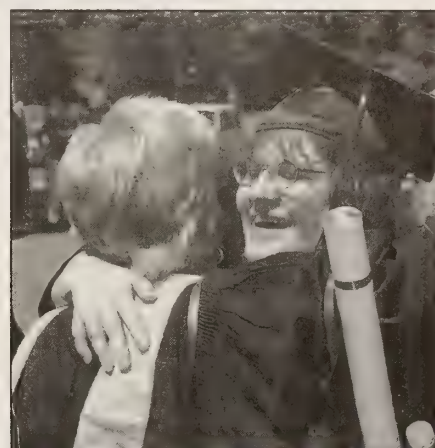
COURTESY PHOTO

Graduating students share a laugh during the commencement ceremony at Belmont Abbey College May 13.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Above: Bagpipers play during the commencement ceremony at Belmont Abbey College May 13. Below: An excited graduate after receiving her diploma.



Earn college credits early! Attend summer classes at "the Abbey."

- *Financial Aid available*
(for those who did not attend college in Spring 2006)
- *4-week classes begin in May and again in June*
- *8-week evening classes begin May 23*
- *Summer tuition is the lowest of the year*
- *Earn credits towards your degree and still have almost two months of vacation*
- *A perfect way for adults to work towards finishing a degree and for high school students to begin earning theirs!*

For more information:

Please call the Summer School Office at 704-825-6671, email CACE@bac.edu or log onto BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu



**BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE**

FOOTED IN ALL CHANGES AND MAY BE VARYING

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Work is divine activity

People should be fairly paid for fair work

During the debate about immigration, the argument is frequently made that immigrants do work no one else wants.

Picking tomatoes, processing chickens, cleaning motel rooms and tarring roofs typify the jobs that many immigrants do. Classified as low skill, these jobs usually pay low wages and are considered relatively unattractive work.

Ordinary Americans do the same kinds of work, but on a different scale. Most families clean their own toilets, mow their lawns, prepare food, repair their homes and occasionally do a variety of unpleasant tasks around the house. Work, per se, is not dignified or undignified, but rather work derives its nobility from how it is structured and compensated.

From a scriptural perspective, work is divine activity.

God worked: "Since on the seventh day God was finished with the work he had been doing, he rested ..." (Genesis 2:2).

Jesus refers to redemption as work: "The works that the Father gave me to accomplish ... testify on my behalf that the Father has sent me" (John 5:36).

Yet, if work becomes structured oppressively, it dehumanizes and calls for relief: "I have witnessed the affliction of my people in Egypt and have heard their cry of complaint against their slave drivers ... therefore I have come down to rescue them" (Exodus 3:7 & 8).

God's work is creating and redeeming, and we are invited to participate in that work — to the extent we use our creativity and talents, we help create society and contribute to the common good; to the extent we promote teamwork and community, we redeem co-workers from selfishness and isolation.

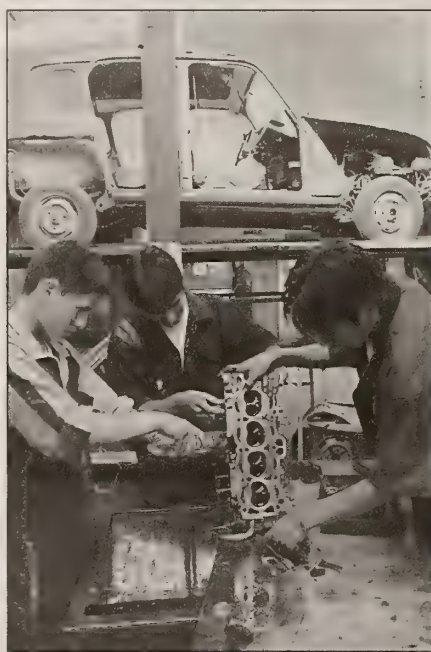
For people of faith, the challenge remains to structure work so it helps workers become more human and reflects more closely divine activity.

For many low-income workers, however, the work environment reflects more the oppression of ancient Egypt than the milk and honey of the Promised Land. Low-wage workers — immigrants, single mothers and members of minorities — face daily challenges to self-esteem, and with meager pay. Jobs are "dumbed down" to minimize training costs, and hours are pared from full time to save benefit costs.

Barbara Ehrenreich reflected in her book, "Nickel and Dimed," on her experience doing six low-wage jobs. One of her conclusions deals with maintaining self-respect when management has the right to search your purse for pilfered goods, to demand drug testing for job interviews and to restrict free speech on the job.

Faith and the Marketplace

GLENMARY
FATHER JOHN
S. RAUSCH
GUEST COLUMNIST



CNS PHOTO BY WALTER HUPIU

She cites the AFL-CIO, the principal U.S. labor federation, estimates that 10,000 workers each year are fired for participating in union-organizing drives.

Yet, most Americans are fair-minded. Ehrenreich cites a poll conducted in 2000 by Jobs for the Future, an employment research firm, that found 94 percent of Americans agree: "People who work full-time should be able to earn enough to keep their families out of poverty."

While economists have several strategies to address the plight of the working poor, raising the minimum wage offers a logical first step. Because 1997 was the last time the federal minimum wage was raised, 17 states plus Washington, D.C.; Santa Fe; and San Francisco have raised their own minimum wages above the federal \$5.15 per hour.

Studies about the two raises of the federal minimum wage during the 1990s show: 1) wages of the lowest wage workers rose; 2) systematic job loss did not occur; 3) a slight reduction in poverty took place; and 4) through a "spillover effect" the workers earning slightly above minimum also benefited.

People of faith affirm the dignity of workers and oppose reducing them to a mere commodity. After all, as writer Wendell Berry asks, "What are people for?"

Father Rausch is director of peace and justice in the Diocese of Lexington, Ky.

Pope says Catholics must trust in God's plans for the world

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Like St. Peter, Catholics must have the courage and humility to trust that Jesus is leading his church and that God has his own plans for transforming the world, Pope Benedict XVI said.

At his May 17 general audience, with some 45,000 people gathered in St. Peter's Square, the pope focused his remarks on the personality of the "prince of the apostles."

Speaking without a text at the end of his prepared remarks, the pope said, "It seems to be that the various conversions of Peter — his whole being — are a great consolation and lesson for us."

Like St. Peter, he said, "we desire God and we, too, want to be generous, but we also expect God to be strong in the world and transform the world immediately according to our own ideas and the needs we see."

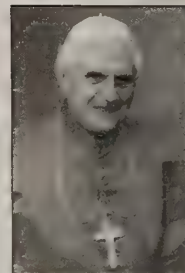
However, the pope said, "God chooses a different path: God chooses the path of transforming hearts in suffering and humility."

In his main text, Pope Benedict said the Gospels make clear that St. Peter was slow to understand that Jesus' role as Messiah was not to use power to bring social or political change.

And when Jesus told the disciples that he would suffer and die to redeem humanity, the pope said, St. Peter "was

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



scandalized and protested."

"This is the great alternative that we, too, must keep learning: to give priority to one's own expectations, pushing Jesus away, or to accept Jesus in the truth of his mission and set aside expectations that are too human," he said.

Pope Benedict said, "Peter says to us: 'You think you have the recipe for the transformation of Christianity, but it is the Lord who knows the way.'"

St. Peter's lesson for Christians of all time, the pope said, is that they always must trust Jesus because he is the way, the truth and the life.

At the end of the audience, Pope Benedict greeted Archbishop Tadeusz Kondrusiewicz of Moscow with a big smile and warm embrace. The archbishop brought 150 pilgrims from Moscow to visit the Vatican and Rome.

The pilgrims, forming the largest group to date organized by the Catholic Church in Russia, brought Pope Benedict an 18th-century Russian icon and handmade liturgical vestments.

Disguised blessings

I agree with Tony Magliano's column ("The Da Vinci Code": Blessing in disguise?" May 5). "The Da Vinci Code" and the gospel of Judas ("Catholic leaders decry gospel of Judas," May 5) offer teaching moments for the Catholic Church.

I recently returned from a pilgrimage to southern France. In Provence, I visited the cave of La Sainte Baume, where, legend has it, Mary Magdalene spent the last 25 or so years of her life as a hermit.

An old monk said, "Mary Magdalene may have been here and Mary Magdalene may not have been here. But Mary Magdalene is here."

So I sat silently in that dim, damp cave in the presence of that holy woman who was God's apostle and a symbol for the bride of Christ — the community of the faithful.

That Jesus is a bridegroom is stated in the New Testament (in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John), so Jesus must have a bride — without a doubt, that bride is the people of God.

Seek out, embrace and affirm the truth.

— Donald Kaple
Jonas Ridge, N.C.

Letter to the Editor

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to *The Catholic News & Herald* become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, *The Catholic News & Herald*, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

The 'tragic triangle'

We can help stop the perpetrators of abortion

Violence done against human beings involvesthree types of people: the Perpetrator, the Victim and the Observer. This is known as the "tragic triangle."

In child abuse, the child is the victim, the abuser is the perpetrator and those who come to know of the abuse as it is going on are the observers. Abortion also is a tragic triangle. The abortionist, in collusion with the parent(s), is the perpetrator, the child is the victim and the observers are all the rest of us.

Many may conclude that the perpetrator is the most guilty of the three. Yet in most tragic triangles, the observers carry the greatest guilt. They are more detached from the tragedy and usually have more objectivity to assess the evil and the opportunities for stopping it.

Psychiatrist Philip Ney points out, "The Observers in tragic triangles have a greater responsibility, primarily because they can be more objective, but also because they often gain by allowing the tragedy to start and to continue" (The Centurions' Pathway, p.25).

Regarding abortion, he further notes, "The Observers are just as guilty, [and their] self-justification is more deeply

Guest Column

FATHER FRANK PAVONE
GUEST COLUMNIST



entrenched and their rationalization more difficult to undo. 'I personally don't approve, but clean, clinical terminations are much better than back street abortions'" (p.44).

One of the key responsibilities of the observer in the abortion tragic triangle is to reach out to the abortionist.

Ney, who has worked with many abortionists to lead them out of the abortion industry, comments, "The abortionist in one way or another is often appealing to the observers. 'Surely somehow, some way you could stop this. If you really persisted you could have stopped me from doing abortions. I may have resisted you, but I would have listened. At least, I think I could have been

influenced'" (p.25).

Testimony of former abortionists confirms this. Former abortion clinic operator Carol Everett relates the story of a preacher who came to visit her at her clinic:

"Through a long period of discussions, he told me that God had asked him to come into this situation for 30 days, and that there was indeed someone in there that the Lord wanted out. And we left in 27 days" (Testimony at Meet the Abortion Providers Conference, Chicago).

Former abortionist Tony Levatino had a patient who witnessed to him regularly before he stopped doing abortions. He relates, "I can tell you that if enough women come to you and say, 'I think you are a great doctor. We have gotten along very well, but I can't go to you anymore because you perform abortions,' this can have a real effect.

"As I said, to most of the average gynecologists in their offices, abortion is not a big part of their business. If they see another part of their business going out the door because of it, it will make it cost them more than it's worth" (Testimony at Meet the Abortion Providers Conference, Chicago).

Observers have the power to stop the perpetrators.

Father Pavone is national director of Priests for Life.

Marked for life

The Human Side

FATHER EUGENE HEMRICK
CNS COLUMNIST



GOD'S LOVE CONTINUES TO INSPIRE ALL TO ENHANCE WORLD

As I was flying back to Chicago to attend my seminary high school reunion, I wondered how many of my classmates I would recognize after 50 years. And when I walked in, I couldn't call to mind the name of the first classmate I met.

Suddenly I found myself practicing an old trick — focusing on high school classmates while at the same time taking a sneak look at their name tags.

As would be expected, we had changed. Time had reconfigured our faces, hairlines and hair color, and waistlines. But once we began to converse it was as if these changes suddenly disappeared; we became our youthful selves again.

A lively spirit and the joy of being reunited suddenly coursed through the room.

At first we shared our life's journeys. From there the conversation switched to recalling enjoyable times we shared and, most of all, the hilarious professors who taught us.

This anniversary was more than a walk down memory lane. It exuded a spirit of gratitude, thankfulness that God in some mysterious way brought us together during our most formative years.

More than studies and formation, we were celebrating each other: the time when we forged friendships and supported each other during good and not-so-good moments.

It was a celebration of bonding. We studied hard together, played hard together, and together we often laughed our way out of trying situations.

As I listened to the journeys taken by classmates who didn't go forward in the seminary, I found that most recounted good deeds they had done of which they were proud.

Often those deeds translated into works of mercy.

It struck me that we had been marked by God, a mark that is indelible.

A love of God had driven us to aspire to spread that love and make the world a better place. Once that spirit enters people's lives, it never stops inspiring them, whether it prompts them to become priests or to aspire to another walk of life.

When a good person leaves the seminary, many see this as a loss. But if we conducted a study of ex-seminarians, we would find that the spirit of God that first inspired them is very much at work — that in so very many cases these men still carry out the dream of spreading God's life.

Taking Memorial Day more seriously

Soldiers in battle deserve more than flag-waving, speeches

What is the purpose of Memorial Day? Is it to pay tribute to those who lost their lives in past and present wars? Is it to remember their selfless sacrifice? Of course, yes.

But young men and women ordered into battle by the president and Congress deserve more than flag-waving and political speeches. We owe them our willingness to reflect deeply on the real reasons they were — and continue to be — put in harm's way.

Most government leaders are quick to say their lives were put on the line to protect us, to promote democracy and to preserve our way of life.

But what they don't say is that the lust for power and greed, arrogance, nationalism, the military industrial complex, lack of imagination and ineptitude are the real reasons young people are sent to kill and be killed.

From elementary school through adulthood, it is drummed into our heads that military strength brings peace. No! Military strength does not bring peace.

Possessing a mighty military presents us with a mighty temptation to use it. The two Iraq wars and Afghanistan

are the latest examples.

And even though the Cold War never became a hot war, nuclear deterrence always put us 20 minutes away from mutually assured destruction — and it still does.

Facing the truth is difficult and painful. It means that wives, husbands, mothers, fathers must come to grips with the fact that their loved ones may die in vain.

But that need not be the case. Their deaths will have had saving merit if we grow to the point of saying to those in power, as Pope Paul VI said at the United Nations:

"No more war. Never again war! Peace! It is peace, which must guide the destinies of peoples. ... If you wish to be brothers, lay down your weapons. ... The hour has struck indeed for our conversion. ... We must get used to thinking of man in a new way."

There is only one death in war that would be good: the death of war itself. But sadly, war is alive and well.

Most Americans — most Catholics included — have no intention of demanding that our leaders pursue a policy of global disarmament.

Making a Difference

TONY MAGLIANO
CNS COLUMNIST



More than 20 years ago the Maryknoll Fathers produced a film titled "gods of metal." It drove home the point that society worships its weapons — its gods of metal.

Today that worship is more costly than ever. The proposed 2007 U.S. federal budget allocates \$73 billion for research and development related to new weaponry and \$84 billion for the purchase of existing weapons and related items.

Turning from worship of military might to worship of the one true God — the God of peace — will require us to heed the teachings of Paul VI and become brothers and sisters to all people.

As we begin to grasp the hands of Iraqis, Afghans, Iranians, North Koreans and people of all nations and creeds, we will be inspired to lay down our weapons.

But all of this demands a change of heart. There is too much at stake for us to remain in denial. Paul VI's prophetic words are even more urgent today:

"The hour has struck indeed for our conversion. ... We must get used to thinking of man in a new way."

And we must get used to thinking of Memorial Day in a new way too.

Family bonds

Need for family drives Get on the Bus program in California

BY NANCY HARTNAGEL
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — The need for family is what's driving Get on the Bus, a program that enables children to visit their mothers in California state prisons.

For some prisoners, "to be separated from their families is very painful," said Mercy Sister Carmel Crimmins, coordinator of the program for the Diocese of San Bernardino, where she is director of social and community services.

Staying connected to families is important for prisoners, she said, "because no visits, no calls militates against a good transition back into the community, the society."

Sister Louise Bond, Catholic chaplain at the California Institution for Women in Corona, said that through Get on the Bus many women are seeing "their children for the first time since they were incarcerated."

One prisoner last year "hadn't seen her daughter in 16 years," said Sister Bond, a member of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary.

The two religious talked about Get on the Bus — which takes place close to Mother's Day and this year was held May 12 — in e-mail and phone interviews with Catholic News Service.

Sister Crimmins said it was "the plight of families" that got the San Bernardino Diocese involved in the program five years ago.

The Corona facility, which holds more than 2,000 inmates, is the only state prison for women in the diocese.

"However, many women from San Bernardino are incarcerated in Chowchilla, six and one-half hours' journey from here," she said. "These are the women we try to help by bringing their children to see them."

In Chowchilla, Valley State Prison and the Central California Women's Facility house more than 7,400 women, with 75 percent of them mothers, according to a Get on the Bus press release.

The program is sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph Ministerial Services with support from local volunteers, donors, faith communities and nonprofit organizations.



CNS PHOTO BY TIM RUE

Heaven Hall enjoys a swing with her mother, Yolanda, at the California Institute for Women in Chino, Calif., May 12. Heaven was visiting her mother during Get on the Bus, a program scheduled annually in anticipation of Mother's Day that enables children to visit their mothers in California state prisons.

This year, 31 buses from cities around the state took more than 600 children, along with their guardians — many of them the children's grandmothers — and volunteers, to visit their mothers in five state prisons.

Poverty and distance, with many of the prisons located far from urban centers, prevent more frequent visits, the nuns said.

Four of those buses originated in the San Bernardino Diocese. One from Perris and two from San Bernardino made the long round trip to the Chowchilla prisons, while one starting in Redlands went to the Corona prison and the California Rehabilitation Center in Norco.

The program in the diocese has doubled in five years, Sister Crimmins noted. The number of women visited has grown from 20 to 40, the number of

children and guardians from 35 to 70, and the number of volunteers helping on the buses and with lunch at the prisons from 15 to 30.

This year the cost of the diocese's participation was about \$16,000, all "covered by donation," Sister Crimmins said.

In addition to hiring the buses, the program pays for supplies and meals for

the trip. Also, the children are photographed with their mothers, and on the way home they're given teddy bears and letters from their moms.

The response by people in the diocese "has been phenomenal," Sister Crimmins said.

"Parishioners, Catholic associations and religious communities have been very generous with donations," she said.

She has heard comments like: "I knew women went to prison but I never thought of the children," "I never knew that women were sent so far away," and "It never dawned on me how impossible it would be to visit on public transportation."

"The vast majority (of the women) are not in prison for violent crimes but for addictions and money problems, such as bad checks and embezzlement," said Sister Crimmins. "An awful lot don't need punishment, but need treatment."

Sister Bond, who called the program "a great gift," said the prisoners "who have to be away from their children are often stressed and having the opportunity for a visit brings a lot of joy and hope for the future."

She reported positive feelings from many who participated in the May 12 event.

Among the prisoners, Junier De Young, 33, said, "It feels great to see how beautiful my girls are turning out."

Maria Gastelum, 37, described the visit as "the best thing that's ever happened to me in a long time."

Yolanda Hall, 35, said, "It feels just like heaven. This is a day to remember."

The children were also upbeat. Monique Gastelum, 19, said she was "overwhelmed with excitement. ... This is one of the happiest days I've had in about four years."

Chris Pasquotto, 14, said, "I got to see my mom today and I adore her. There is no one in the world I have like my mom."

But 8-year-old Carlie Villegas sounded a more subdued note.

"It breaks my heart to see my mom cry," the child said.

WALK WHERE JESUS WALKED ON A DIOCESAN-SPONSORED PILGRIMAGE TO

THE HOLY LAND

September 5 – 14

with Fr. James Hawker, Diocesan Vicar
of Education and Pastor, St. Luke Church

Deepen your understanding of our Catholic faith and watch the pages of the Bible come alive as you experience daily Mass at many of the historical sites of our faith.

Highlights include:

- Tiberias, Mt. Carmel, Sea of Galilee area
- Mt. Tabor, Cana, Nazareth – Jesus' boyhood area
- Capernaum, Mount of Beatitudes, River Jordan
- Jerusalem area: Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Via Dolorosa, Lord's Tomb at Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Mount Zion, Upper Room, Dormition Abbey, Wailing Wall
- Dead Sea (excavations and scrolls), Masada, Holocaust memorial
- Bethlehem's historic sites - PLUS much more!

Price: \$2,499 from Charlotte (\$2,599 after June 22) includes airfare, most meals, first-class hotels and all tours. Airport taxes/fees, tips and insurance are extra.

Call Cindi Feerick at 704/370-3332 for a brochure with complete details or Pentecost Tours 800/713-9800 for registration.

Earthbound ANGELS...

POSITIONS AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY
HOME HELPERS, COMPANIONS & CNA'S



Join our team of people who make a real difference in the lives of seniors —

Home Instead Senior Care is seeking friendly and dependable people in the Mecklenburg County area to provide home care assistance and companionship to seniors.

Call 704-344-9739

8 AND 12 HOUR SHIFTS AVAILABLE
Part Time, Full Time, AM/PM and Weekend Hours
Position requires a vehicle.

Home Instead
SENIOR CARE®



Answering God's call

Five new
transitional
deacons ordained

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — A group of men recently took important steps toward fulfilling their vocational callings.

In two separate ceremonies, five men were ordained to the transitional diaconate, the final stage of preparation for ordination to the priesthood.

Richard Gerard DeClue Jr. and Fred Werth were ordained as transitional deacons by Archbishop Edwin F. O'Brien, head of the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services, in the Crypt Church at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. March 25. Archbishop O'Brien celebrated the Mass.

See DEACONS, page 5

Building his paradise

DOMINO FOUNDER'S PLAN FOR
TOWN NEAR CATHOLIC
UNIVERSITY SPARKS DEBATE

BY TOM TRACY
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — A Catholic philanthropist's plans to develop a town around the new site of a Catholic university in Florida has raised concerns from critics both within and outside church circles.

But Tom Monaghan remains firm in his

See DEBATE, page 12



COURTESY PHOTO BY THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Deacons Fred Werth and Richard DeClue lie prostrate during their ordination as transitional deacons in the Crypt Church at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. March 25. Archbishop Edwin F. O'Brien celebrated the Mass.

Preferring Bible over Brown Catholics not swayed by 'Da Vinci Code,' according to poll

BY MARK PATTISON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — According to a poll released May 15, American Catholics aren't likely to be swayed by the claims made in the novel "The Da Vinci Code."

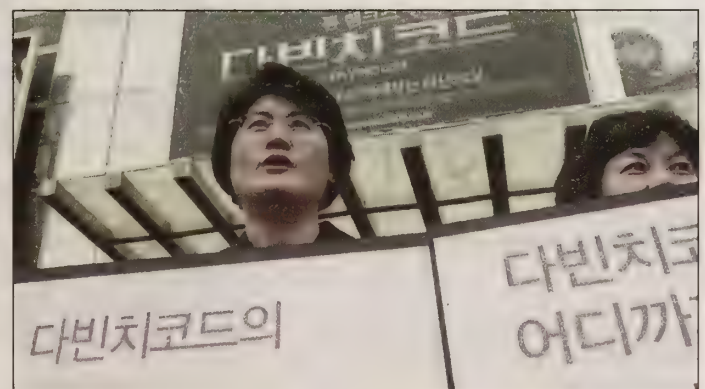
A nationwide telephone survey of U.S. Catholics found that 42 percent intend to "seek the

truth" — one of the catch phrases in the book and in promotions for the film version that opened May 19 — by studying the Bible more closely.

In the poll more people said they would consult the Bible than any other source.

According to the survey, two-thirds of Catholics who

See BIBLE, page 13



CNS PHOTO BY KIM KYUNG-HOON, REUTERS

South Korean Christians picket in front of a theater advertising "The Da Vinci Code" movie in Seoul May 18. The slogans on the signs read "The content of 'The Da Vinci Code' is not a fact," and "The Da Vinci Code' is no more than fiction."

COMBATING A PERSISTENT PROBLEM

Diocesan schools work to prevent bullying

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Bullying is such a serious issue that the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta monitor it as a "child-risk behavior," according to Lynne Lang, a school community health educator in St. Louis.

In fact, she said 160,000 children stay home from school each day because they're afraid of someone at their schools.

One in six children identified as bullies by age 8 will be in the criminal justice system by age 24, Lang added. One in eight will be linked to domestic violence by age 30.

Bullying can come in many forms, according to Lang. It can be verbal, physical or emotional; it can be gender-based, she said, and there is

See BULLY, page 7

'Many Parts, One Body'

Small Christian
communities explored

| PAGE 6

Culture Watch

Prayer on air; beware fake
Vatican organist

| PAGES 10-11

Perspectives

Meeting the pope; overcoming
worries with prayer

| PAGES 14-15

#BXNPDVQ*****3-DIGIT 275
#420836#
NC COLLECTION
UNC
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

THE PERFECT BABYSITTER



CNS PHOTO BY SARAH WEBB, CATHOLIC STANDARD & TIMES

Joseph McCabe cradles his brother Riley, now 18 months old, after Riley fell asleep at St. Cecilia Church in Philadelphia. Joseph will always remember the day he saved the life of Riley, then 9 months old. The 13-year-old Boy Scout performed the Heimlich maneuver on the infant after he swallowed a piece of tape and began choking.

Catholic Boy Scout honored for saving baby brother's life

PHILADELPHIA (CNS) — Joseph McCabe will always remember July 20, 2005 as the day he saved the life of his baby brother Riley, who was then 9 months old.

Just three weeks before Riley accidentally swallowed a piece of tape he found on the floor, Joseph had learned the Heimlich maneuver and cardiopulmonary resuscitation through the Boy Scouts.

"I thank them a lot, because they give you a lot of opportunities and teach you a lot of different skills," the 13-year-old said.

For his heroics, Joseph was awarded a Boy Scouts of America merit medal following a recent Mass at St. Cecilia Church.

When the accident occurred, Joseph was talking on the telephone with his mother, who had called home to check on the boys while she was awaiting a doctor's appointment at Holy Redeemer Hospital in Meadowbrook.

Joseph threw down the phone and rushed to his baby brother.

"His face was all red. I just did the Heimlich maneuver ... right away," he said. And up came the tape.

"After it came out, he started laughing," Joseph said of Riley's reaction.

Diane McCabe, the boys' mother, had called 911 immediately after she heard her oldest son throw down the phone.

Emergency personnel arrived within minutes, but Joseph had already finished examining his baby brother, picked him up and was walking him around the house.

The emergency personnel further examined Riley, "but he was just laughing the whole time," Joseph said.

The boys' father, Philadelphia police officer Joseph McCabe, recalled what he saw when he arrived home.

"When I got in the door, the fireman said, 'Slow down, he's fine. Joey took care of it,'" the father said. "He's a very good role model for the other boys. We really thank the Boy Scouts for what they taught him. He knew exactly what to do."

Diane McCabe also applauded the courage and quickness of their eldest son.

"He was certified in CPR, he was a Boy Scout — he was everything you would want in a baby sitter," she said.

Joseph said he enjoys teaching his little brothers about the Catholic faith, playing sports with them and "keeping them on track."

The drama of Riley's accident reminded Joseph that "you shouldn't take life for granted, because things can happen in minutes."

Instead, Joseph said, "You shouldn't think about what you want (in life), but what other people need — and how you should take care of other people."

Bishops urge Congress to assist more hurricane victims, Haitians

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The chairmen of two key bishops' committees urged special attention to the poor in Haiti and to U.S. hurricane victims in need of housing as a House-Senate conference committee began work on a supplemental appropriations bill.

In a May 19 letter to the conference committee, Bishops Nicholas DiMarzio and Thomas G. Wenski urged support for those "two essential areas of funding" in the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror and Hurricane Recovery 2006.

Bishop DiMarzio of Brooklyn, N.Y., heads the U.S. bishops' Committee on Domestic Policy, and Bishop Wenski of Orlando, Fla., chairs the Committee on International Policy.

The bishops said the reconciled appropriations bill should include at least \$100 million for rental housing assistance for low-income households in the Gulf Coast region and \$40 million "for the

urgent needs of Haiti," the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere.

The \$100 million for hurricane housing assistance, approved in the Senate version of the appropriations bill, would support 13,500 housing vouchers for poor working families, seniors and people with disabilities living in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Texas and Florida.

"The states and local governments of the Gulf are struggling to provide help to the hundreds of thousands of families who need housing assistance," the bishops said. "Unfortunately, those efforts do not reach a huge number of families still seeking affordable housing, those with the lowest incomes."

Catholic agencies in the area report that "rent in the hardest-hit areas has risen by 25 percent or more," the two bishops added. "Without assistance, the working poor, senior citizens and people with disabilities will find it impossible to afford housing."

Diocesan planner

BOONE VICARIATE

SPARTA — If you or anyone you know has been affected by abortion, the *Rachel Network Evening of Prayer for Healing after Abortion* will help you experience the peace of healing. The anonymous evening of Scripture and meditation will take place at St. Frances of Rome Church, 29 Highland Dr., June 7 at 7 p.m. For more information, call (336) 657-8013.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — A free program for adults, "Children on the Internet," will focus on the risks of the Internet, particularly to children. The program will take place in the parish hall of St. John Neumann Church, 8451 Idlewild Rd., May 31 at 7:30 p.m. Speakers will address how children are approached and exploited through the computer and how to work with your children and set guidelines; plus some down-to-earth practical information on what you can do on your computer to help protect young users. For more information, call Chris Schneider at (704) 566-8818.

CHARLOTTE — A *Blood Drive*, hosted by The Community Blood Center of the Carolinas, will take place at the diocesan Pastoral Center June 15, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. All donors will receive a free T-shirt. If you are interested in giving blood for a good cause, please contact Sherry at (704) 370-3357 to sign up.

CHARLOTTE — *Fostering Justice Worldwide*, sponsored by the diocesan Office of Justice and Peace, will share Catholic Relief Services (CRS) stories. This free event will take place at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., St., June 24, 1:30-5 p.m. The

program will provide an overview of Catholic social teaching, CRS-related work in the Diocese of Charlotte, CRS work in Africa, presentations on effective advocacy and more. This event will be repeated in Newton Sept. 9 and in Stoneville Nov. 4. For specific details about the Saturday afternoon events please call the Office of Justice and Peace at (704) 370-3234 or (704) 370-3225, or e-mail justicepeace@charlottdiocese.org.

CHARLOTTE — *Pathfinders*, a peer-leadership support group for separated and divorced adults, offers education, support and fellowship through the divorce process. The group meets Tuesdays, 7:30-9 p.m., in St. Gabriel Church's Ministry Building, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, call Nancy at (704) 752-0318.

CHARLOTTE — The *St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order* gathers the first Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. at Our Lady of Consolation Church, 2301 Statesville Ave. Those interested in learning more about the SFO and the Franciscan way of life are invited to attend. For more information, call Tom O'Loughlin at (704) 947-7235.

CHARLOTTE — *TGIF on Wednesday* is a support group for separated or divorced women and men. All are welcome to join us for encouragement and discussion with others making similar journeys at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. in the New Life Center, Room 114. If you have any questions, call Bonnie Motuz at (704) 543-8998.

GASTONIA VICARIATE

BELMONT — *First Saturday Devotions* take place on the first Saturday of each month at Belmont Abbey Basilica, 100 Belmont-Mt. Holly Rd. Devotion begins at 9:30 a.m. with the recitation of the rosary, followed by reconciliation and Mass. For more information, call Phil or Terri at (704) 888-6050.

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jurgis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottdiocese.org

MAY 26, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 32

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Pope says devotion to Sacred Heart helps Catholics focus on love

We should respond to call of God, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus helps Catholics focus on the reality of God's love and their obligation to love others, Pope Benedict XVI said.

In the Sacred Heart, "we can recognize in an ever clearer way the limitless love God has for us," the pope wrote in a May 15 letter.

The papal letter was addressed to Father Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, superior general of the Society of Jesus, in recognition of the Jesuits' efforts to promote the devotion throughout the church over the past 150 years.

In 2006, the church celebrates the feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus June 23.

Pope Benedict said the devotion

acquires its deepest meaning only when people express their awareness of God's love by dedicating their lives to his service.

"The experience of the love of God is lived as a 'call' to which one must respond," the pope said.

Gazing upon Jesus' "pierced heart" is a reminder that he took on the sufferings and sins of all humanity, which "helps us become more attentive to the suffering and needs of others," Pope Benedict said.

"It makes us able to entrust ourselves to his saving and merciful love and, at the same time, reinforces our desire to participate in his work of salvation by becoming his instruments," the pope said.

the first Thursday of each month in Sebastian Chapel of St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St. NE, at 7 p.m. For further information, contact Joan Moran (828)-327-0487.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

MURPHY — A Charismatic Prayer Group meets Fridays at 3:45 p.m. in the Commons of St. William Church, 765 Andrews Rd. join us for praise music, witness, teaching, prayers and laying on of hands for those in need. For more details, call Gery Dashner at (828) 494-2683.

FRANKLIN — *Respect Life* meets the first Wednesday of every month after the 5:30 p.m. Mass in the Family Life Center at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 299 Maple St. All those interested in promoting the sanctity of human life are invited to attend. For more information, contact Julie Taster at (828) 349-9813 or jatastinger@aol.com.

WAYNESVILLE — Adult Education Classes are held the first three Wednesday evenings of each month beginning at 6:45 p.m. in the St. John the Evangelist Church Social Hall, 234 Church St. For more information, call Charles Luce at (828) 648-7369 or e-mail luce54@aol.com.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Peace entails religious freedom, pope tells diplomats to the Vatican

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Peace and justice in the world require respect for religious freedom, solidarity, policies that look beyond economic gain and respect for the environment, Pope Benedict XVI told five new ambassadors to the Vatican.

"Peace is rooted in respect for religious freedom," the pope said May 18, welcoming the ambassadors from Chad, India, Moldova, Cape Verde and Australia.

"It is important that throughout the world all people can adhere to the religion of their choice and practice it freely and without fear because no one can base his existence only on the search for material well-being," the pope said.

He also told the ambassadors that every country in the world has an obligation to work for the development of all peoples and to do so in a way that protects the earth's resources.

Pope Benedict said he appreciated India's commitment to tolerance and respect, but in the wake of attacks on minority churches and regional laws against conversion, he asked that the

government do more to make the commitment a reality.

Pope Benedict praised Australia's contributions to peacemaking and to development and disaster relief around the world, especially in the Asian Pacific region.

The social situation of the Aborigines, he said, "is cause for much pain" and needs ongoing attention.

The pope also told the ambassador he was looking forward, "God willing," to visiting Australia in 2008 to preside over World Youth Day festivities.

Ambassador Anne Maree Plunkett told the pope, "The Australian government encourages the Holy See's efforts to expand dialogue with China and Vietnam, and thereby contribute to the growth and development of civil society in both those countries."

While the Vietnamese government continues to exercise control over church activities, top Vatican and Vietnamese diplomats meet regularly to discuss the appointment of new bishops and limits on seminary enrollment.

The Vatican has no formal contacts with the Chinese government, however.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — All practicing Catholic women of Irish birth or descent, or who are the wife of a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, are invited to participate in the *Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians*, a social, cultural and charitable group for an ongoing series of fun and informative activities. LAOH will meet June 1 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Paul the Apostle Church, 2715 Horse Pen Creek Rd., in the Earl Louis Center. This will be the final meeting until fall. Please contact Marilyn Conte at (336) 632-1340 for further information.

HIGH POINT — Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 4145 Johnson St., will host an *International Festival* June 4, 4-7 p.m. Enjoy food, exhibits, dancers and musicians from around the world. Admission is free; everyone is asked to bring a generous sample of their favorite dish. For more information, call the church office at (336) 869-7739.

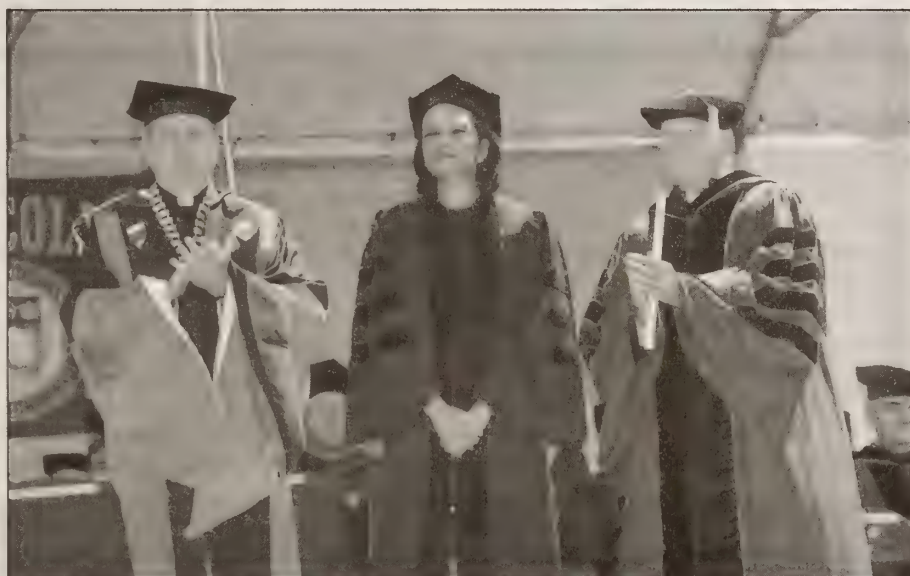
HIGH POINT — A free Charismatic Conference will be held at Maryfield Chapel, 1315 High Point Rd., starting June 16 at 7 p.m. A healing service will follow the presentation by Deacon Dennis and Elizabeth Chitwood from the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Deacon Chitwood will be the homilist at the 10 a.m. Mass June 17, followed by a second conference by Elizabeth Chitwood. Two final conferences will take place June 17, 2-5 p.m. For more information, call Deacon Ron or Bette Steinkamp at (336) 882-9717.

HICKORY VICARIATE

HENDERSONVILLE — The *Widows Lunch Bunch*, sponsored by Immaculate Conception Church, meets at a different restaurant on the first Wednesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. Reservations are necessary. For more information and reservations, call Joan Keagle at (828) 693-4733.

HICKORY — A Charismatic Mass is celebrated

Honoring Rice



CNS PHOTO COURTESY OF BOSTON COLLEGE

Jesuit Father William Leahy (left), president of Boston College, and Patrick Stokes, chairman of the board of trustees, applaud after presenting U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice with an honorary doctor of laws degree before the commencement ceremony at Boston College May 22.



Join us for the

Asheville Eucharistic Conference

Saturday - June 24 9 am to 1 pm

9 am - Mass with Bishop Peter Jugis - Basilica of St. Lawrence

10 am - Eucharistic Procession - through downtown Asheville

11 am - Eucharistic Holy Hour - Asheville Civic Center

12 Noon - Catholic Evangelist Patrick Madrid - "Mission to Evangelize, Search and Rescue" - Asheville Civic Center

Info: www.GoEucharist.com or (828) 684-6098

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

May 27 — 10 a.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
Sacred Heart Church, Salisbury

May 27 — 2 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
Sacred Heart Church, Salisbury

May 29 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. Philip the Apostle Church, Statesville

May 30 — 6 p.m.
Celebration of 25th anniversary of priestly ordination, Father Carl Del Giudice
Sacred Heart Church, Brevard

Honoring commitment

Holy Angels employees recognized for outstanding work

BELMONT — Holy Angels recently awarded two employees with North Carolina Association for Residential Resources (NORCARR) achievement of excellence awards for 2006.

These highly coveted awards recognize outstanding job performance consistently displayed by a Holy Angels employee of at least one year. Nominees for both awards, the Ann Wolfe Award and the Virginia Franks Achievement of Excellence Award, are recommended by their co-workers through a formal nominating process.

Regina Moody, president and CEO of Holy Angels, announced the winners during a celebration with Holy Angels staff May 10.

Barbara Haley of Charlotte received the Ann Wolfe Award for outstanding service. She has served the residents of Holy Angels since 1992, most recently as home coordinator of an intermediate care

facility for the mentally retarded.

The award is named in honor of Dr. Ann Wolfe, who served as an advocate for individuals with developmental disabilities. It is presented to a direct care professional who works directly with the residents at Holy Angels.

Elizabeth Withers of Gastonia received the Virginia Franks award. She is a registered nurse and serves as a nursing supervisor at Holy Angels.

The award was established in 1991 in honor of Virginia Franks to recognize individuals who serve in roles other than direct care.

"For fifty years, Holy Angels' employees have cared deeply for our residents and committed themselves to their care," said Moody. "(The winners) set and achieve high standards and are an inspiration to all of us."

Haley and Withers will be honored during the annual NORCARR banquet in

Raleigh June 8.

NORCARR was incorporated in 1975 by administrators of agencies who care for individuals with developmental disabilities, primarily in residential settings, for the purpose of sharing knowledge, experience and expertise in the field of mental retardation.

Founded in 1956 by the Sisters of Mercy, Holy Angels is a private, nonprofit corporation that provides residential services and innovative programs for children and adults with varying degrees of mental retardation and physical disabilities, some of whom are medically fragile.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information about Holy Angels, visit www.holyangelsnc.org.



COURTESY PHOTO

Barbara Haley and Beth Winters, employees at Holy Angels in Belmont, will receive their 2006 NORCARR Achievement of Excellence Awards in Raleigh June 8.

A doctorate in the motherhouse

Mercy Sister McNamara defends thesis, earns doctorate

BELMONT — Mercy Sister Ray Maria McNamara recently received her philosophy doctorate from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, Calif.

She earned the doctorate degree May 11 after successfully writing and defending her thesis entitled, "Interdependence and the God Quest: A Christian Ecological Spirituality."

The thesis provides a study of a Christian ecological spirituality focusing on the integration of humanity's interdependence with the created world and the self-transcending experience of a life centered in God.

Examinations of biblical text, theological anthropology, spirituality and environmental philosophy provide its foundational elements and suggest an

attitude of contemplation toward God that is inclusive of the natural world.

Sister McNamara earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Clemson University in South Carolina, received a master's degree in administration from the University of St. Thomas in Minnesota and a master's degree in systematic theology from the Graduate Theological Union in California.

She has taught, served as principal or as a department chair at numerous diocesan and private schools in the Charlotte and Gaston County areas, including Charlotte Catholic High School and St. Patrick School in Charlotte, Sacred Heart Grade School in Belmont and Gaston Day School in Gastonia.

Celebrating service



COURTESY PHOTO

Father Gnanapragasam Mariasoosai (center), administrator of Our Lady of the Angels Church in Marion, is joined by parishioners during a Mass at which he celebrated his 25th anniversary to the priesthood.

Father Mariasoosai came to serve as resident priest and administrator of the church in September 2003. Originally from the Archdiocese of Madurai in South India, he served as pastor of St. Joseph Church in Spanish Town, Jamaica, before coming to the Diocese of Charlotte.

Since Father Mariasoosai's arrival, the church has enjoyed a new level of spiritual and community life, revitalized through the dedicated commitment shown by its administrator, who has learned two new languages and cultures.

Church members have responded with grateful affection, and service to the church and community has grown significantly.



COURTESY PHOTO

Mercy Sister Ray Maria McNamara (second from left) stands with fellow Sisters of Mercy and James Donohue, president of Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, Calif., after receiving her doctorate May 11. Pictured (from left): Mercy Sister Mary Jerome Spradley, Sister McNamara, Donohue, and Mercy Sisters Pauline Clifford and Ann Marie Wilson.

ABBOTSWOOD SENIOR LIVING



For more than 17 years, Abbotswood at Irving Park has built a reputation on providing exemplary retirement living services to independent seniors. Residents enjoy the largest 1 and 2 bedroom floorplans in Irving Park, delicious meals, a full-time wellness director and month-to-month rental with NO BUY-IN FEES. Optional in-home health care services are available. Call today to schedule your personal tour.

(336) 282-8870

ABBOTSWOOD
at Irving Park

The only full service retirement living address in the heart of Irving Park
3504 Flint Street • Greensboro, NC 27405 • www.kiscoseniorliving.com

VOCATIONS

Five new transitional deacons ordained

DEACONS, from page 1

Washington, D.C. March 25.

John Patrick Cahill, Patrick Timothy Hoare and Patrick Daniel Toole were ordained by Auxiliary Bishop Joseph R. Cistone of Philadelphia in St. Martin Chapel at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Wynnewood, Pa., May 13.

The new deacons committed themselves to celibacy and to the obligations of ministry — serving the sick, the poor, the needy.

"It is a tremendous blessing for the Diocese of Charlotte to have these five men give themselves over to our Lord in service to his church," said Father Christopher Gober, vocations director for the Diocese of Charlotte.

The road to the priesthood is marked by a series of milestones: lector, acolyte, candidacy, transitional deacon, priestly ordination.

During the rite of ordination of a deacon, the candidates are called forth to make promises of celibacy and vows of obedience.

The bishop lays his hands on their heads and asks the Holy Spirit to descend upon the candidates. The candidates are then vested with the dalmatic and stole and kneel before the bishop, who places in their hands the Book of Gospels. As deacons, they assist during the rest of the Mass.

As deacons, they can preach, assist priests at the altar during the Liturgy of the Eucharist; officiate at weddings, baptisms and funerals; and administer blessings during certain liturgical rites.

Deacon DeClue

"I am truly thankful to God for calling me to serve his church as a deacon, and



COURTESY PHOTO

Newly-ordained transitional deacons are pictured after their ordination ceremony at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Wynnewood, Pa., May 13. Back row (from left): Father Christopher Gober, vocations director for the Diocese of Charlotte; Deacons Patrick Toole, Patrick Hoare and John Cahill. Front row (from left): Msgr. Michael Fitzgerald, seminary vice rector; Cardinal Anthony Bevilacqua, retired archbishop of Philadelphia; Auxiliary Bishop Joseph R. Cistone of Philadelphia; Auxiliary Bishop Michael F. Burbidge of Philadelphia; Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus Louis A. DeSimone of Philadelphia; and Msgr. Joseph Prior, seminary rector.

eventually as a priest, for the salvation of souls," said Deacon DeClue.

Deacon DeClue, a native of Columbus, Ohio, earned a dual major in pre-veterinary medicine and biology at Ohio's University of Findlay before transferring to Belmont Abbey College to major in theology.

While discerning his vocation, he accepted a scholarship for graduate studies in theology at Boston College. After one year in Boston, Deacon DeClue applied to the Diocese of Charlotte for seminary studies, and has been studying at

Theological College in Washington, D.C.

"It is humbling to realize that one is being called to be Christ for others, a task which one cannot perform but by the grace of God," said Deacon DeClue.

"As such, it is both a tremendous gift and a grave responsibility; one that I would not give up for anything else in the world," he said.

Deacon Werth

"Anyone who knows even the bare outline of the story of my call to the priesthood will recognize immediately the hand of God on my life," said Deacon Werth, a native of Radford, Va.

Born a Presbyterian, Deacon Werth graduated from Virginia Military Institute; married his wife, Patricia; and reported to flight school for the U.S. Air Force in 1970. Upon leaving the service, he entered the University of Virginia, intending to become a lawyer.

In 1986, as the father of three children, he began attending St. Frances of Rome Church in Sparta, N.C., and joined the RCIA classes. He soon found himself having a conversion of faith.

After the deaths of his wife and daughter, Sally, in 2002, Deacon Werth was supported through the tragedy by Father Mark Lawlor, pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Church in Charlotte, and soon found himself called to the priesthood.

He studies for the priesthood at Blessed Pope John XXIII Seminary in Weston, Mass.

"There is nothing greater in this world than to be called to the priesthood of Jesus Christ," said Deacon Werth. "For me, it is life."

Deacon Cahill

Deacon Cahill first considered the priesthood while playing baseball and football at Charlotte Catholic High School.

"So many priests I met during high school and college invited me to think about becoming a priest, most especially

Holy hour for the ordinandi

Bishop requests presence, prayers for new priests

CHARLOTTE — Bishop Peter J. Jugis and priests of the Diocese of Charlotte invite people to join them in praying for the intentions of the diocese's next priests.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, evening prayer and Benediction will be held at St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte, 5-6 p.m., June 2.

Deacon Alejandro Ayala and Deacon James Stuhrenberg will be ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Jugis at St. Patrick Cathedral, 10 a.m., June 3.

Bishop (William G.) Curlin," recalled Deacon Cahill. "I was so impressed with how joyful he was as a priest, and I was inspired by that."

After completing his sophomore year at Belmont Abbey College, he entered the seminary program for the Diocese of Charlotte. He spent three years at Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., earning bachelor's and master's degrees in philosophy. He is now studying for the priesthood at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary.

His time at seminary, as well as his summer assignments in parishes in the Diocese of Charlotte, have reaffirmed his decision.

"It has made it all the more clear that this choice was a right fit for me," he said.

Deacon Cahill said he is excited by the challenge of "preaching the Gospel in a society that is hungry for it."

"I hope to inspire others to a closer, more joyful relationship with Christ," he said.

Deacon Hoare

Deacon Hoare, a native of Willow Grove, Pa., earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Pennsylvania's LaSalle University and a master's from Drexel University.

He worked for 14 years for Liberty Mutual Group in Philadelphia and Baltimore, Md., in its underwriting and financial departments, leaving the company as vice president of underwriting.

He followed his calling toward the priesthood, and is studying at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary.

"Each of us is called in a special way by God so that his kingdom might be realized," said Deacon Hoare.

"I am humbled and excited by my call to holy orders, and I ask for the prayers of the people of the Diocese of Charlotte that I may serve them with humility and holiness," he said.

Deacon Toole

A native of Voorhees, N.J., Deacon Toole was enrolled at Belmont Abbey College until 2000, when he left to enter the seminary and pursue his vocational calling.

His first year was at Catholic University in Washington, D.C.; he transferred to St. Charles Borromeo in 2001.

"It is an incredible gift to discover what God has called me to be and, most importantly, to grow in a deeper knowledge and love of his Son and to be able to serve his people," said Deacon Toole.

Seeking healing and forgiveness after an abortion?

Experience God's love and compassion once again —

The Charlotte Diocese
Respect Life Office of Catholic
Social Services offers help to
both men and women, in
confidence, at **704-370-3229**.



You may also want to visit Rachel's Vineyard Web site at www.rachelsvineyard.org for helpful articles, retreat information and other direction to new hope and meaning for your future.



'Many Parts, One Body'

Diocesan conference explores small Christian communities

BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY
CORRESPONDENT

GREENSBORO — Speaking in both English and Spanish, Bishop Peter J. Jugis encouraged people to build and strengthen small Christian communities within their parishes.

Bishop Jugis spoke during "We are Christ's Building Blocks: Many Parts, One Body," the second annual diocesan conference on small Christian communities. The bilingual event, sponsored by the diocesan Office of Faith Formation, was held at St. Paul the Apostle Church in Greensboro May 20.

Bishop Jugis reminded those in attendance to be strong in their faith and to build upon the small group ideas, presented during the event, back within their own parishes.

In North America, small Christian (or church) communities are usually parish-based groups of eight to 12 people seeking to make their faith more alive in their daily lives.

While the emphasis differs from one group to another, generally their purposes include prayer, mutual support, reflection on Scripture and life, learning, mission and participation in the larger church.

Robin Taylor, a member of the diocesan resource team for small Church communities, said SCCs — as they are known by participants — work from within the church structure. The core groups meet and bring opportunities for parishes to grow in faith and service.

Conference participants learned about several SCCs and heard from speakers explaining how their groups function and carry out their goals.

Terry Zobel, director of adult religious education at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Alpharetta, Ga., gave the English keynote speech on turning SCCs from vision to reality.

Zobel, who coordinates more than 30 SCCs at her parish, said meeting in small groups can help people reflect on each other's experiences and discover

how God calls them in everyday life.

The best way to reflect on the Gospels, she said, is to reach out to others in your community. And a byproduct of SCCs is people going out and making changes in their world.

Father Jorge Noda, parochial vicar of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Miami, Fla., gave the Spanish keynote speech on SCCs and evangelization.

Using his experience working on program SINE (a Spanish acronym that translates as Holistic System for a New Evangelization), Father Noda stressed the importance of "going outside the walls" of the church to reach everyone as evangelizers of Jesus.

By doing so, all will be brought to participate in the church in more ways in the "big community" of the parish, he said.

Kathleen Muhonen, a parishioner of St. Paul the Apostle Church, presented a workshop on how parishes can start, sustain and continually revitalize various SCCs.

Muhonen, who has been involved with several SCCs, said groups can start through a process of faith-based sharing and reflection. For instance, she said, groups can bring their faith and the church to the elderly and homebound in the community.

Deacon Ron Steinkamp, a permanent deacon at St. Pius X Church in Greensboro, presented a workshop on the Cursillo movement as a vehicle of SCCs.



PHOTO BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY

People sign in for the second annual diocesan conference on small Christian communities at St. Paul the Apostle Church in Greensboro May 20.

The Cursillo ("little course") movement, which began in Spain in 1949 as a Christian renewal effort, seeks to promote individual and organized apostolic action. Deacon Steinkamp is the movement's spiritual director in the Diocese of Charlotte.

Similar to SCCs, Cursillo members — after a short introductory course — break into smaller groups to share and pray in order to evangelize and change their environment.

Deacon Steinkamp noted that effective evangelization involves bringing others to Christ through true Christian

love and truth.

"I came here (to the conference) to learn as much as I can to help my community," said Ibis Centeno, a parishioner of St. Therese Church in Mooresville.

The workshops, she said, provided helpful steps on tackling the social and spiritual necessities in her parish.

"I am motivated and looking to become involved in stewardship," she said.

Contact Correspondent Deacon Gerald Potkay by calling (336) 427-8218 or e-mail gpotkay@triad.rr.com.

JOIN US FOR A FUN-FILLED SUMMER!

MUSIC AND DRAMA CAMPS

KARL KASSNER'S SUMMER MUSIC CAMP
Open to all Brass Instruments
June 12-23
Cost: \$200.00 for one week
\$350 for two weeks
Contact:
Karl Kassner at 336-778-2409

GUITAR CAMP
June 26-30
Cost: \$190.00
Contact:
Alan Hirsh at 336-564-1044

SUMMER STAGE CAMP
July 10-28
Registration Fee: \$25.00
Course Fee: \$325.00
Contact:
Sister Anne Thomas at 336-564-1002

MODEL UNITED NATIONS CAMP
Open to students in grades 7-12
June 19-23
From 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Cost: \$125.00 per participant
Contact:
David Seidel at 336-564-1047

ATHLETIC CAMPS

BOYS BASKETBALL CAMP
June 12-16 & July 10-14
Open to rising 3rd -8th graders
From 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
Cost: \$125.00
Contact:
Josh Thompson at 336-508-2550

GIRLS BASKETBALL CAMP
June 19-22
First Session: 9:00 - 11:00 am
Second Session: 12:00 - 2:00 pm
Cost: \$40.00 per session
\$75.00 for both sessions
Contact:
Valerie Thompson at 336-722-0589

CHEERLEADING CAMP
August 8-11
Open to all rising 1st-8th graders
From 8:30 am to 12:30 pm
Cost: \$65.00
Contact:
Lisa Forrester at 336-210-7112

www.bmhs.us
336.564.1010

OPEN TO STUDENTS OF ALL FAITHS

BISHOP MCGUINNESS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL | 1725 NC 66 SOUTH, KERNERSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

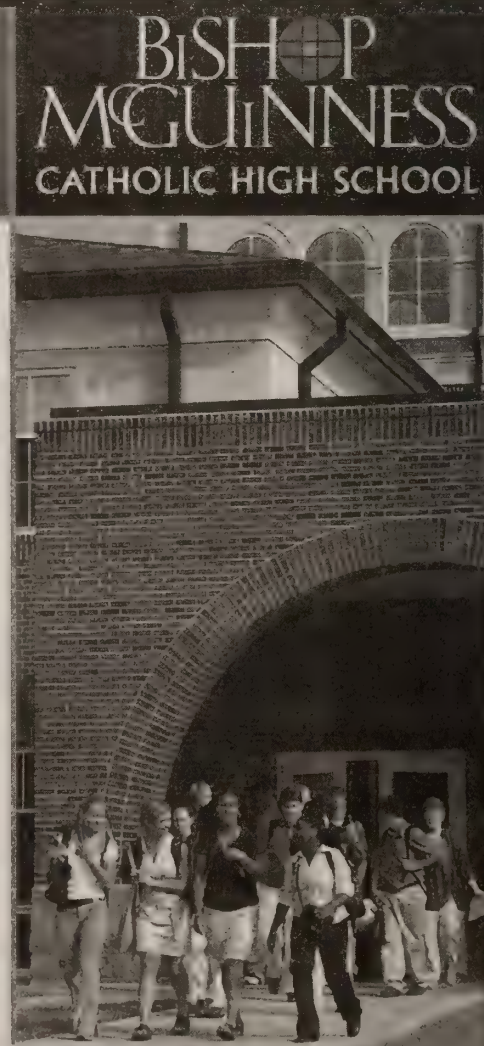


**Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center**

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus



IN OUR SCHOOLS

Diocesan schools work to prevent bullying

BULLY, from page 1

"cyberbullying" — bullying in cyberspace.

"Parents are ... clueless today about what goes on with computers," Lang said.

Gender-based bullying can be extremely harmful, she added. Of the 37 school-based attacks in the United States between 1974 and 1999, nearly every attacker had been bullied as a child.

In many Catholic schools in the Diocese of Charlotte, measures are in place to recognize, address and prevent bullying behaviors.

Terri Hardy, guidance director at St. Leo the Great School in Winston-Salem and Libby Jones, guidance counselor at Our Lady of Grace School in Greensboro, have implemented the "Witness for Christ" program at their respective schools.

Witness for Christ helps give voice to the bystanders in order to stop bullying behaviors and focuses on witnessing for Christ in one's life.

St. Leo the Great School administration, staff and parents work together to ensure cooperative approaches to dealing with bullying, according to Principal Georgette Schraeder.

"The School Improvement Plan includes proactive approaches to address bullying," she said. "Plans are in place for presentations at the opening of school to define and share strategies between home and school, and to ensure support for the efforts and consequences to stop the bullying."

The focus at Our Lady Grace

Teachers, parents and students must work together to "protect the dignity of every kid in (the) classroom."

— Lynn Lang, school community health educator

School is to have a clearly stated policy, and to educate the faculty, parents and students, focusing on "Witness" as a part of the "Bully, Target, Witness" triangle, Jones said.

"Bystanders constitute 80 percent of the equation and can use their 'witness' capabilities to defend the target and stop the bully," said Jones.

Leigh Ann Plemmons, guidance counselor at Sacred Heart School in Salisbury, addressed this issue of bullying with every grade this past school year.

"In the younger grades, I talk to them about what it means to be a good friend and about feelings, and I talk to them more specifically about how we should not hurt others with the things we say or do," said Plemmons. "I also make it clear to them that they should let someone know if someone is hurting them."

Teachers at St. Matthew School in Charlotte teach the students T.W.A. — Telling the bully to stop, Walking away to find another friend and Asking for help if the person continues to bully them.

Assistant Principal Kathy McKinney said this method is taught to all grade levels. An "Anti-Bully" pledge is also signed by parents, students and staff



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

One in six children identified as bullies by age 8 will be in the criminal justice system by age 24, according to Lynn Lang, a school community health educator in St. Louis. Bullying can come in many forms — verbal, physical, emotional. In many Catholic schools in the Diocese of Charlotte, measures are in place to recognize, address and prevent bullying behaviors.

stating the definition of bullying and the agreement that bullying will not be tolerated at the school. A similar pledge is signed by parents, students and staff of St. Ann School in Charlotte.

In policing bullying at recess — which Lang said was the most common time for bullying — she suggested the "New Games" approach of having concerted group activities to achieve goals rather than letting children figure out for themselves what is amusing.

New Games, a concept developed more than 30 years ago, are noncompetitive, cooperative activities such as group juggling

and verbal rhyming contests that promote fun and have no winners or losers.

Ultimately, teachers, parents and students alike must work together to end bullying.

"It's up to you to protect the dignity of every kid in your classroom," Lang said.

Contributing to this story was Mark Pattison of Catholic News Service.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

Hawaii

15 Days – 4 Islands: from \$1328*
Depart November 2, 2006

Join others on the most affordable two-week, four-island fully escorted Hawaiian vacation you'll ever find. Your group will fly to Honolulu for five nights in Waikiki, three nights on Kauai, two nights on Maui, one night in Hilo, and three nights in Kona. Sightseeing on every island includes: A Honolulu city tour with Punchbowl Crater and Pearl Harbor cruise to the Arizona Memorial, the Wailua riverboat cruise to the Fern Grotto, Iao Valley excursion & the old whaling capital of Lahaina, a Hilo orchid garden and Rainbow Falls, Black Sand Beaches, Volcanoes National Park and more! *Your price, from only \$1328 (per person, double occupancy) includes baggage handling, Hawaiian hotels, taxes, all flights between the islands, and escorted sightseeing on every island. Add \$700 for round trip airfare from Charlotte. 'Your Man' Tours specializes in Hawaii and has had its own office in Honolulu, offering carefree vacations, since 1967. This price is so low because travelers buy wholesale, directly from the actual Hawaiian tour operator. Friends and family are welcome! Space is limited and reservations with a \$100 deposit should be made now.

For information, reservations and brochure call 7 days a week:

'YOUR MAN' TOURS 1-800-968-7626

*St. Francis of Assisi & Father Andrew Draper
 present
 Pilgrimage to Fatima & Lourdes
 with Barcelona*



November 6, 2006

Highlights Include: Fatima • Aljustrel • Valinhos • Nazare • Alcobaca Monastery • Cathedral of Burgos • Lourdes • Grotto of Massabielle • Holy Hill • Carcassone • Barcelona • La Sagrada Familia

9 days from \$2079

Your package includes roundtrip air from Greensboro, hotel accommodations, hotel transfers, 7 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 6 dinners, special experiences such as worshiping in the Basilicas of Fatima and Lourdes, sightseeing and departure taxes and fees.

For information call Eddie Mitchell

336-774-1200 • 336-409-0111

606 S. Stratford • Winston Salem, NC

Office hours: Monday - Friday 8:30am - 5:30pm,
 Saturday 10am - 2pm



Kids helping kids



COURTESY PHOTO

First-grader Mackenzie, seventh-grader Kelsey and fifth-grader Cameron Bradford were the top fundraisers for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital during the math-a-thon at Our Lady of Grace School in Greensboro. They each raised \$330 for a total of \$990; Our Lady of Grace School raised a total of \$5,400 for the pediatric treatment and research facility in Memphis, Tenn.

The St. Jude math-a-thon, celebrating its 28th year, has been conducted in more than 53,000 schools nationwide and raises funds to continue life-saving research, patient care and educational programs at St. Jude Hospital.

Student 'math-a-thon' nets \$6,161.76

HENDERSONVILLE — Students at Immaculata School in Hendersonville recently raised more than \$6,000 during a "math-a-thon."

Every other year, students raise funds for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn. This year, students in kindergarten through eighth grades raised \$6,161.76 for the pediatric treatment and research facility.

Students found sponsors to support them as they worked approximately 200 math problems in a workbook or on a CD-ROM provided by St. Jude hospital.

In addition to helping children and researchers at St. Jude's, the students reinforced their math skills, according to Robin Chandler, media coordinator for Immaculata School.

Students earning the highest amount

in each grade level were recognized by the school. The overall top fundraiser was first-grader Camille Long.

Other students recognized were: kindergartener Royster Strickland, second-grader Kristian Gaylord, third-grader Kaitlyn Capps, fourth-grader Kayla Bray, fifth-grader Shelby Caruso, sixth-graders Megan Aubrey and Kortney Clark, and seventh-graders Mariah Guedes, Denise Hategan-Drajan and Hunter Kowald.

The fifth grade had 100 percent participation in the fundraiser, with all students turning in money. They were awarded a special ice cream treat for their hard work.

Celebrating Communion



COURTESY PHOTO BY ANN SHERIDAN

Second-graders from St. Matthew School in Charlotte celebrate their first Communion during a school-wide Mass at St. Matthew Church May 17. The students planned and participated in the Mass, and invited their families and friends to join them.



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

First communicants from St. Leo the Great Church in Winston-Salem pose for photographs with Father Thomas Kessler, pastor, and Father Johnathan Hanic, parochial vicar, May 6. The communicants were some of the 69 second-graders receiving first Communion at two Masses celebrated that day.



THE ORATORY

434 Charlotte Avenue, P.O. Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586
(803) 327-2097

VISIONS IN FAITH

Sunday, June 18 –
Wednesday, June 21

Fr. Simon Harak, S.J.

Fr. Harak is director of the Fellowship of Reconciliation and will explore the connections between spirituality and justice in our tradition.

NEW COVENANT BOOKSTORE

- Books
- Cards
- Videos
- Jewelry
-and more!

336-760-1673

304 Upton St.,
Winston-Salem, NC
www.newcovenantbookstore.com

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



Special gifts and necessities for
First Communion
and Confirmation celebrations!

- ✙ Beautiful veils
- ✙ Mantillas on sale
- ✙ Unique spiritual mementos

Video series: Teachings of Fulton Sheen
7 pm Tuesdays (Monroe Road location only)

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

\$5 OFF
Any Purchase
of \$35 or More
Present coupon. Not valid with any
other offers. Expires 6/30/06

A mosaic of art, culture



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

South Carolina artist Holly Marchman assists fifth-grader Aliyah Benton to complete a mosaic of two turtles during art class at Our Lady of the Assumption School in Charlotte May 22.

Our Lady of the Assumption School's fifth-grade students are participating in a workshop project for the new Levine Children's Hospital at Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte.

Schools from throughout the Charlotte-Mecklenburg area will submit original art, some of which will be selected for permanent display in the children's hospital. Our Lady of the Assumption School was the only Catholic school selected to participate, in part because of the diversity of its student body.

"Artwork for public buildings can sometimes be relegated to simply opening a catalogue and ordering mass-produced art," said Vicki Neumann, art teacher at Our Lady of the Assumption School. "In contrast to this generic selection, the art in the Levine Children's Hospital will be as unique as the building itself."

The Our Lady of the Assumption School students produced colorful mosaics made of paper depicting various animals — elephants, koalas, birds, turtles.

Crowning Mary



COURTESY PHOTO

St. Ann School fifth-grader Flannery Kuhn (center), with assistance from fifth-grader Rachael George, places a crown of flowers on a statue of Mary at St. Ann Church in Charlotte May 12. The school held a May procession, with students processing from the school to the church in honor of Mary. The month of May is devoted to Mary and is traditionally celebrated with a crowning and praying the rosary.



PHOTO BY SUSAN DEGUZMAN


St. Leo the Great School eighth-grader Lucy Freiburger, with classmates Melanie Musso and Erica Zollar at her side, places a crown of flowers on a statue of Mary outside St. Leo the Great Church in Winston-Salem May 12. Father Thomas Kessler, pastor, presided over the ceremony, which featured second-graders dressed in their first Communion attire. The rest of the student body encircled them and participated in praying the Hail Mary and singing "Ave Maria."

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels. 

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065

Join us for the RACHEL NETWORK EVENING OF PRAYER for HEALING AFTER ABORTION

7 PM — Wednesday, June 7th

St. Frances of Rome Catholic Church, 29 Highland Drive, Sparta, NC
Information: (336) 657-8013



If you or anyone you know has been affected by abortion — whether your own or someone else's — this Evening of Prayer is for YOU. Come to experience the peace of healing in your life or to pray for someone who needs healing.

Anonymous, without registration or discussion — just Scripture and meditation to help you heal.

If you know others affected by abortion, encourage them to join us. Even if they are not able to attend, please come to pray for their healing.

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Prayer on air

'Father Crunk' preaches on popular Atlanta radio show

BY ERIKA ANDERSON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ATLANTA — It was 6:30 a.m. the Monday after Easter, and Father Ricardo Bailey was looking over the notes for his sermon one last time.

His well-read Bible resting next to him on the table, he flipped through his notes, making last-minute changes. As a parochial vicar at Holy Spirit Church, his Easter weekend was busy.

His eyes were heavy with a lack of sleep, but as soon as he walked into his "church," the youthful energy he is known for appeared in a burst of exuberance.

On Monday mornings this year, the priest's church has been the studio of pop station Q100 (100.5 FM), his pulpit the popular morning show "The Bert Show."

"We call him 'Father Crunk.' It's Father Bailey from Holy Spirit Catholic Church," announced Bert Weiss, as Father Bailey sat across from him, headphones on for his segment.

"Crunk" is a type of hip-hop music, but it is also an urban term used to describe a high level of energy — which applies to Father Bailey.

"Father Crunk here tells us that, look, you can't laugh at the dysfunction going on in Hollywood with some of these celebrities. What you ought to do is embrace it and apply it to your life because there's some spiritual messages coming out of Hollywood that we can learn every single week," Weiss said.

"Yes, indeed," Father Bailey replied. "And today's title is 'Stop dippin' and dappin' when you don't know what's happenin'."

Father Bailey went on to talk about the rumors surrounding the relationship between Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes.

"Relationships, my friends, are hard enough, and the last thing that anybody needs are the rumors that fan the flames of the hater-ology that goes on out there," Father Bailey said.

"When you look at the Bible, there are people all around it that are trying to hate on one another. ... Remember all that drama that happened when Jesus was getting ready to be born?" he asked.

"I mean, man, people were hating on Mary, filling Joseph's mind with the fact that he needed to kick Mary to the curb because he wasn't that baby's daddy. But we all know how that turned out," he said.

The message of Jesus, Mary and Joseph might seem out of place on a radio station that plays hits from rapper Kanye West to pop superstar Kelly Clarkson, but Weiss said Father Bailey fits in perfectly.

"I think entertainment is entertainment," Weiss said. "If it's engaging, it's engaging. Father Bailey is entertaining, engaging and talks about subjects our target audience is interested in: pop culture. It was an easy fit."

Father Bailey first appeared on "The



CNS PHOTO BY MICHAEL ALEXANDER, GEORGIA BULLETIN

Father Ricardo Bailey makes some final preparations before going on the air during a Monday edition of "The Bert Show" in Atlanta. The priest brings humor, contemporary commentary and the Gospel message to the pop radio station's morning airwaves.

Bert Show" last fall to pray for a local Catholic high school's football team. Listeners responded so well that Weiss brought him back for a regular segment.

"The trick was bringing a priest on without people feeling we were forcing them to listen to a religious sermon. The connection with Hollywood made it a perfect segment," he said.

And Atlantans have agreed with a resounding "Amen."

"People generally love him. I've only received one negative e-mail about one of his segments," Weiss said. "People love him because of his delivery and the non-threatening way he approaches his subjects."

Father Bailey remains humble about his work. His decision to do the radio segments was blessed by both Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory of Atlanta and Holy Spirit Church's pastor, Msgr. Edward Dillon.

He said he was nervous the first time he was on the air, but Weiss gave him pointers to ease his nerves. In preparation each week he said he prays, looks at the entertainment news published on Q100's Web site, and works to turn the Hollywood message into a holy one.

"I don't take this lightly," Father Bailey said. "But I want to make it as funny as it is spiritual. Q100 is a secular station, but it's very important to realize that there are listeners who have been alienated by things that have happened in the past, and they are searching."

"If you'd have told me when I was back at seminary that one day I'd be on a top 40 radio station, I'd have said you were lying," he laughed. "But all I want to do is lead people to Jesus. That's what it's all about."

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: JUNE 4, 2006

June 4, Pentecost Sunday

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Acts 2:1-11
Psalm 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34
- 2) 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13 or
Galatians 5:16-25
- 3) Gospel: John 20:19-23

Holy Spirit sustains, fills us if we let it

BY BEVERLY CORZINE
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

In 1980 in north central Texas, an inferno of 84 straight days of temperatures above 100 degrees began in June and continued into September when teachers and students returned to school.

Trudging into my classroom the first day of school, I realized that the traditional fall bulletin boards I'd created had no connection with the baking world outside.

At the close of the school day, I thought of the 179 days yet to come. I stood in the deserted classroom, chalk in hand, consumed by the challenges that this school year presented.

The year ahead was daunting.

What I needed was a strategy for Day 2. Bulletin boards, the incredible heat and a milestone birthday at the end of the week now seemed insignificant because I had discovered that my new students spoke no English or very little, and I spoke no Vietnamese or Laotian.

What I would have given for one of those tongues of fire that solved the communication problem on the first

Pentecost!

During my commute home, my frustration level rose in proportion to the clogged highway. Finally, the Lamar Boulevard stoplight signaled the welcome fact that home was three blocks away.

At that moment I saw the gigantic posters. I recognized the work of my neighbor Linda who had planted them along the median ahead, announcing to everyone that Beverly Corzine was going to have a monumental birthday on Saturday.

For me this was absolutely the last straw in a day of frustration. However, when I rounded the corner, I saw Linda, my family and the neighbors doubled over with laughter.

Laughing and crying, I joined this commotion of love.

The Pentecost readings are rich with the message of assurance and hope. The same Holy Spirit that Jesus promises to his disciples fills our hearts today if we invite the Spirit to strengthen us and guide our daily lives.

Sometimes we witness the fruits of the Spirit that St. Paul defines in the most surprising places. Jesus did not leave us alone in a confusing world.

The Holy Spirit that was palpable in the rushing wind and flames of fire that first Pentecost sustains us and fills our very being if we open the door of our hearts.

All I wanted was sanctuary from school's first day.

Questions:

When have you seen the fruits of the Holy Spirit in an otherwise daunting situation? How have you experienced the sustaining power of the Spirit?

Scripture to be Illustrated:

"When you send forth your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth" (Psalm 104:30).

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 28-JUNE 3

Sunday (Seventh Sunday of Easter), Acts 1:15-17, 20-26, 1 John 4:11-16, John 17:11-19; **Monday**, Acts 19:1-8 John 16:29-33; **Tuesday**, Acts 20:17-27, John 17:1-11; **Wednesday (The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary)**, Zephaniah 3:14-18, Luke 1:39-56; **Thursday (St. Justin, Martyr)**, Acts 22:30, 23:6-11, John 17:20-26; **Friday (St. Marcellinus and St. Peter)**, Acts 25:13-21, John 21:15-19; **Saturday (St. Charles Lwanga and Companions)**, Acts 28:16-20, 30-31, John 21:20-25.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 4-10

Sunday (Pentecost Sunday), Acts 2:1-11, 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13, John 20:19-23; **Monday (St. Boniface)**, 2 Peter 1:2-7, Mark 12:1-12; **Tuesday (St. Norbert)**, 2 Peter 3:12-15, 17-18, Mark 12:13-17; **Wednesday**, 2 Timothy 1:1-3, 6-12, Mark 12:18-27; **Thursday**, 2 Timothy 2:8-15, Mark 12:28-34; **Friday (St. Ephrem)**, 2 Timothy 3:10-17, Mark 12:35-37; **Saturday**, 2 Timothy 4:1-8, Mark 12:38-44.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 11-17

Sunday (Most Holy Trinity), Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40, Romans 8:14-17, Matthew 28:16-20; **Monday**, 1 Kings 17:1-6, Matthew 5:1-12; **Tuesday (St. Anthony of Padua)**, 1 Kings 17:7-16, Matthew 5:13-16; **Wednesday**, 1 Kings 18:20-39, Matthew 5:17-19; **Thursday**, 1 Kings 18:41-46, Matthew 5:20-26; **Friday**, 1 Kings 19:9, 11-16, Matthew 5:27-32; **Saturday**, 1 Kings 19:19-21, Matthew 5:33-37.



Active, fun, and inspiring:

The perfect retirement picture!

NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN HIGH POINT: A New Beginning For You! Pennybyrn at Maryfield will offer a carefree lifestyle filled with energy and excitement. No more yard work or chores... just good friends, a perfect location, and every convenience you can imagine, including on-site short or long-term care.

Soon, this extraordinary lifestyle will be a reality—A New Beginning for you—so act now. Picture yourself at Pennybyrn at Maryfield!

Call (336) 886-4103 or toll-free (866) 627-9343.



PENNYBYRN
at MARYFIELD
A Continuing Care Retirement Community

1315 Greensboro Road, High Point, NC 27260

www.pennybyrnatmaryfield.com

Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor Servants
of the Mother of God



NP/CNHConst1

Vatican official warns against people posing as pope's organist

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — The archpriest of St. Peter's Basilica has issued a warning to concert organizers about people presenting themselves as the official organist of St. Peter's or of Pope Benedict XVI.

The only legitimate official organist of the basilica is James E. Goettsche, a Los Angeles native who has held the title since 1989, said Cardinal Francesco Marchisano, the basilica's archpriest.

The cardinal's May 15 letter was published as concert organizers in Germany were promoting a tour of an Italian musician who, organizers claimed, "Pope Benedict XVI has appointed as the new organist of St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican."

Goettsche, meanwhile, is in Rome playing the organ at St. Peter's Basilica during papal Masses as well as during Sunday and feast day prayer services.

"I have been advised to take legal

action," Goettsche told Catholic News Service May 19, "but for now I am looking more for clarification and correction."

He said he already has had some success: a U.S. agent representing the "phantom organist" has dropped the pretender from his Web site roster of artists and has written a very apologetic e-mail to Goettsche.

The U.S. agent provided the Vatican with the documentation the Italian organist had used to convince him he was legitimate, documentation the Vatican says is not authentic.

The U.S. agent's withdrawn Web site biography of the Italian even contained the fanciful detail that the Italian organist travels the world on a Vatican diplomatic passport.

Goettsche said he had heard that the Italian organist, in addition to organizing concerts in the United States and Germany, is preparing to perform as the papal organist in New Zealand.

Sirius-ly Catholic

Sirius, archdiocese to launch Catholic radio channel

NEW YORK (CNS) — Beginning this fall, the new Catholic Channel on Sirius Satellite Radio will air nationally seven days a week, 24 hours a day, featuring Catholic-oriented talk shows, music programming and live daily Masses from St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York.

The new channel is to be operated jointly by the New York Archdiocese and Sirius.

Programming also will include human interest and inspirational stories, shows offering counseling and guidance and educational programs, as well as "regular and previously unavailable content from the Vatican," the New York-based Sirius said in a news release.

Cardinal Edward M. Egan of New York, who Sirius said would be a "prominent contributor" to the new channel, called it "a splendid opportunity for the church."

"By using this modern medium, we will be able to communicate directly with the Catholic faithful as well as (with) anyone of any religious faith who might

be interested in what the Catholic Church is saying and doing here in New York and around the country," he said.

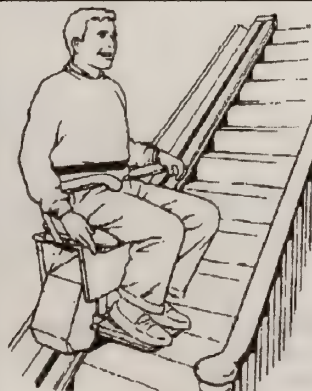
Mel Karmazin, CEO of Sirius, said the company's partnership with the New York Archdiocese "is a significant step forward in our ... mission to provide our listeners with the finest and most distinctive Christian programming on radio."

Other religious-themed programming on Sirius includes EWTN Global Catholic Radio Network, at channel 160; Christian Talk, channel 159; and music channels such as Spirit, channel 66; Revolution, channel 67; and Praise, channel 68.

Sirius said the hosts and guests of the Catholic Channel's talk shows and other programs will be "clergy and distinguished laity from across the nation."

A detailed schedule with specific programs and hosts was to be announced prior to the channel's launch.

Sirius offers 67 commercial-free music channels and 61 channels of sports, news, talk, entertainment, traffic and weather nationwide.



Let stairs be our problem... not yours!

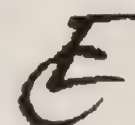
Ask about our Stairway lifts.

- Easily attached to steps (not walls)
- Folds out of the way
- Fits most stairways (straight & curved)
- Very affordable (rent or buy)
- We install

Chair & Equipment Rentals & Sales, Inc.

800 Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC • (800) 333-8431

Member of St. Thomas Aquinas



Catholic university plan sparks debate

DEBATE, from page 1

commitment to the project and its prospects for success.

Monaghan, who made his fortune as founder of the Domino's Pizza chain, broke ground in mid-February for Ave Maria town, a 5,000-acre, 11,000-home community to be built around Ave Maria University, which he established as an interim campus in 2003.

He founded Ave Maria College near Ann Arbor, Mich., in 1998, but later elected to move the institution to Florida, prompting a mix of praise and criticism even from his own faculty and administration. He currently is seeking board approval to move the Ave Maria School of Law to the Naples area as well.

More recently, he has faced a media backlash over his stated desire to create a family-friendly atmosphere in Ave Maria, one free of morally problematic elements such as pornography, contraceptives and abortion.

As far back as 2004, he told an audience that he and his partners would "own all commercial real estate" and thus "will be able to control what goes on there."

"You won't be able to buy a Playboy or Hustler magazine in Ave Maria town. We're going to control the cable television that comes in the area. ... If you go to the drugstore and you want to buy the (birth control) pill or the condoms or contraception, you won't be able to get that in Ave Maria town."

Clarifying restrictions

Leading the charge against Monaghan's plans is the American Civil Liberties Union.

Howard Simon, the ACLU's executive director in Florida, said that "arbitrarily discriminating" against who receives reproductive health services could lead to "a whole series of legal and constitutional problems and a lot of litigation."

In early March, Monaghan and his partner-developer, Barron Collier Cos., issued a statement clarifying his previous statements. Monaghan and Paul Marinelli, the president and CEO of

Barron Collier, said that there is "a growing misperception" that Ave Maria is to be a "Catholic town, controlled by Tom Monaghan."

Although the town will reflect traditional family values and retailers will be asked to refrain from practices opposed to Catholic teachings, "no restrictions will be enforced on contraceptives or any other inventory," the statement said.

"As far as the town goes, it will end up being whatever it is, obviously, open to everybody," Monaghan told Our Sunday Visitor, a national Catholic newspaper based in Huntington, Ind.

"We have had 20,000 names inquire (about the town's residential lots) from all over the country and beyond. I imagine a lot of them would be Catholics, and strong Catholics," he said.

Some of the restrictions he seeks, Monaghan said, will be covered under lease agreements with the developer — including prohibitions against topless bars and adult bookstores — while others could be more informal understandings among the commercial tenants and the landowners.

Debating the vision

But some Catholics have expressed doubt — much of it debated on the Internet — about the vision of Ave Maria town.

While some see the project as a Catholic, pro-family utopia, others question whether the project represents a return to the "Catholic ghetto," an insulated environment that limits the kind of contact with the diversity of the world that is required for effective evangelization.

In a recent Wall Street Journal report, one alumnus of Ave Maria's law school was quoted as saying that "this town and the university in Florida is going to be a self-contained little Catholic enclave" antithetical to the law school's mission of engaging the world.

But Joseph Varacalli, professor of sociology and director of the Center for Catholic Studies at Nassau Community College on Long Island, in New York, believes such concerns about the campus and town's insularity are unfounded.

"We (Catholics) are different from, say, the Amish in that we are not retreating from the world, but rather



CNS PHOTO ILLUSTRATION/COURTESY AVE MARIA

This artist's rendering shows the development plans for Ave Maria, Fla., a 5,000-acre, 11,000-home community to be developed by Ave Maria University founder Tom Monaghan. The town is scheduled to open in 2007.

trying to be a haven for society," he told Our Sunday Visitor.

"If the goal is to retreat from a world, you are giving up on it," he added. "I don't see the development of the community in Naples opposed to the idea that the university and the community are there to keep the faith alive, and from that

base to then go out into the world.

"It would be impossible in the modern world that it could serve as a place where Catholics could associate only with other Catholics," Varacalli added.

Monaghan said he hopes the town will open its first phase in summer 2007.

FAITH FORMATION ASSISTANT

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, located in Salisbury, NC is seeking a part-time faith formation assistant starting July 1, 2006. Candidate must be a practicing Catholic. Job responsibilities would include the coordination of faith formation for Pre-K to 5th grade, recruiting catechists, Vacation Bible School, and Children's Liturgy of the Word. Also, must work closely with faith formation team in the parish. If interested please contact Chris Beal, DRE, Sacred Heart Catholic Church: (704) 633-0591 x. 12 or cbeal@sacredheartchurchnc.org.

Classifieds

FOR RENT

LAKE LURE VACATION HOME: New! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, all amenities. 3 minutes to Rocky Broad River, Lake Lure beach; fishing,

boating, hiking, swimming. Reasonable! 828-299-3714.

CONDO: Myrtle Beach. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath condo available weeks of 6/17, 7/8, and 8/19. Call (336) 924-2842.

Classified ads bring results! Over 135,000 readers! Over 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

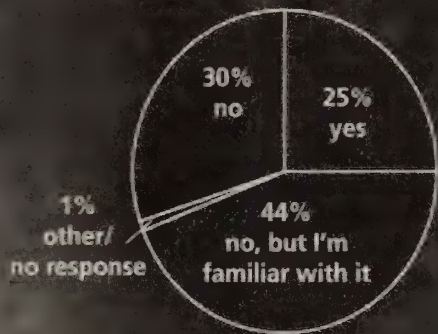
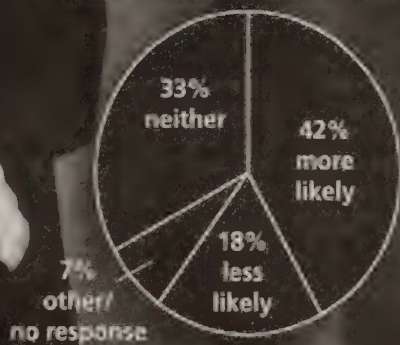
Director of Religious Education

The Parish of St. Vincent de Paul in Charlotte, NC, a parish of 1800 families of diverse nations of origin and cultures, is seeking a full-time Director of Religious Education. The DRE will design, develop, direct and evaluate the parish catechetical program. An ideal candidate should have a MA in Theology/Religious Education or related theological field with some administrative or educational experience. Conversational Spanish a plus.



If you are interested please send your resume and salary requirements to: St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church — DRE Application, 6828 Old Reid Road, Charlotte, NC 28210.

Catholics on the 'Code'

Have you read
"The Da Vinci Code?"After reading or hearing about
"The Da Vinci Code," are you
more or less likely to seek truth
through studying the Bible?Source: Zogby International
Photo courtesy of Sony Pictures
©2006 CNEThe survey conducted May 2-10 of 1,049 Catholics nationwide
has a margin of error of plus or minus 3.1 percentage points.Poll: 'Da Vinci' not swaying
Catholics

BIBLE, from page 1

were familiar with "The Da Vinci Code" story did not believe the book's premise that leaders of the Catholic Church understand the truth as portrayed in the novel but are suppressing it.

Just 12 percent said they believed the book rather than church officials. Another 21 percent said they were unsure about the claims in the book.

Among other things the novel contends Jesus Christ was married to Mary Magdalene and fathered a child.

The poll of 1,049 Catholics nationwide — a Le Moyne College/Zogby International/Contemporary Catholic Trends survey — was conducted May 2-10. It carries a margin of error of plus or minus 3.1 percentage points.

Men were considerably more likely than women to believe the church. In the poll, 78 percent of men said they do not believe church leaders are suppressing the "truth" as portrayed in the film, but just 58 percent of women agreed. One in four women said they were unsure of this point.

"The Da Vinci Code" claims the Vatican knows it is living a lie concerning Jesus, but does so to maintain its

influence. The book also claims there is a church-led conspiracy to suppress Jesus' alleged marriage to Mary Magdalene, and his fathering of a "royal bloodline" with her.

The book contends Mary Magdalene is the real Holy Grail because she carries the "blood" of Jesus within her, and that Leonardo da Vinci worked this into his art.

John Zogby, the founding president-CEO of Zogby International, told Catholic News Service he was surprised by the poll findings.

Zogby also said church leaders who are the most familiar to lay Catholics get high approval ratings from them.

"The new pope's ratings were somewhere in the 80s," he said. "The bishops were back into the 60s again (following the clergy sex abuse scandal that broke in 2002). That's something we've been tracking right along."

"And everybody likes a good parish priest," Zogby said.

Zogby — who is a LeMoyne graduate, hence the polling partnership — said he had read the novel.

"I thought it was a wonderful read. I thought it got a little silly toward the end. But it certainly captured me on the first page, and it kept me captured till the very end."

"And I intend to see the movie despite some awful reviews that came out," he added.

Apply to the Abbey for fall 2006!

Scholarships, financial aid, and housing are still available.



It's not too late to inquire and apply online at:
BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

For more information call 1.888.222.0110 or email: admissions@bac.edu



**BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE**

TRUST IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Hey, Holy Father, over here!

Meeting with pope fuels spiritual high

One of the best parts of the job of being a news reporter is that you get to interact with and take your measure of famous people.

During my days as a reporter, I encountered my fair share. Ronald Reagan was sincere and unassuming; this was before he was elected president. Jimmy Carter was humble, yet very intense; this was after he was president. Arnold Schwarzenegger was friendly and self-confident. Billy Graham was thoughtful and calculating. Jesse Jackson was impatient.

So when I realized that I might have a chance to meet Pope Benedict XVI, I thought I'd "been there, done that" when it came to the excitement of meeting someone famous.

I was wrong.

Encountering Pope Benedict — and I won't overstate this: I got to shake his hand — was an experience that is on a different plane.

For my wife Debbie and me, the occasion was a recent general audience. I was in Rome attending a conference, and had requested tickets to the audience, as anyone can, through the chancery of the Diocese of Charlotte.

As a Catholic, the words "pope," "Holy Father" and "pontiff" have been a part of my vocabulary since I was about three years old. To that lifelong familiarity, add the majesty of St. Peter's Square, the encompassing arms of the colonnade topped by statues of the saints of our faith — all of it in the shadow of the mighty St. Peter's Basilica.

Top-shelf words such as "awe-inspiring" and "thrilling" come up a little short in describing what it is like to be at the wellspring of our faith.

Approximately 40,000 Catholics, Christians and Jews gathered in this cobblestone courtyard for the audience. Some of us arrived in the rain when the gates opened, two-and-a-half hours before the audience began. Seating at a general audience is first-come, first-served, and even though I loathe the idea of waiting for a french fry at a fast-food joint, I had no qualms about devoting a full day of vacation to the possibility of being "in the right place at the right time" with the pope.

When we first arrived at our assigned section, an usher directed us to seats on the third row. Close, but not close enough. Then a small group on the front row moved. We upgraded without hesitation.

A general audience runs about 90 minutes. There was plenty of cheering and some singing from choirs that were

Catholics & the Media

DAVID HAINS
GUEST COLUMNIST



on pilgrimage. Then Pope Benedict delivered his message in six languages on devotion to the Eucharist.

At the end of the audience, the hand-shaking starts, first with the disabled who are brought to the Holy Father. Then he moves among the crowd. After walking and greeting people, he climbed into the popemobile and the greeting continued, but now moving at a slightly faster pace.

It looked like he was going to come our way, but you never know about these things until they happen. And then he was right in front of us, stretching out his left hand. That's when Debbie and I shook his hand and received his blessing.

As I shook his small, soft hand, I looked into the eyes of a kindly, caring man. I wanted to say something but the person behind me, who was shouting in Italian, grabbed the Holy Father's attention and then the pope was gone. A fleeting moment, a lifetime memory.

I jokingly said to Debbie, "I guess you can't say that we never do anything interesting."

We were both on a spiritual high that, weeks later, is as fresh as a morning prayer. The famous and the notorious people whom I've interviewed as a reporter were all interesting people, but the pope — the successor of Peter — now there's a guy who really has something to say.

David Hains is director of communication for the Diocese of Charlotte. Contact him at dwhains@charlottediocese.org.



COURTESY PHOTO

Sleepless in Anchorage

Nighttime worries can be turned into prayers

There was a romantic movie in the early '90s called "Sleepless in Seattle."

Tom Hanks starred as a depressed and sleepless Seattle widower. Meg Ryan's character, on the East Coast, heard his voice on a talk radio show and instantly was intrigued.

If you've never seen the film, you've already guessed that boy eventually met girl.

I think of this movie now and then when I notice my "Sleepless in Seattle" coffee mug. My husband brought it home to me years ago from a trip to Seattle, not because I was a huge fan of the movie but because he knew that while he was sleeping in Seattle, I would be, as usual, "sleepless in Anchorage."

I always have been a poor sleeper. As a recent issue of Newsweek magazine trumpeted on its cover, lots of women can't sleep. The article contained mostly facts I'd already heard or remedies I'd already tried.

And, in fact, through a combination of efforts, I'm a much better sleeper than I once was.

Occasionally, though, I still get those 4 a.m. wakeups. Some folks claim they have brilliant ideas at 4 a.m., but I think more people are like me: We're 4-in-the-morning worriers.

Mark's Gospel contains an intriguing sentence that opens up many thoughts about Jesus: "In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there" (1:35).

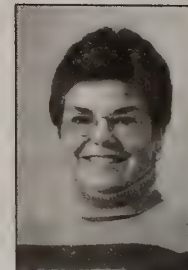
Often in Scripture we're reminded of Jesus' desire for contemplative prayer and the example he set for us in pursuing it. I imagine a cramped little house somewhere in Galilee, his fishermen buddies snoring around him and a wakeful Jesus rising in the pre-dawn hours.

Pondering this line once, it suddenly occurred to me: Maybe Jesus couldn't sleep. It was a welcome thought, because it brought Jesus' humanity a little closer to my own.

Sleeplessness can be caused by many things — anxiety, hormonal imbalances,

For the Journey

EFFIE
CALDAROLA
CNS COLUMNIST



even restless leg syndrome. Sleeplessness is also, as every mother knows, the plaintive cry of an infant in the night or the warm breath of a frightened toddler at your bedside.

Sometimes I think a creative and overactive mind causes sleeplessness. Did Jesus, so brilliant and insightful, ever replay, in the still hours of night, his intellectual jousts with Pharisees?

When we see Jesus' anxiety in the Garden of Gethsemane, we know this was a man who was aware on many levels of the sacrifice he was being called to make. As he lived through those years of intense public ministry, did the night sometimes bring a measure of apprehension?

The line from Mark tells me, though, that Jesus didn't waste time tossing and turning. He was a man with an inner call, and he went to the lonely place where he knew his call would be answered.

Would it be possible to turn our own dark, worry-filled hours to prayer?

In Father Richard Rohr's "Everything Belongs, The Gift of Contemplative Prayer," the Franciscan priest and author presents a prayer that can be used to draw us into the present moment with God.

I think it might be a good prayer for sleeplessness, too:

"Be still, and know that I am God.
Be still, and know that I am.
Be still, and know.
Be still.
Be."

Repeat those lines slowly, weeding out the thoughts that, like bothersome ants at a picnic, crop up between each line. It begins to feel like a welcoming embrace.

Next time I can't sleep, I'm going to see where those words take me.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

The core message of Christianity

Jesus' teachings pure, yet often misunderstood

Woody Allen once described Christianity as "pay now, enjoy later." The full truth was more aptly described by St. Catherine of Siena who said, "All the way to heaven is heaven."

There are many other inaccurate views about our Catholic faith that need correction.

For instance, Jesus rejected the worldly view that wealth and social status are sure signs of God's favor. When he said, "Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Mt 5:1), he was not condemning the rich, nor was he saying that poverty is a blessing.

The poor, even those who have made themselves poor by renouncing the goods of this world, are not ipso facto among the "blessed." The "blessed" are those who are "poor in spirit," who put God's will before their own.

Jesus never condemned any class of people. Some rich people are scoundrels, and some are saints. What Jesus did condemn was hypocrisy, selfishness and greed. These are found in all classes of people.

When Jesus said, "Blessed are the meek," he wasn't praising weaklings and cowards. Jesus was meek and humble of heart, but he always accepted his Father's will. This often led him to be confrontational. He always practiced tough love.

Spirituality for Today

FATHER JOHN CATOIR
CNS COLUMNIST



It takes courage to surmount difficult circumstances.

A few years ago I ran a drug and alcohol rehabilitation center where we had to enforce strict discipline every day in order help our clients recover from their addiction. If you showed weakness around drug addicts, most would surely take advantage of you.

To help them break away from their self-destructive behavior, the staff constantly had to exercise tough love. There was no room for meekness in this setting.

When Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers," he wasn't endorsing absolute pacifism as some biblical literalists imagine. Jesus did not practice a policy of "peace at any price."

Peacemakers include those law enforcement officers who are honorable in their efforts to keep the peace. They put their lives on the line to prevent criminals from plundering the weak.

Also included among "the peacemakers" are those brave men and women who serve their country honorably in the military. Jesus said, "There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for another."

When Jesus said, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice," he wasn't blessing everyone who rants and raves at a protest rally. He was praising those who struggle to promote a just cause, and he promised that one day they would be satisfied.

Perfect justice may never be attainable in this world, but God blesses those who strive to build a just society.

When Jesus said, "Blessed are the merciful," he wasn't saying that we should never hold people responsible for their actions. Mercy is another name for love when it confronts misery; it is not an invitation for the unruly to force their agenda on others.

Jesus praised the compassionate, but even the compassionate have to crack down on those who engage in anti-social behavior. Love demands both service and fidelity to the common good.

In the Book of Micah Chapter 6:8, we read, "Act justly, to love tenderly, and to walk humbly with your God."

Jesus added, "I have told you (to love one another) so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete" (Jn 15:11).

Pope says path of faith not easy, even St. Peter suffered doubt

The Pope Speaks

POPE BENEDICT XVI



BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — The path of faith is not easy, but rather long, arduous, and marked by pain and love, Pope Benedict XVI said during his May 24 general audience.

The day before he was to leave on a May 25-28 trip to Poland, the pope spoke to more than 40,000 people in St. Peter's Square, focusing his catechesis on St. Peter.

He explained that even this apostle, chosen to lead the universal church, still suffered the human weaknesses of doubt and betrayal early in his faith.

St. Peter's early faith in Jesus was not complete, in part because he had not yet witnessed the mystery of Christ's resurrection, the pope said. But his was already an authentic faith that was "open to a greater reality" and believed not in something but in someone, the pope said.

The apostle's great love for Jesus, however, did not protect him from temptation and humiliation, he said. He betrayed Christ, which also made him realize he was weak, the pope said.

It was only after St. Peter saw through his own mask of superiority and faced his sinful heart, the pope said, that he could repent and become ready for his mission to lead the church.

The pope said that for all Christians "the school of faith is not a triumphal march, but a journey peppered with suffering and love," trials and a faithfulness that needs to be renewed every day.

When Jesus asked St. Peter three times, "Do you love me?" St. Peter replied yes, but he felt his love was inadequate, limited by his human heart and doubts, the pope said.

But slowly St. Peter realized that his impoverished love was enough for Jesus, because "Jesus adapts himself to Peter, not Peter to Jesus," the pope said.

Pope Benedict said Jesus works around people's weaknesses. The faithful follow Christ with their limited capacity to love and remain open to his will because "we know Jesus is good and that he accepts us," he said.

Because Jesus accepted St. Peter's fragile love and told him to follow, St. Peter's journey of faith was marked by hope, the pope said, because he knew the Lord was always with him.

St. Peter and all Christians become steadfast witnesses not by becoming perfect, but by remaining "constantly open to the work of the Spirit," he said.

When 'me' plus 'me' doesn't equal 'we'

New alternative lifestyle harms basics of love, commitment

Just when you thought you'd heard the last redefinition of marriage, a new mutation is born.

Apparently, while many were hawking the importance of no-fault divorce, blended families, co-habitation, same-sex marriage and polygamy, a new creature was forming and quietly growing: LAT, or Living-Apart-Together.

LATs are relationships where two people claim to love each other, may have an exclusive sexual relationship and may share some financial expenses, but deliberately do not live together. The bottom line is that LAT "couples" want independence, and don't want to share themselves or their possessions unconditionally with each other.

The number of people in LAT relationships is on the rise in Europe and the United States. Sociologists are at a loss to explain what is causing this trend. Some say it is a reaction to divorce, both from the emotional and economic perspectives: "My kids would never get along with him" or "Why bother joining households and lose a great city apartment?"

An advantage older LAT couples might have is in avoiding the complicated inheritance issues that would arise if they were to marry. Others say it is just a harmless lifestyle alternative for both young and old.

Still, insightful people are worried that it may be simply autonomy run amok.

This last point was starkly highlighted in a New York Times article (May 4, 2006) that featured interviews with couples in LAT relationships. Most spoke about their need for "alone time" or "personal space," or said they didn't want to "wait on" the other person.

In each case, the couples had fiercely narrow views of personal freedom as freedom from the inconvenience of others. It is a warped understanding of freedom where the individual has absolutely no legitimate ties to anyone, according to Jennifer Roback Morse, author of "Smart Sex: How to Find Life-Long Love in a Hook-Up World."

But it also seems like narcissism taken to another level.

A popular dictionary defines love as

Life Issues Forum

THERESA NOTARE
GUEST COLUMNIST



"unselfish, loyal and benevolent concern for the good of another." Love points to a person's deep connection to another. It requires things like saying "I am yours!"

When a man and a woman love each other as spouses, it goes even further: "And the two shall be one flesh" (Gen. 2:24). "Me" becomes "we."

Pope John Paul II said of this love that it "involves a totality, in which all the elements of the person" are present. "It aims," he said, "at a deeply personal unity." (Familiaris consortio, no. 13)

When a man and a woman recognize each other as "my other half," a whole new self-understanding is born. A symphony of give and take, mystery and recognition forms a deep sense of mutuality.

One need not fear losing one's "individuality." Living a life of love is restorative. It is nothing short of a return to paradise — how God wants us to love!

Theresa Notare is assistant director of the Pro-Life Secretariat's Diocesan Development Program for Natural Family Planning of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

St. Benedict Church provides welcoming parish, community outreach

GREENSBORO — St. Benedict Church is one of the oldest churches in the Diocese of Charlotte. Established in 1877 as St. Agnes Church, it was founded before there was a Catholic diocese in North Carolina.

The cornerstone of the original church was laid by then-Bishop James Gibbons of Richmond, Va., who would later be named cardinal of Baltimore.

As the years passed, the original church building became too small to accommodate the needs of the growing parish. Therefore, the building was sold to the Greensboro Public School System and became the city's first high school.

Today's church still stands where it did in 1899. At that time, St. Agnes Church became St. Benedict Church in honor of the father of western monasticism and the Benedictine fathers of Belmont Abbey, who staffed the church.

While the new facility was being built, a wealthy Philadelphia woman, Katherine Drexel, founder of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for Indians and Colored People, was working to distribute her fortune to benefit African Americans. Drexel learned of the building project and gave St. Benedict Church \$1,500 for a new building, with the condition that one of the four rows of pews be reserved for African Americans.

St. Katherine Drexel was beatified Nov. 20, 1988 and canonized Oct. 1, 2000 by Pope John Paul II.

Before World War II, several divisions of National Guardsmen came to Ft. Bragg for maneuvers. Many of the men would travel to Greensboro for the weekend and attend Mass at St. Benedict Church.

Because of the large number of participants, the priest would often celebrate Mass outdoors, leading from the parish



PHOTO BY GEORGE COBB

Established in 1877 as St. Agnes Church, St. Benedict Church is one of the oldest Catholic churches in North Carolina. Today, 240 families from a variety of cultural backgrounds attend Mass at the church each week.

hall porch, and the men would kneel in the grass and in the two-lane street, which was blocked off by the city.

By 1994, the brick-venered church had weakened due to age and weather. As a result, the church building received a facelift and the towers were reinforced.

Then-Bishop William G. Curlin dedicated a new parish center Oct. 14, 2000.

Nearly all of the church's 150 families attended the Mass and ceremony, officially marking the start of a new era in the church's long history.

St. Benedict Church now is a community that seeks faithful adherence to the Magisterium of the Catholic Church.

"Our particular charisms include a

ST. BENEDICT CHURCH

109 West Smith Street
Greensboro, N.C. 27401
(336) 272-0303

Vicariate: Greensboro

Pastor: Father Duc "James" Duong

Number of Households: 240

profound reverence and love for the Eucharist, as well as a strong pro-life stance," said Father Duc "James" Duong, pastor.

Father Duong celebrates a weekday noontime Mass to accommodate the lunchtime schedule of the many Catholics working downtown. First Friday is observed every month with Mass followed by eucharistic adoration and Benediction.

St. Benedict Church provides ample opportunities for everyone to be involved in a variety of service areas within the parish and a wider community, including pro-life work; St. Vincent de Paul Society and SHARE, a food distribution program; Ladies Group; altar serving; Altar Guild and social justice.

"As the 'Mother Church' in the Greensboro area, St. Benedict Church continues to bring the good news to all people with care and love in words and in deeds," said Father Duong.

Contributing to this story was Staff Writer Karen A. Evans.

NOTE TO READERS

The Catholic News & Herald will begin its bi-weekly publishing schedule for June, July and August next week. Our next issue will be June 9.

WALK WHERE JESUS WALKED ON A DIOCESAN-SPONSORED PILGRIMAGE TO



THE HOLY LAND

September 5 – 14

with Fr. James Hawker, Diocesan Vicar
of Education and Pastor, St. Luke Church

Deepen your understanding of our Catholic faith and watch the pages of the Bible come alive as you experience daily Mass at many of the historical sites of our faith.

Highlights include:

- Tiberias, Mt. Carmel, Sea of Galilee area
- Mt. Tabor, Cana, Nazareth – Jesus' boyhood area
- Capernaum, Mount of Beatitudes, River Jordan
- Jerusalem area: Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Via Dolorosa, Lord's Tomb at Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Mount Zion, Upper Room, Dormition Abbey, Wailing Wall
- Dead Sea (excavations and scrolls), Masada, Holocaust memorial
- Bethlehem's historic sites - PLUS much more!

Price: \$2,499 from Charlotte (\$2,599 after June 22) includes airfare, most meals, first-class hotels and all tours. Airport taxes/fees, tips and insurance are extra.

Call Cindi Feerick at 704/370-3332 for a brochure with complete details
or Pentecost Tours 800/713-9800 for registration.



St. Thomas Aquinas Academy Asheville, North Carolina

www.stthomasaquinasacademy.org

(828) 687-7714

Accepting applications for ninth, tenth and eleventh grades.

Member, National Association of Private, Catholic and Independent Schools

St. Thomas Aquinas Academy is a private school, independent of the Charlotte Diocesan school system.



Please pray for the
following priests who
died during the month
of June

Rev. Msgr. Roueche 2000
Rev. Guy E. Morse 2000

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus



Vocations

2006 graduating class
better educated; local
anniversaries celebrated

| PAGES 6-9

RESPECTING LIFE

MOST AMERICANS OPPOSE EMBRYONIC STEM-CELL RESEARCH, SURVEY FINDS

BY NANCY FRAZIER
O'BRIEN

CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON

Despite pressure from supporters of embryonic stem-cell research, "Congress should not be misled" into believing that most Americans back the use of federal funds for research that kills embryos, according to an official of the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities.

Richard Doerflinger, deputy director of the pro-life office, cited a new poll that showed 48 percent of Americans oppose federal funding of stem-cell research that requires destroying human embryos, while only 39 percent support such funding.

See SURVEY, page 17

CUSTOMARY CHANGES

*U.S. immigration
director outlines how bill
could affect his agency*

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — The director of the federal agency that oversees immigration told reporters that if applicants for any future legalization program are rejected for noncriminal reasons, "it isn't my plan" to turn over their information to other agencies for prosecution.

At a round table for reporters May 31, Emilio Gonzalez, director of Citizenship and Immigration Services,

See BILL, page 16

Following in Christ's footsteps



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Fathers James Stuhrenberg and Alejandro Ayala lie prostrate during their ordination Mass celebrated by Bishop Peter J. Jugis at St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte June 3.

See PRIESTS, page 7

Priests called to be shepherds, teachers

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — Priests are those through whom Jesus is present and continues to serve his flock, said Bishop Peter J. Jugis.

"By holy orders, the priest is sacramentally configured to Jesus the High Priest. Through that sacramental identification with Christ, Christ is present to his flock and continues his ministry to his flock," said Bishop Jugis.

Bishop Jugis delivered this message specifically to two men sitting before him in St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte.

In a church filled with clergy, seminarians, families and friends, the bishop ordained Fathers H. Alejandro Ayala and James Stuhrenberg as priests during an ordination Mass June 3.

Studying Scripture

Conference explores Bible, international program

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — Despite a variety of cultural backgrounds, they came together to study Scripture and share their faith.

Participants from 27 states and four countries gathered in Charlotte for the first annual Catholic Scripture Study International Conference, held at the Omni Hotel April 28-30.

Catholic Scripture Study

International is comprised of several Bible study programs written by leading Catholic authors, scholars and apologists, including Scott Hahn, Mark Shea and Carl Olson. The study guides and materials are formatted specifically for group study.

Several parishes in the

See SCRIPTURE, page 5



COURTESY PHOTO

Bishop Peter J. Jugis gives a blessing during the Catholic Scripture Study International Conference in Charlotte April 28-30.

Youths in Action

Students, Scouts get awards;
graduating seniors list

| PAGES 12-13

Culture Watch

Extension marks 100 years;
'net neutrality'

| PAGES 14-15

Perspectives

Looking at Father's Day;
Internet dangers

| PAGES 18-19

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

CAN-DO ATTITUDE



CNS PHOTO BY DAVE OXFORD, THE EVANGELIST

Rosa Murillo pulls her cart with her collection of cans in Troy, N.Y., in early May. Many of the locals think Murillo, 89, is homeless because they see the tiny Colombian woman collecting cans all over the city. But all the money she collects from redeeming the cans for recycling goes to mission work at home and abroad.

Troy woman looks homeless, but she's actually doing mission work

TROY, N.Y. (CNS) — Rosa Murillo laughs as she recalls all the people in Troy who have given her money.

One man watched her redeeming cans for a nickel apiece at a supermarket and handed her a \$20 bill. Another person passed her \$3 after Mass at St. Anthony of Padua Church.

Many Trojans mistakenly think she's homeless because they see the tiny Colombian woman, clad in an old coat and stocking cap, collecting cans all over the city. They don't realize she has a greater purpose.

All the money that Murillo, 89, collects goes to mission work at home or abroad.

"I have letters from the missions, and they say, 'Send money,' so I say, 'OK,'" she said.

Although she struggles with speaking English, she was eager to make her "mission for the missions" understood.

She came to the United States 40 years ago and worked as a nanny for two families. After hitting retirement, she noticed a woman collecting cans from trash barrels and followed the woman to a grocery store, where she learned about the can-redemption center.

Just like that, she had found her own form of redemption: something to keep her busy in retirement. She got a rolling grocery cart and began collecting cans.

"I feel happy because I'm busy. God, Mary and St. Joseph — they accompany me," Murillo said.

Murillo often pulls in as much as \$18 a day collecting cans. When she gets to \$200 or \$300 — including any money handed to her by helpful benefactors — she brings it to her church, which has Masses in Spanish that she likes to attend. She hands the money to a priest to forward to the missions.

"Every year, I give almost \$1,000," she said, smiling.

Franciscan Father Mario Julian, pastor of St. Anthony Church, said Murillo "every so often hands me a brown paper bag with a wad of cash in it."

He distributes her donations among the parish ministries or community programs for the needy.

Other donations have benefited missions in South American countries. After an earthquake hit Costa Rica, Murillo sent money.

Murillo sees collecting cans for the missions as a way of showing gratitude to God for her physical and mental health at her age.

Being mistaken for someone homeless and destitute doesn't bother her. Of those who try to press money on her, she added, "They think I need it, but I know who needs it more."

Catholic-Lutheran dialogue discusses death, judgment, resurrection

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Catholic and Lutheran scholars discussed death, judgment and resurrection at a four-day session of the U.S. Lutheran-Roman Catholic Dialogue.

The April 20-23 meeting in Phoenix was the second session of the 11th round of the dialogue. The theme for this round is "The Hope for Eternal Life."

Questions the group plans to address in future sessions are Catholic-Lutheran differences over issues relating to life after death, including purgatory, indulgences and Masses and prayers for the dead.

"The members of the dialogue team have established solid foundations for further discussion and development," said the Rev. Lowell G. Almen, secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and Lutheran co-chair of the dialogue.

Auxiliary Bishop Richard J. Sklba of Milwaukee, Catholic co-chair, said, "One of the more illuminating and instructive

aspects of the meeting was the manner in which both Lutheran and Catholic scholars were able to reflect on the developing history of their own respective practices since the Reformation."

The way both traditions imagined and described the state of the justified immediately after death "inevitably reflected the various currents of thought in vogue at the time," he said.

"I look forward to a future discussion of the meaning of Dr. Martin Luther's 71st thesis, namely that indulgences are apostolic," Bishop Sklba added. "These serious conversations, especially in view of their pastoral implications, are extremely fruitful."

The U.S. Lutheran-Roman Catholic Dialogue was begun in 1965. The 10th round, 1998-2004, culminated in a common statement that said the Catholic and Lutheran churches are wounded in their ministries and communities by a lack of full Catholic-Lutheran communion.

Diocesan planner

ASHEVILLE VICARIATE

HENDERSONVILLE — The *St. Francis of the Hills Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order* meets the fourth Sunday of each month, 2:30-4:30 p.m., at Immaculate Conception Church, 208 7th Ave. West. Visitors and inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Joanita Nellenbach, SFO, (828) 627-9209 or jnell@dnnet.net.

BOONE VICARIATE

SPRUCE PINE — A *Rosary of Intercession for Priests* is recited each Friday at St. Lucien Church, 695 Summit St., before the 9 a.m. Mass. Prayers are offered for bishops, priests and deacons, and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. For more information, call the church office at (828) 765-2224.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — A *Blood Drive*, hosted by The Community Blood Center of the Carolinas, will take place at the diocesan Pastoral Center June 15, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. All donors will receive a free t-shirt. If you are interested in giving blood for a good cause, please contact Sherry at (704) 370-3357 to sign up.

CHARLOTTE — *Fostering Justice Worldwide*, sponsored by the diocesan Office of Justice and Peace, will share Catholic Relief Services (CRS) stories. This free event will take place at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., St., June 24, 1:30-5 p.m. The program will provide an overview of Catholic social teaching, CRS-related work in the Diocese of Charlotte, CRS work in Africa, presentations on effective advocacy and more. This event will be repeated in Newton Sept. 9 and in Stoneville

Nov. 4. For specific details about the Saturday afternoon events please call the Office of Justice and Peace at (704) 370-3234 or (704) 370-3225, or e-mail justicepeace@charlottediocese.org.

CHARLOTTE — The *Society of Mary and Martha* meets the third Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd. For more information, call Peggy Pohlheber at (704) 588-7311.

CHARLOTTE — *Healing Hearts*, a support group for people coping with the death of a spouse, meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall of St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Rd. For more information, contact Sister Therese Galligan, facilitator, at (704) 362-5047, ext. 216.

CHARLOTTE — The *50+ Club* of St. John Neumann Church, 8451 Idlewild Rd., meets the second Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. with a program and lunch in the parish hall. For reservations and more information, call Elaine at (704) 847-2835.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

HIGH POINT — A free *Charismatic Conference* will be held at Maryfield Chapel, 1315 High Point Rd., starting June 16 at 7 p.m. A healing service will follow the presentation by Deacon Dennis and Elizabeth Chitwood from the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Deacon Chitwood will be the homilist at the 10 a.m. Mass June 17, followed by a second conference by Elizabeth Chitwood. Two final conferences will take place June 17, 2-5 p.m. For more information, call Deacon Ron or Bette Steinkamp at (336) 882-9717.

HIGH POINT — *Hope of Seeing Everyone Again (HOSEA)* is a six-week program for Catholics who have been away from the church for a while, but may wish to return. HOSEA will meet Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in the parlor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 4145 Johnson St., through June 27. Small group settings will offer an opportunity to enrich

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

JUNE 9, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 33

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Vatican official: Church in China seeks no privileges, only freedom

VATICAN CITY (CNS). — The Vatican's top foreign affairs official said the church seeks no privileges in China, but only wants the freedom to organize its internal affairs.

The comments by Archbishop Giovanni Lajolo came after a month of heightened church-state tensions in China over the ordination of bishops unapproved by Pope Benedict XVI.

The archbishop said interference by Chinese authorities in the bishop selection process ends up exacerbating divisions among Chinese Catholics.

"As in all countries of the world, the church in China does not seek any privilege but only wants to be free in its internal organization," Archbishop Lajolo said.

He said this was a matter of church law and did not represent an intrusion in the affairs of the Chinese state.

"Likewise, Chinese political authorities

should not interfere in the internal ordering of the church and especially in the appointment of bishops," he said.

The archbishop said noninterference by the state in bishops' appointments would bring greater social peace among the Chinese people, who at present are forced to choose between "forced obedience to a so-called patriotic church and belonging to the one Catholic Church in communion with the pope."

From the late 1950s, when the Chinese government formed the Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association, until the mid-1980s, the only Catholic bishops in China recognized as legitimate by the Vatican were those chosen and ordained secretly by other bishops in the underground Catholic community.

Since then, however, many government-approved bishops reconciled with the Vatican, and, increasingly, new

spiritual growth and help inactive Catholics bond and share their faith. It will also provide an opportunity for them to discuss any questions or issues with other Catholics and get a sense of the modern-day church. For more information, call Larry Kwan at (336) 688-1220 or e-mail hikwan@lexcominc.net.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

MOORESVILLE — A *Support Group for Parents Who Have Lost a Child of any Age* meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at St. Therese Church, 217 Brawley School Rd. We draw strength from others' experience of loss and grief. For more information, call Joy at (704) 664-3992.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

CULLOWHEE — A free adult retreat, "*Caring for God's Creation*," will take place June 17 at Western Carolina University Catholic Center, 9:45 a.m.-4 p.m. A closing Mass will be celebrated at 4 p.m. The retreat will consist of learning about Cherokee and Latino cultures and Catholic social teachings on caring for God's creation. Register by contacting Gloria Schweizer at (828) 293-9374 or wucatholic@aol.com.

SYLVA — A four-part series, "*Prayer of the Church*," will be presented at St. Mary Church, 22 Bartlett St. The sessions will meet 10-11 a.m., June 24 and July 22. Please call the church office at (828) 586-9496 to pre-register.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

CLEMMONS — Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin will celebrate a *Healing Mass* June 12 at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd. Reconciliation will be offered at 7 p.m. All are welcome to participate with hopeful expectancy. For more information, call (336) 998-7503 or the church office at (336) 778-0600.

KERNERSVILLE — Holy Cross Church, 616 S. Cherry St., invites all Catholics who have been

inactive, feel alienated or just want to take another look at the Catholic Church to attend *ReMembering Church*, a series of six sessions designed to address issues that have perhaps caused feelings of estrangement. Those seeking information about annulment are also cordially invited. These evening discussions will offer a welcoming atmosphere, help with misunderstandings and hurts, look at the changes that have taken place since Vatican II and provide an opportunity to ask questions. Sessions will meet in Holy Cross Church's Salesian Hall, Wednesdays, through July 12, 8-9 p.m. For more details, contact Juliann Demmond at (336) 996-7136 or e-mail rjdemmond@netzero.com.

WINSTON-SALEM — St. Benedict the Moor Church, 1625 East 12th St., hosts a 12:15 p.m. prayer service, *Veni Sanctus Spiritus*, the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. All are welcome to reflect on God and refresh the spirit in the middle of a day. For more information, call Sister Larretta Rivera-Williams at (336) 725-9200.

KERNERSVILLE — Holy Cross Church, 616 S. Cherry St., hosts a *Senior Coffee House* the first and third Mondays of each month, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., in Salesian Hall in the Child Development Building. Call the church office at (336) 996-5109 ext. 12 for directions or information.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

bishops were approved by the Chinese government and the Vatican.

In late April, China began ordaining bishops who had not been approved by the Vatican, and sources in China indicated some of those participating in the ordinations were pressured by the government to do so.

Vatican review of English-language Mass translations picks up speed

VATICAN CITY (CNS). — The Vatican's review of English-language Mass translations is picking up speed as bishops' conferences approve liturgical books.

The Vox Clara Committee, a body of English-speaking bishops appointed to advise the Vatican on translations, met May 29-June 1 and will meet again in July.

The July meeting is likely to focus on reviewing the Order of Mass translations adopted in May by the bishops' conferences of Australia and of England and Wales. U.S. bishops will be asked to approve the translation during their June 15-17 meeting in Los Angeles.

The Order of Mass contains the prayers recited every day at Mass, including prayers for the penitential rite, the Gloria and the creed and the four main eucharistic prayers; it does not include the Scripture readings or the prayers that are specific to a certain Sunday or feast day.

Liturgical translations must be approved by two-thirds of the members of a bishops' conference before they are sent to

the Vatican's Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments for final review.

The Vox Clara Committee, in addition to discussing translations that are in progress and making suggestions before the final drafts are presented to the bishops, assists the congregation in reviewing the versions approved by national bishops' conferences.

The committee said June 1 it expected to be able to complete its work of reviewing the English translations of all parts of the Mass by the end of 2007.

The International Commission on English in the Liturgy prepares the translations.

The initial ICEL draft is sent to English-speaking bishops and members of Vox Clara for comment. The final draft is sent to all members of English-speaking bishops' conferences for final action, which may include amendments and changes specific to their country.

The text approved by a bishops' conference is sent to Rome.

Cardinal Francis Arinze, prefect of the congregation, reiterated to Vox Clara members his "unwavering intention to assure the implementation of the (2001 congregation) instruction, 'Liturgiam Authenticam,'" which called for strict translation of texts from the original Latin.

The document also called for specific changes in the English Mass translations, including the people's response "And with your spirit," to the priest's proclamation, "The Lord be with you."

Many bishops had expressed caution over changing texts recited by the faithful during Mass, but Cardinal Arinze said fidelity to the original Latin text must be given precedence over preserving texts in use since the Second Vatican Council.

Blair and Benedict



CNS PHOTO BY L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO

Pope Benedict XVI meets with British Prime Minister Tony Blair at the Vatican June 3. Vatican and British sources said the private talks covered a wide range of issues, including the role of religion in politics and in society, the threat of global terrorism, international aid to Africa, and new developments in the Middle East and Northern Ireland.

NOTICE TO READERS

The Catholic News & Herald is currently on its bi-weekly publishing schedule for June, July and August. The next issue will be Friday, June 23.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

June 12 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. Benedict Church, Greensboro

June 13 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. Joseph Church, Kannapolis

June 14-17
USCCB Meeting
Los Angeles, Calif.

June 19-22
Convocation of Priests
Asheville

Gathered in gratitude



COURTESY PHOTO

Parish catechetical leaders and directors of religious education from parishes around the Diocese of Charlotte gather for a luncheon at St. Luke Church in Mint Hill June 1. The luncheon honored Joan Mahony (front left), who is retiring after 14 years as faith formation director at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Charlotte, and Ann Peters (front right), retiring after 16 years as religious education director at St. James the Greater Church in Hamlet.

Mass at Mary's house



COURTESY PHOTO

Msgr. Mauricio W. West, vicar general and chancellor of the Diocese of Charlotte, celebrates Mass May 17 in Ephesus, Turkey, with pilgrims during a diocesan trip to Turkey and Greece. Mass was celebrated outside the House of the Virgin Mary, where it is believed she was cared for by St. John in her last days.

The group of 32 pilgrims spent 10 days traveling in the footsteps of St. Paul as they visited five Greek islands, Athens and Istanbul, learning of the history of the Catholic Church and deepening their personal faith experiences.

The next diocesan pilgrimage will visit the Holy Land in September. For details, see the ad on page 11.

Unearthing the future



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin (center) joins the groundbreaking for the new Family Life Center at St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte June 3.

The \$3.4 million facility will house a reception hall, a catering kitchen, library, nursery, choir room, youth room, conference room and various meeting rooms, and almost 1,000-square-feet of storage space.

Pictured are (from left): Deacon Carlos Medina; Les Davaz, outgoing parish council chair; Jim Whitaker, incoming parish council chair; Patti Farmer, building and grounds committee chair; Bishop Curlin; Father Paul Gary, rector; transitional Deacon Patrick Toole; Father Robert Conway, parochial vicar; and altar servers.

Understanding the Mystery of the Mass



St. Ignace Deacon Dan
Reflections on the Mass by
Father Matthew Buettner
Foreword by
Dr. Alice von Hildebrand

Now available!

A book of Fr. Matthew Buettner's acclaimed series on the Holy Eucharist!

Bishop Peter J. Jugis says:

"(Father Buettner's) work will bring all the faithful who read it to a more conscious, active, and fruitful participation in the mystery of the Eucharist, and thus contribute to their growth in holiness."

Order NOW at www.tedeumfoundation.org

or send check for \$8.95 plus \$2.50 mailing to:

Te Deum Foundation, Inc., 2767 London Lane, Winston-Salem, NC 27103.



THE ORATORY

434 Charlotte Avenue, P.O. Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586
(803) 327-2097

25th SUMMER BIBLE INSTITUTE

Sunday, July 16th to
Friday, July 21st

OLD TESTAMENT

Irene Nowell, OSB

Topic: Women in the Old Testament

NEW TESTAMENT

Robert Karris, OFM

Topic: Eating your way through
Luke's Gospel

THE GOOD NEWS IS, YOU HAVE THOUSANDS OF INVESTMENT OPTIONS. THE BAD NEWS IS...

- You have thousands of investment options, and you don't know how to pick the best ones for your situation.
- You have thousands of investments options, and you don't have time to research even a fraction of them.

Call to learn more about:



PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

Les Davaz
Financial Advisor
Member, St. Patrick's Church

100 N. Tryon St., Suite 3300
Charlotte, NC 28202

(704) 331-2233 or
(800) 438-0397

<http://fc.smithbarney.com/davaz>

citigroup
SMITH BARNEY

* Minimum balance \$25,000 Equity, \$100,000 Fixed Income. © 2006 Citigroup Global Markets Inc. Member SIPC. Smith Barney is a division and service mark of Citigroup Global Markets Inc. and its affiliates and is used and registered throughout the world. CITIGROUP and the Umbrella Device are trademarks and service marks of Citigroup Inc. or its affiliates and are used and registered throughout the world.

Groce
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

1401 Patton Ave. 72 Long Shoals Road
Asheville, NC Arden, NC
(828) 252-3535 (828) 687-3530

**Assuring
Absolute
Integrity**

Asheville's Catholic Funeral Directors
Dale Groce • John Prock

Toll-free (888) 874-3535

Pre-arrangements and obituaries on-line at www.grocefuneralhome.com

FROM THE COVER

Conference explores Bible, international program in Charlotte

SCRIPTURE, from page 1

Diocese of Charlotte utilize the program.

"This very successful Bible study program, the fastest-growing in the Catholic Church today, was started here in our diocese," said Gail Buckley, program founder and executive director.

The conference featured a variety of speakers, including Hahn, a professor of theology and Scripture at the Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio; Shea, a Catholic writer and radio show host; and Olson, author and Catholic apologist.

John Morales, host of the weekly radio show Catholic Exchange Today, served as the conference master of ceremonies. Bishop Peter J. Jugis, who serves on Catholic Scripture Study International's advisory board, gave his imprimatur, or ecclesiastical approval, to the program's leader's manual written by Buckley.

The bishop celebrated the conference's closing Mass.

Other conference speakers included Father Patrick Winslow, pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Jefferson and St. Frances of Rome Church in Sparta, and Father Matthew Kauth, pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Franklin.

Father Winslow and Father Kauth are lecturers for the program, which is now in 40 countries.

"Fathers Winslow and Kauth

"This very successful Bible study program, the fastest-growing in the Catholic Church today, was started here in our diocese."

— Gail Buckley

showed not only their entertaining personalities but also their great knowledge and deep reverence of our Catholic faith and Scripture," said Buckley.

The conference covered a number of topics, such as Bible resources, managing group discussions, understanding the catechism and starting Catholic Scripture Study programs.

"The conference was a huge success and two Protestants who were in attendance are now (interested in) converting to the Catholic Church," said Buckley. "One said she cried tears of joy all the way home."

Contributing to this story was Gail Buckley.

WANT MORE INFO?

Another conference is planned for Charlotte in April 2007. For more information about Catholic Scripture Study International, visit www.catholicscripturestudy.com.



COURTESY PHOTO

Father Matthew Kauth and Father Patrick Winslow share a laugh during their presentation at the Catholic Scripture Study International Conference in Charlotte April 28-30.

Looking back, looking forward

Women's Guild celebrates 40 years with Mass, reflections

CHARLOTTE — The Women's Guild at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Charlotte recently celebrated its 40th anniversary.

The celebration, held May 21, included Mass and installation of the guild's 40th board of directors.

Mass was celebrated by Father Mark Lawlor, pastor, and concelebrated by Msgr. William Pharr, a retired diocesan priest who had served as pastor there for 10 years.

A historical slide presentation, prepared by guild member Grace Narus and narrated by first guild president Marianne Loftus, highlighted the many changes at the parish over the last 40 years. Changes included modifications to the church buildings and growth in the parish, which has grown from 100 families to more than 1,673 families.

The guild's mission is to foster unity among women in the parish, encourage spiritual growth, render assistance to the pastor, care for the sacristy and

sanctuary, and assist other parish organizations and members of the community.

The Women's Guild helps support the parish's diversity with an annual parish dinner dance featuring more than a dozen cultures reflective of the parish membership.

The guild also has held numerous fundraisers to support the parish, and helped build a rectory and sidewalk on the property.

In addition to supporting outreach organizations throughout the Charlotte-Mecklenburg area, the guild also established the American Red Cross blood drive at the parish and helped found the parish's Girl Scouts and Brownie troops.


Contributing to this article was Diane Beckwith, 2005 publicity chairperson of the St. Vincent de Paul Church's Women's Guild, and Peggy Gibbons, 2006 president of the Women's Guild.

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels. 

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065



St. Thomas Aquinas Academy
Asheville, North Carolina

www.stthomasaquinasacademy.org

(828) 687-7714

Accepting applications for ninth, tenth and eleventh grades.

Member, National Association of Private, Catholic and Independent Schools
St. Thomas Aquinas Academy is a private school, independent of the Charlotte Diocesan school system.

VOCATIONS

Well-classed priests

2006 ordination class better educated, older, survey finds

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Although the number of new priests remains steady, the ordination class of 2006 in the United States is better educated, older and more likely to be foreign-born than their colleagues of years past.

Data gathered by the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Vocations and Priestly Formation was analyzed by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, the Catholic research organization based at Georgetown University in Washington, and made public May 1, as part of an annual report.

Based on survey responses from 233 seminarians from 98 of the 195 U.S. dioceses and 24 of the more than 200 religious orders of men, CARA found that nearly 80 percent of the men scheduled for ordination in 2006 had a bachelor's degree before entering the seminary and 30 percent had earned a graduate degree.

The average age of the class of 2006 is 37, with 22 percent under 30 and 4 percent over 60. Almost a third of the men were born outside the United States.

Based on responses to a separate survey of vocations directors of U.S. dioceses and religious orders, "it appears that the number of ordinands remains steady," the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops said in a news release.

Ordinations numbered 438 last year and 454 the year before, according to the Official Catholic Directory.

The 144 diocesan vocation directors and heads of 44 religious orders who responded to the survey estimated 359 potential ordinands, but about 25 percent of dioceses and 90 percent of religious orders did not respond to the survey.

Exact ordination figures for 2006 will not be available until the 2007 Official Catholic Directory comes out next year.

The Archdiocese of Newark, N.J., has the largest ordination class in 2006, with 17 men slated for ordination. The Archdiocese of Washington reports 12 ordinands, the Archdiocese of Denver 11 and the Diocese of Rockford, Ill., 10.

In the Diocese of Salt Lake City, Utah, where Catholics make up 8 percent of the population, four new priests are being ordained this year.

The Diocese of Charlotte ordained two men to the priesthood June 3.

"These are quality men," said Bishop Blase J. Cupich of Rapid City, S.D., chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Vocations.

"They started out in the seminary with strong educational backgrounds and underwent thorough theological education and spiritual, human and pastoral formation throughout their seminary experience," he said.

SURVEY STATISTICS

Among the survey's other findings:

— The percentage of ordinands who are Asian (13 percent) is higher than the U.S. Catholic Asian population overall (2 percent).

The percentage of Hispanics (12 percent) is lower than the U.S. Catholic Hispanic population (28 percent), and the percentage of African-Americans (1 percent) is lower than the U.S. Catholic African-American population (4 percent).

— The percentage of foreign-born ordinands increased from 24 percent in 1998 to 27 percent last year to 30 percent in 2006.

— About 75 percent of the new priests reported having full-time work experience before entering the seminary, with the most common field being education.

— Almost 10 percent of the ordinands had served in the U.S. armed forces, more than a third of them in the U.S. Navy.

"The variety of backgrounds reflects the variety found in the current Catholic community which will welcome them in parishes nationwide," Bishop Cupich said.

"The generosity of these men needs to be met by the entire community promoting and encouraging their sons to become 'fishers of men.' God has blessed us once again and we pray for continued blessings," he said.



Congratulations 2006
Graduate

James Stuhrenberg

On Your Ordination
To The Priesthood
For the Diocese of
Charlotte

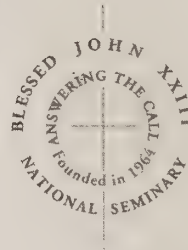
The Blessed John XXIII National Seminary
Reverend Peter J. Uglietto, Rector
Faculty, Seminarians, and Staff

Blessed John XXIII National Seminary

558 South Avenue . Weston, Massachusetts 02493

781.899.5500 Fax: 781-899-9057

E-Mail seminary@blessedjohnxxiii.edu



Preparing men ranging in age
from 30 to 60
for the Priesthood

Congratulations on your
priestly ordination!

H. Alejandro Ayala, Class of 2006



Saint Vincent Seminary

300 Fraser Purchase Road,
Latrobe, PA 15650-2690
724-532-6600

<http://benedictine.stvincent.edu/seminary/>

Ordination Class of 2006

average age of new U.S. priests

37

75%

have full-time work experience

have served in U.S. armed forces

40

30%

were born outside of the U.S.

largest number to be ordained
in a single diocese/archdiocese
— Archdiocese of Newark, N.J.

17

Source: U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops
©2006 CNS

VOCATIONS

Bishop ordains two men to priesthood

PRIESTS, from page 1

"What joy you bring to all of us this day by responding to Christ's call: 'Come, follow me,'" said the bishop.

Answering the call

Father Ayala first heard the call to the priesthood as a child in his native Argentina.

"I had a beautiful, decisive experience during my first Communion. It marked me deeply and ever since I have pursued embracing religious life," he said.

Father Ayala came to the United States in 1994 and worked as a caretaker at the Basilica of St. Lawrence in Asheville.

"I had a chance to think and pray on the feeling that God was calling me to give my life entirely to follow him," said Father Ayala.

He learned English and applied to be a seminarian for the Diocese of Charlotte. In 2000, he was enrolled in St. Vincent Seminary in Latrobe, Pa.

The experience of being ordained is "hard to put into words," he said.

"It's a wonderful gift of God. I have a great sense of peace and joy," said Father Ayala.

Father Stuhrenberg, who grew up in Charlotte, originally worked as a civilian avionics engineer on military aircraft at the U.S. Marine Corps air station in Cherry Point, N.C.

"I saw (my call) as being like that of Moses ... I'm not the right person," said Father Stuhrenberg. "But God always reminded me that I said I would follow him and go where he wanted me to go."

His calling led him to Blessed John XXIII National Seminary in Weston, Mass.

"Jesus has given me a great love for

his people," said Father Stuhrenberg. "I've always been interested in what people think, what they believe and why they believe it."

Priests need to possess a combination of piety, study and prayer, he said.

"Those are a means to be the bridge between people and God," said Father Stuhrenberg.

"It's a wonderful day for the Diocese of Charlotte. It shows the Holy Spirit is moving in the hearts of men to respond to the invitation to serve at the altar and to nourish the people of God," said Father Christopher Gober, diocesan vocations director.

"Fathers Ayala and Stuhrenberg both bring a spirit of joy and willing service. They will be blessings for the faithful on their first assignments," he said.

Father Stuhrenberg has been assigned as parochial vicar of St. Mark Church in Huntersville; Father Ayala as parochial vicar of Sacred Heart Church in Salisbury.

"The process of formation that started long ago and continued in seminary still continues for the newly ordained priest," said Father Ayala.

"I'm looking forward to serving the people and learning under the faithful experience of Father John Putnam (pastor of Sacred Heart Church)," said Father Ayala.

Serving like Christ

The parish priest serves as Christ the Shepherd, Christ the Teacher and Christ the Priest, said Bishop Jugis.

"Jesus ... had compassion for the vast crowds who followed him," said the bishop, "and the priest in his parish is surrounded by the vast crowds of his parish family and he has compassion for all of them, sharing in their joys, their sorrows and in their striving to live the Catholic faith."

"He shepherds them, tending them as his flock, and he nourishes them on the bread of life and the cup of eternal salvation ... the body and blood of Jesus Christ in the holy Eucharist, so they can make progress in the life of grace," said the bishop.

As a teacher, Jesus proclaimed the Gospel to the great crowds who followed him. The priest, said Bishop Jugis, must teach the Gospel and faith of Christ to the parish who follows him.

The spiritual union between Christ and his priests is an intimate one, said Bishop Jugis.

"When speaking to his first priests, the Apostles, at the Last Supper, he used the word 'friends' to describe his relationship with them: 'I call you my friends because I have told you everything I have learned from my Father,'" said Bishop Jugis.

Jesus' character is permanently impressed upon a priest, said the bishop.

"There is a unique oneness of Christ with his priests ... a special relationship of belonging to the Master, which allows the priest to act in the person of Christ," said Bishop Jugis.

The bishop asked three things of the



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Bishop Peter J. Jugis anoints the hands of Father Alejandro Ayala with sacred chrism during the ordination Mass at St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte June 3.

new priests: to pray, love and serve.

"Sanctify each day through your prayer ... love with boundless generosity ... and serve for the salvation of your brothers and sisters," he said. "You are ordained not for yourself, but for their sanctification and salvation."

Priests "are the hands and feet of Christ, doing the work of Christ, with Christ," said Father Stuhrenberg. "Jesus promised me it would be a partnership."

Ordination Mass

Concelebrants of the ordination Mass included Msgr. Mauricio W. West, vicar general and diocesan chancellor; Father Gober; and other priests serving in the Diocese of Charlotte. In attendance was Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin.

During the rite of ordination, Fathers Ayala and Stuhrenberg confirmed their promises to fulfill the office of the priesthood. Kneeling, they placed their hands between Bishop Jugis' hands in a promise of obedience to the diocese.

The congregation was invited to join in prayer for the priestly candidates, the church and its people as they lay prostrate before the altar.

During the rite's most solemn moment, Fathers Ayala and Stuhrenberg knelt before Bishop Jugis, who laid his hands on their heads. The celebration of the sacrament of holy orders was completed as the bishop extended his hands over the kneeling candidates and prayed the prayer of consecration.

Fathers Ayala and Stuhrenberg were vested with stoles and chasubles — outer garments of the priestly office. The bishop anointed their hands with sacred chrism and they were then presented with chalices and patens signifying their roles as celebrants of the Eucharist.



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Father James Stuhrenberg, a native of California who grew up in Charlotte, studied for the priesthood at Blessed John XXIII National Seminary in Weston, Mass.

The newly ordained Fathers Ayala and Stuhrenberg then joined their brother priests to concelebrate the Mass, thus opening the new chapter in their lives.

PRIESTLY ASSIGNMENTS

Father H. Alejandro Ayala will serve as parochial vicar at Sacred Heart Church in Salisbury.

Father James Stuhrenberg will serve as parochial vicar at St. Mark Church in Huntersville.



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Father H. Alejandro Ayala, a native of Argentina, studied for the priesthood at St. Vincent Seminary in Latrobe, Pa.

Celebrating service

FATHER DEL GIUDICE HONORED



COURTESY PHOTO

Bishop Peter J. Jugis and priests from the Diocese of Charlotte celebrate a bilingual Mass at Sacred Heart Church in Brevard May 30 in honor of Father Carl Del Giudice's 25th anniversary in the priesthood. Parishioners of Sacred Heart Church and its mission, St. Jude Church in Sapphire Valley, as well as community members, Knights of Columbus and longtime friends came to honor Father Del Giudice, pastor of Sacred Heart Church. A reception was held after Mass with a photo display highlighting Father Del Giudice's priestly ministry.

GATHERED IN MINISTRY



COURTESY PHOTO

Priests celebrate their respective anniversaries to the priesthood in the chapel at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville May 24.

Pictured (from left): Msgr. Joseph Showfety, Conventional Franciscan Father Juniper Alwell, Father Joseph Waters, Conventional Franciscan Father Conall McHugh, Father Andrew Latsko and Father Joseph Kelleher.

Father Kelleher celebrated 53 years; Msgr. Showfety celebrated 51 years; Fathers Juniper, Waters and McHugh celebrated 50 years; and Father Latsko celebrated 13 years.

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



INTRODUCING...
IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES WEST -

St. Barnabas in Arden -
open after all Masses of 2nd and 4th weekends each month

Visit our others satellite stores, too:
St. Charles Borromeo in Morganton
St. Gabriel in Charlotte
St. Therese in Mooreville

Come in and check out our GREAT SUMMER READING selections!!

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)

maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205



Happy Father's Day

from Pennybyrn at Maryfield!

You've earned it: a rare opportunity to embrace life as never before, free from chores or concerns about the future, in a beautiful retirement community with premier services and amenities. Surrounded by good friends and healthy choices, you can stay active, involved and in control.

Now under construction in High Point, Pennybyrn at Maryfield will have everything you want or need, as well as a plan for tomorrow...what a wonderful gift for you, and your family!

Call (336) 886-4103 or toll-free (866) 627-9343.



PENNYBYRN
at MARYFIELD
A Continuing Care Retirement Community

1315 Greensboro Road, High Point, NC 27260

www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com

Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor Servants
of the Mother of God



SPC/PH/06

All walks of life

Religious vocations can come from any place

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A few years ago Teresa Min-Sook Kim was a young Korean immigrant in Minnesota, a non-Catholic who spoke little English.

Jay Toborowsky was a young Jewish man working as an aide to the mayor of Woodbridge, N.J.

Carol Derynioski had been teaching more than 25 years and had her own home in Boca Raton, Fla.

What do they have in common? Now each is called "Sister" or "Father" and is an example of the way the call to priesthood or religious life can be heard.

It was 15 years ago that Kim — now Sister Kim in the Sisters of St. Joseph of

Carondelet — telephoned her college algebra teacher, Sister Agnes Foley, to tell her she wanted to become a nun.

She said what drew her to a religious vocation was the sense of peace and freedom she found embodied in Sister Foley.

At the time Sister Kim was not Catholic. She had grown up in a nominally Protestant family, but had rejected religion and any notion of God after her sister died in 1987.

"It was a crazy idea at first" to want to be a nun, but when she made that phone call, she said, "I knew."

Over the years that followed, Sister Kim struggled to learn English, learned about Catholicism, was baptized, became a lay associate of the sisters, and in 2000 took her first vows as a Sister of St. Joseph.

On April 22 she took her final vows at the sisters' chapel in St. Paul.

"She is an Asian woman joining a province that has no other Asian women as vowed members," Sister Foley told those gathered for the event. "Remarkably, she has been able to bridge two cultures, and we need that."

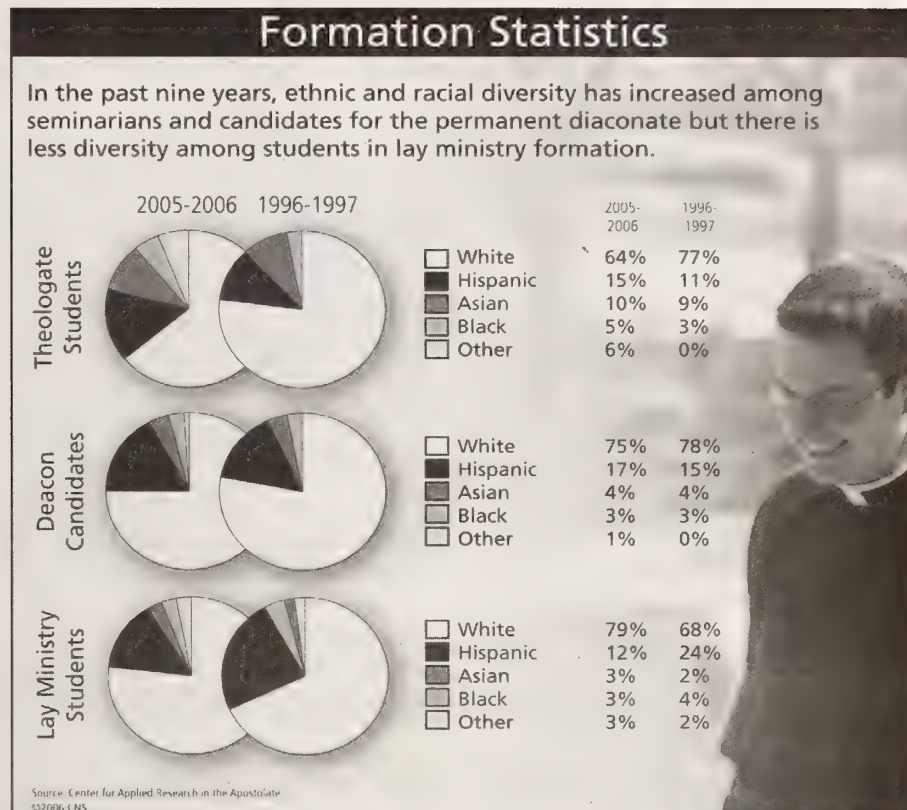
Sister Kim said she has found what she thinks many people are seeking and have not yet found. "In that sense, I am so blessed," she said.

Never deterred

Father Jay Toborowsky is a priest of the Diocese of Metuchen, N.J. Born Jonathan Samuel in 1967 in Perth Amboy, N.J., he was raised in a Jewish household until his parents divorced when he was 5.

He and his mother moved into the home of his grandmother, a Catholic.

While his mother worked, his grandmother baby-sat him, and if she went to



NEW COVENANT BOOKSTORE

- Books
- Cards
- Videos
- Jewelry
-and more!

336-760-1673

304 Upton St.,
Winston-Salem, NC
www.newcovenantbookstore.com

Seeking healing and forgiveness after an abortion?

Experience God's love and compassion once again —

The Charlotte Diocese Respect Life Office of Catholic Social Services offers help to both men and women, in confidence, at **704-370-3229**.

**Upcoming Rachel's Vineyard Retreat -
July 28-30 at Mepkin Abbey near Charleston, SC**

You may also want to visit Rachel's Vineyard Web site at www.rachelsvineyard.org for helpful articles, retreat information and other direction to new hope and meaning for your future.



Mass, he would accompany her. But he attended a Jewish elementary school through fifth grade and learned Hebrew as a child — something that would come in handy years later in seminary studies.

He said he made Catholic friends when he started attending public schools and he felt deeply affected by Pope John Paul II's 1979 visit to New York.

During his college years, Father Toborowsky said he started thinking more seriously about life's big questions and felt himself drawn toward Catholicism. He was baptized in 1990 and became increasingly active in volunteer roles at St. Anthony Parish in Port Reading, N.J.

In 1992 the Metuchen Diocese accepted him into the seminary and in 1998 he was ordained. While he was in the seminary, he said, his father began seeing a priest for spiritual direction and also converted to Catholicism.

Father Toborowsky, now an associate pastor of St. Mary Church in Alpha, N.J., and moderator of the weekly diocesan radio program, "Proclaim the Good News," said he did not feel certain of his call to the priesthood until "the day I was ordained a deacon."

He said he advises young men who are considering the priesthood not to let doubts or fears deter them.

"Think you can't do it? So did I," he said. "Think you're not good or holy enough? Been there, done that."

Filling a void

Carol Derynioski grew up Catholic in Connecticut, the oldest of five children, and entered the Daughters of Mary of the Immaculate Conception as a teenager.

But her father died during her third year in religious life and "I left the community the next year to help my family," she said.

She earned a college degree and taught for 26 years. But she felt a restlessness. She returned to her former order and for six years taught school as Sister Mary Carol, most recently in Ware, Mass.

It was not enough, she said. "I felt that although I was living in an active community I was drawn to the contemplative life."

After learning about the Monastery of the Mother of God in West Spring-

field, a community of contemplative Dominicans, she contacted them. Last August she entered the monastery and in February she took the white veil of a novice and the name Sister Maria Gianna of the Divine Mercy.

She said back in her teens she probably would not have been mature enough to understand contemplative life or persevere in it. She believes God used her experiences to bring her to this point.

Spiritual adoption

Having a connection with nuns and priests and learning about the paths many take to ecclesial vocations is one of the aims of an apostolate at Holy Trinity School in Greenfield, Mass. The youngsters have adopted and been adopted — spiritually — by religious orders.

That started when Marcie Zimmerman, a mother of two of the students, started thinking about the fact that few children today have the opportunity to know members of religious congregations.

With support and input from the principal, she wrote to about 25 communities of men and women religious, inviting them to connect with the students and adopt a class that they would pray for. The students in turn post pictures in class of "their" communities of priests, brothers or sisters, correspond with them and pray for them.

The groups range from religious communities in Massachusetts to the Canons Regular of Jesus the Lord in Vladivostok, Russia.

Zimmerman said many of the communities were delighted with the spiritual adoption idea and said they had never been approached that way before. The program has led to visits to the school by several members of the religious communities involved.

Who knows which student there might some day, years from now, feel a restless tug toward priesthood or religious life?

Contributing to this story were Emilie Lemmons in St. Paul, Regina Kelly in Metuchen and Peggy Weber and Cori Fugere Urban in the Springfield Diocese.

From Africa to Asheville

Students enjoy weeklong cultural residency

BY CAROLE MCGROTTY
CORRESPONDENT

ASHEVILLE — "Ago?" the students were asked, meaning, "Do I have your attention?"

"A'me," they replied, meaning, "Yes."

The students were participating in dialogue used between teachers and students throughout Africa.

It was part of a weeklong residency during which two Zulu tribe members brought their music, art, culture and history to third-, fourth- and fifth-graders at Asheville Catholic School in May.

As part of a group of professional performers and teachers, Shaka and Naimah bring their culture to schools throughout the United States. Relocated after Hurricane Katrina from New Orleans to Atlanta, they continue teaching students about the Zulu in New Orleans as well as the history of Mardi Gras.

In addition to making costumes and accessories under the guidance of Shaka



PHOTO BY CAROLE MCGROTTY

Third-graders at Asheville Catholic School practice Zulu dance moves during a weeklong residency program in May.

and Naimah, the students learned songs and dances for their performance at the Lake Eden Arts Festival in Black Mountain in May.

The week was "really interesting because we got to see what other cultures are like," said third-grader Ashley Bruce.

Sharing stories



COURTESY PHOTO

Third-grader Ellie Baumgartner of St. Pius X School in Greensboro reads to Bea McGarity, a resident of Morning View Assisted Living, May 19. The third-grade class read and sang to the residents during an afternoon tea.

Flying free



COURTESY PHOTO

Pre-kindergarten students watch butterflies being released at St. Michael School in Gastonia May 23. The students watched the butterflies evolve from their larvae stage over seven days. As the butterflies were released, the children shouted "good-bye" and waved joyfully to their insect friends.

Attention: Homeowners...Have a plumbing problem? Don't Panic!...

"How To Get A Top Talent Plumber To Show Up On-Time So You Don't Waste Time"

You have a busy schedule and value your time. Most plumbing companies won't give you a real appointment time and keep you waiting all day for a plumber to show up. Now there's a new way to get your plumbing problem fixed, save money, and get a precise Appointment Window so you don't have to waste time waiting.

Three-Way Plumbing Services, Inc.

We're The Good Guys Your Friends Told You About®

(704) 535-4795 Charlotte

(704) 795-9349 Concord

Serving The Entire Charlotte Diocese Area

www.3wayplumbing.com

Proud member of St. James Church



*Congratulations
Seminarian
Fred M. Werth
On Your
Ordination to the
Diaconate
For The Diocese of
Charlotte*

*The Blessed John XXIII National Seminary
Reverend Peter J. Uglietto, Rector
Faculty, Seminarians, and Staff*

Blessed John XXIII National Seminary

558 South Avenue . Weston, Massachusetts 02493

781.899.5500 Fax: 781-899-9057

E-Mail seminary@blessedjohnxxiii.edu



*Preparing men ranging in age
from 30 to 60
for the Priesthood*

Fun on the field



COURTESY PHOTO

First-graders take part in a tug-of-war during the annual Field Day at Immaculate Heart of Mary School in High Point June 1. The day, which celebrates the end of the school year, featured games and activities for all grades.

Stepping back in time



COURTESY PHOTO

Principal Gary Gelo stands with students dressed in Colonial-era costumes during a Colonial Fair at Our Lady of Grace School in Greensboro March 24.

Fourth- and fifth-graders learned about Colonial-era dances, games and choirs, including how to weave with a large loom and examine cloth made without modern machinery. The students enjoyed cider and cornbread with butter made by the students.

Students pictured: Katie Watterson, Caroline Sherwood, Grace DeMers, Mimi LaMuraglia, Anne Prendergast, Sebastian Lucek, Jackson Williams, Patrick Tierney and Patrick DePinto.

LAST CHANCE TO SAVE \$100*

WALK WHERE JESUS WALKED ON A DIOCESAN-SPONSORED PILGRIMAGE TO



THE HOLY LAND

September 5 - 14

with Fr. James Hawker, Diocesan Vicar
of Education and Pastor, St. Luke Church

Deepen your understanding of our Catholic faith and watch the pages of the Bible come alive as you experience daily Mass at many of the historical sites of our faith.

Highlights include:

- Tiberias, Mt. Carmel, Sea of Galilee area
- Mt. Tabor, Cana, Nazareth - Jesus' boyhood area
- Capernaum, Mount of Beatitudes, River Jordan
- Jerusalem area: Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Via Dolorosa, Lord's Tomb at Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Mount Zion, Upper Room, Dormition Abbey, Wailing Wall
- Dead Sea (excavations and scrolls), Masada, Holocaust memorial
- Bethlehem's historic sites - PLUS much more!

* Price: \$2,499 from Charlotte (\$2,599 after June 22) includes airfare, most meals, first-class hotels and all tours. Airport taxes/fees, tips and insurance are extra.

Call Cindi Feerick at 704/370-3332 for a brochure with complete details or Pentecost Tours 800/713-9800 for registration.

Hands-on history

St. Matthew School students experience 18th-century life

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — The fifth-graders of St. Matthew School in Charlotte recently took a field trip to the past.

Camp Flintlock set up a Colonial era-style encampment on the school's campus May 31, introducing the students to the crafts, games and chores of families during the 1770s.

"We chose this time period because we study all of the history of the United States," said Utahnah Miller, fifth-grade teacher. "Camp Flintlock was the only place that would provide hands-on activities."

Camp Flintlock was created in 1999 to teach young people about Colonial history in an authentic historical context.

The students learned to make fudge over an open fire, bookbinding, candle making and jewelry making.

Fifth-grader Jennifer Holder was surprised that children living in the 1770s had time to play games like tug-of-war, nine pins and hoop racing.

"I thought they would stay inside, and it would be boring," she said.

After dressing up in a period costume, student Nicholas Shoat decided he

would rather live in 1776 than 2006.

"They were more adventurous — hunting and fishing," Nicholas said. "You had to meet your own needs."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Two fifth-graders at St. Matthew School in Charlotte try on Colonial-era dresses as part of the Camp Flintlock field trip May 31.

Youths, priest recognized at DYC

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Three high school students and a priest were recognized for living out their faith and outstanding personal qualities and community service.

The awards were given at the 29th annual Diocesan Youth Conference near Black Mountain April 28-30.

Kierstan Snyder received the Bishop Michael J. Begley Award in recognition for demonstrating the attributes of Bishop Begley: outstanding character, parish involvement and service to the community.

She serves as a faith formation teacher, Vacation Bible School crew leader and RCIA sponsor at Our Lady of Grace Church in Greensboro.

In her community, Snyder has participated in CROP WALK, LifeSpan and the Interfaith Youth Symposium. She has volunteered for Pathways, a homeless shelter; and organizes bingo games for residents at Maryfield Health Care Households Neighborhood in High Point.

Lianna Beard received the Eagle of the Cross, a national award from the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministers. It is awarded to a youth that

demonstrates outstanding faith in action.

A parishioner of St. Barnabas Church in Arden, Beard participates in her parish youth ministry and youth music programs, is an altar server and is involved in pro-life activities.

A member of the National Honor Society and Spanish club at her school, Beard tutors middle school students in algebra and seventh-grade math.

Billy Sutton, a parishioner of St. James the Greater Church in Concord, received the St. Timothy Award, which is awarded to a youth demonstrating leadership qualities. Sutton has served in a number of parish ministries, including altar server, extraordinary minister of holy Communion, faith formation teacher and vocations advocate.

A third-degree Knight of Columbus, Sutton is a member of the Diocesan Youth Advisory Council.

Augustinian Father James Cassidy, pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Monroe, received the John Paul II Award in recognition of his service to the youth community. Father Cassidy has served as homilist and confessor at the conference for the past three years.

Lighting the way



COURTESY PHOTO

Junior Girl Scouts at St. Ann Church in Charlotte receive Bronze Awards during a troop awards and bridging ceremony May 21. Members from all the troops — Girl Scouts, Brownies, Juniors and Cadettes — and their adult leaders participated in the event, which included a flag ceremony, a play and dinner, award and badge presentations, and a bridging ceremony, during which the girls were honored for their progression and growth.

The Bronze Award is the highest honor that Junior Scouts can receive. Pictured (from left): Kaitlyn Sommer, Rachel George, Cassidy Tackett, Flannery Kuhn, Ann-Marie Weatherly, Kaylin Charlton, Ivey Andersen and leader Nancy Andersen.

Each girl lit a candle as she told what she had learned while completing the service requirements to earn her award.

Singing and signing



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the children's choir at St. Pius X Church in Greensboro sing and perform sign language May 3 for residents of Dolan Manor, a housing facility on the parish property for older adults. The children were led and assisted by Sallie Kelton, choir director; Ginny Fox, performing sign language; and Ann Bauer, on piano.

Cadettes bring audio books, joy to children

GREENSBORO — Eight members of Girl Scout Cadette Troop 16 at Our Lady of Grace Church in Greensboro recently received Silver Awards, the highest award that can be earned by cadettes.

The award has several progressive steps, all of which prepare the cadettes, ages 11-14, to design and conduct a service project.

For their project, the cadettes recorded onto tape more than 100 books. They donated the tapes, books and 10 recorders to the Pathways Center, a housing program of Greensboro Urban Ministry that provides temporary shelter to families seeking housing.

The cadettes enlisted others to help record the books, including Father

James Ebright, parochial vicar at Our Lady of Grace Church, and a Spanish teacher from Guilford Middle School.

They delivered the donated items to the center March 5, and celebrated with a reading party with Girl Scout cookies for the children there.

The eight award winners were Molly Ball, 14; Emily Byerly, 13; Nicole Agresto, 14; Myriah Dixon, 14; Nikki Curnes, 14; Audrey Amolegbe, 13; Christiane Ruggiero, 14; and Patty Simril, 13.



Thinking about a will?

Practice good stewardship, create a lasting legacy and help the poorest of the poor overseas.

Request a free Wills Kit from Catholic Relief Services.

1-800-235-2772 ext. 7318 or kdudzik@crs.org



AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles
Licensed & Insured
FREE ESTIMATES
www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185



**Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center**

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212

704-568-0023

www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma

Owner/Director

Privately, Locally Owned

Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

CHARLOTTE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL AND BISHOP McGUINNESS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PROUDLY PRESENT THEIR GRADUATING SENIORS AND INTENDED COLLEGES

2006

CCHS

Alabama, U of
Lauren Bauer
Michael Golmont
Shannon Van Hoy

Appalachian St. U
Mario Acitelli
Deandra Alfero
Barry Backus
Chase Belk
Michael Betters
Andrew Bodnar
Alexander Cominsky
Alison Deschenes
Brett Ezarsky
Joel Fernandes
James Fleck
Christine Flores
Sam Fortenberry
Jenna Galanti
David Heiliger
Kyle Jones
Alex Kabouris
Logan Kimbrell
Kelly McMahon
Alyssa Mulhall
Walter Putnam
Ross Rebhan
Nicole Reid
Steven Rossman
Katie Shell
Jessica Sillessi
Matthew Suttoni
Jenna Thomborg
Chase Turner

Art Inst./Charlotte
Jenna Graham

Auburn University
Virginia Coyle
Brian Dickson
Harison Hinson

Belmont Abbey College
Joseph Albertson
Lisa Mahedy
Cecile Ognodo
Elena Petrocilli
Crystal Silva

Brevard College
Kimberly Dixon

Calif. St. U, Long Beach
Angela Stowe

Catholic U of America
Andrew Randazzo

Central Piedmont CC
Nicholas Barlow
Matthew Bradley
Lindsey Braun
Brendan Burns
Anthony Cipriano
Christine Curran
Patricia Hill
Caitlin Kuhn
Matthew Spaventa
Patricia Townsend
Jeffrey Wilken

College of Charleston
Matthew Giedraits

Christendom College
Brian Gallagher

Clemson University
Miriam Bernard

Shannon Brennan
Catherine Conrad
Rachel Hesler
Thomas Jasper
Patrick Needham
Lauren Regelbrugge
Kelley Regele

Coastal Carolina U
Joe Benson
Kyle Elmiger
Christopher George

Colorado, U/Boulder
Jessica Gruber

Columbia College
John Belciglio

Connecticut College
Samuel Perley

Duke University
Stephen Allan
Chelsea Allison
Courtney Peterson

East Carolina U
Jacquelyn Cunningham
Alexis Gaede
Jonathan Ganzert
Carson Grist
Scott Kent
Jared Motuz
Andrea Murphy
Lauren Pfefferle
Luke Rayson
Adam Sinclair
Bryan Slattery
Tyson Tran
Leanne Wahl

Elon University
Tyler Bullard
Jacob Compton
Dylan Guion
Christopher Staskel
Russell Varner

Emory & Henry Col.
Brady Buckley

Florida State U
Lindsey McCormick

Florida, U of
Jason Hachen

Furman University
Jill Harouny

Geo. Washington U
Mainjari Friedland

Georgetown Univ.
Lauren Arizmendi

Georgia, U. of
Matthew Day
Kathryn DeVillers
Carrie Friedrich
Stephanie Friedrich
Michelle Gray
Brian Miller
Taylor Rawlins
Christina A Romero
Caitlin Smith
Kimberly Slober
Ryan Whitley
Timothy Yeomans

Hampden-Sydney College
Robert Fedell
Jason Lewis

Daniel McCullough
William Robertson
Craig Wamement
Steele Windle
Col. of The Holy Cross
Kaitlyn Babicz

Johnson & Wales U
Thomas Kerr
Beth Longo

Kingston University
Kenneth Bednar

Lees-McRae College
Matthew Clotti
Dane Robinson

Louisiana State U
Thomas Staub

Meredith College
Liza Dubuc
Elizabeth Mallory

Miami, Univ. of
Matthew Radding

Mississippi, U of
Ashley Liberto
Elizabeth Wrenn

Mount Holyoke Col.
Alicia Mack

Mount Saint Mary's U
Allison Pressimone

NC A&T State Univ.
Franck Nganou

UNC - Asheville
Scott T Soerni

UNC - Chapel Hill
Emily Blaese
Virginia Carley
May Doan
Margaret Eichorn
Patricia Farley
Jessica Friedman
Lauren Garcia
Matthew Garofalo
Hunter Holloway
Christine Horne
Michelle Jelnickey
Caroline Kuttner
Steven Kwon
Jennifer LaBrosse
Alessandra Leahy
Michelle May
Robert Overman
Robert Paradis
Veronica Pham
Alex Sanders
Patricia Sanders
Addie Shapack
Mark Steuerwald
Kristin Warmbold
Natalie Watanasiriach
Kristen Wendover

UNC - Charlotte
Joseph Del Casino
Lauren Edwards
Matthew Farmer
Michael Felts
Heather Harding
Rachel Horton
Anna Kendrick
Alison McLaughlin
Chelsea Nowell
Frances Orr
Brandi Patillo

Nicholas Peattie
Emily Poovey
Edward Reyes
Erica Rojas
Shaun Smith
Lauren Tisdale
Maria Torricella

UNC - Greensboro
Caitlin Bailey

UNC - Wilmington
Kelly Freeman
Aisling Jerome
Zalania Johnson
Bethany Otten
Nicholas Klocke

NC State Univ.

Casey Bartos
Cameron Bevington
Stephanie Brown
Anthony Casper
MacKenzie Cox
Linh Dang
Jason Fedell
Colleen Forcina
Charles Frye
Andrew Geuss
Mario Giammattei
Colleen Grady
Madison Green
Anna Lee Huzar
Sean Kortovich
Tristan Luse
Kelley Maryman
Dana McCarthy
Kaitlin McCarthy
Mark Molner
Jonathan Newman
Dan-Huy Nguyen
Meagan Noriega
Angela Ohlhaut
Stephen Parker
Joseph Phillippi
David Priester
Alice Raad
Carlos Ramirez
Christine Rebich
Ivey Rice
Nicole Ryba
Catherine Spence
Geoffrey Stephens
Warren Taylor
Katherine Wasson

Notre Dame, U of
Kathryn Merriam
Katherine Peralta

Pace University
Thomas Kelly

Parsons Design, NYU
Mary Lauren Kurtz

Purdue University
Alexandra Ryan

Queens University
Anne DeLuca
Maureen Lonergan
Frank Tamplin

Randolph-Macon College
Gregory Portal

South Carolina, U of
Michael Arone
Mark Edward Binetti
Kurtis Binschke
Timothy Ellis
Miranda Epps
Kathryn Filschen
Emily Guerin

Matthew Harvie
Cameron Hobbs
Jessica Ryan Kennelly
Monika Nickels
Sean O'Mara
Hunter Robertson
Taylor Soladay
Kathryn Thomas
Erin Turner
Ashley Vinkler

So. California, U of
Timothy Werth

St. Ambrose University
Peter James

Syracuse University
Kyle Arnold

Texas A&M University
Ryan McCalla

US Naval Academy
James Lascara

United States Army
John Abeln

United States Navy
Nancy Huffman

Virginia Poly. Inst.
Patrick Killoren
Ryan Shearer
Lawrence Stawicki
Rachel Wirth

Wake Forest Univ.
Kathryn Gigler
Gabriel Huertas Del Pino
Nicholas Joyner
Victoria Ta

Western Carolina U
Matthew Daly
Kris Erickson
Glenn Harrison
John Kula
Taylor Ludwig
Michele Michael
Stephen Schmitt
John Schmulling
Joshua West
John Wilkins

Wingate University
Alison Leon

Winthrop University
Suzanne Romano

Xavier University
Danielle Vezolles

Undecided
Erin Burke
Brianna Woods

BMCHS

Appalachian St. U
Jennifer Eklund
Megan Eklund
Brittany Long
Michael Moore
Amanda Nealen
Shane Nolan
Andrew Parcell

Belmont Abbey Col.
Victoria Grattage

Alexandria Peterson
Stefano Rosic

East Carolina U
Reid Adafni
James Dudley
Robert Hendrix
Andrew Mealin
Preston J. Stanford

Elon University
Martin Burke
Ashley Dischinger
Alexandra Milan
Andrew Ronan
Alexa Terry

Ferrum College
Thomas Porter

Forsyth Tech. CC
Allison Alphonso

Geo. Washington U
Kimantha Burnett

Georgia, Univ. of
Jordan Cain

Guilford College
Paul Gerlach

Guilford Tech. CC
Dean Bosch
Kevin Nardi
Marc Russell
Amy Slazyk

Herkimer County CC
Megan Domingue

High Point University
Jillian Smith
Dennis Studer
Brianna Zdanowski

Johnson & Wales U
Keri Cross
Conor Robinson

Kentucky, Univ. of
Gina Ware

Louisiana St/Baton Rouge
Brandon Bass

Lynchburg College
Ashley Payne

Meredith College
Samantha Cibelli

Methodist College
Brett Harless
Marianne Mosch

N C A&T University
Ashley Moore

NC State University
Dane Coffee
Daniel Elliott
Erin Frankenfield
Jonathan Merlini
Gavin Mitchell
Geoffrey Ricci
Jared Smith
Jeremy Swecker

UNC - Asheville
Matthew Maloney
Katherine Saintsing

UNC - Chapel Hill
Benjamin Foreman

Megan Siler
Anna Sweigart

UNC - Charlotte
Carolina Alexander
Vanessa Doran

UNC - Greensboro
Rachel Abbott
Christopher Cain
Katherine Dickson
Margaret Hull
Devin McKinney
Leslie Rocha
Alexandria Wylie

UNC - Pembroke
Adam Meyer
Edward Waked

UNC - Wilmington
Brian Clifford
Christopher Coggin
David Englebretonson

Penn State University
Melania Elsner

Queens University
Gabrielle Merrill
Jessica Robinson

South Carolina, U of
Kelli Bednar
Amy Cannon
Christina Manzullo
Caroline Millis
Marleny Ruiz

St. Leo University
Jessica Swanson

US Naval Academy
Alec Thomas

Virginia Poly. Inst.
Grant Derhofer

Wake Forest U
James Bobbitt
Laura Beth Enos

Western Carolina U
Hannah Armstrong

Wingate University
Jamee Westphal

Wofford College
Anne Koch

Xavier University
Brenden Regan
Allie Thompson

Undecided
Nicole Addington
Seantay Ford
Caitlin Vargo

Charlotte Catholic High School
7702 Pineville-Matthews Road
Charlotte, NC (704) 543-1127

Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School
1725 NC Hwy 66 South
Kernersville, NC (336) 564-1010

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Extension of faith

Catholic magazine marks 100 years of covering U.S. mission territory

CHICAGO (CNS) — The Catholic magazine Extension is celebrating 100 years of bringing Catholics the stories of missions in rural areas across the United States.

The Catholic Church Extension Society, which publishes Extension, has published a commemorative issue with articles, photos and stories that capture the culture of the Catholic Church and noteworthy church events over the last century.

In an effort to serve Catholics in rural and remote areas, the Catholic Extension organization was founded in 1905, and six months later, in 1906, the magazine was founded.

The Chicago-based organization has given more than \$400 million over the years to construct chapels, educate seminarians, and provide campus ministry, religious education and more in U.S. mission dioceses.

"So many Catholics who know about missions in the United States have learned this from Extension magazine," said Bishop William R. Houck, Catholic Extension president.

"What a vision back in 1906 to have this wonderful way to spread the word about life in our home missions," he said.

Going through back issues is kind of like entering "a Catholic time machine," said Bradley Collins, the magazine's editor for the past 25 years.

Over the years, the magazine has become a repository of archival information and is often used by parishes to learn more about their past, Collins said.

Extension has featured work by a variety of artists, including the late Thornton Utz, whose work is displayed at the National Gallery in Ireland and the Smithsonian Institution in Washington.

Franklin McMahon is another renowned artist who began illustrating Extension's short stories in 1941. His art has since been featured in national publications, from Harper's and Sports Illustrated to Life and The Saturday Evening Post.

His son, Mark, illustrated a story for the magazine in 1992.

According to a news release on Extension's anniversary, a number of writers well-known today, including Mary Higgins Clark and Taylor Caldwell, had their first stories published by the magazine before they became household names.

Editor's Note: Subscriptions to Extension magazine are free. Readers can receive 12 months of the magazine by calling: (800) 842-7804, or online at: www.catholicextension.org.



THE ORATORY

434 Charlotte Avenue, P.O. Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586
(803) 327-2097

VISIONS IN FAITH

Sunday, June 18 –
Wednesday, June 21

Fr. Simon Harak, S.J.

Fr. Harak is director of the Fellowship of Reconciliation and will explore the connections between spirituality and justice in our tradition.

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: JUNE 18, 2006

June 18, The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Exodus 24:3-8
- Psalm 116:12-13, 15-16, 17-18
- 2) Hebrews 9:11-15
- 3) Gospel: Mark 14:12-16, 22-26

God's grace heals our wounds, sins

BY DAN LUBY

CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

"We will do everything that the Lord has told us," the people shout as one voice fervent with affirmation and confidence.

They sound so eager, so convinced, so willing to get it right this time.

That's why this enthusiastic response to Moses' proclamation of God's message makes us wince to hear it now, centuries after the fact.

For we know that despite their sincere desire to make up for their long history of shortcomings and failures of generosity and imagination and nerve, they won't get it right.

We see, with the 20/20 clarity of hindsight, that Israel lets God down, not only there in the Sinai but over and over for centuries. We know because we have listened sadly to the endless round

of stories detailing Israel's capacity for self-deception, for willful deafness to God's call.

Generation after generation they will behave in ways that are faithless, inconstant, selfish.

When we hear their overconfidence we shake our heads in sorrowful recognition of our kinship with these spiritual ancestors.

Like them, our good intentions and commitments to conversion all too often prove shallow. Like them, we are tragically quick to violate the principles and betray the values of God's covenant.

The bad news then is that we are sinners, that we cannot make ourselves worthy.

The good news of the readings for this Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ is that the covenant depends not on our faithfulness, but the Lord's; not on our heroism, but Christ's; not on our generosity, but God's.

We are healed of our wounds, forgiven our sins, imbued with the presence of Christ through our participation in the Eucharist. In the end, we are saved, not by our efforts, but by God's grace, made tangible as food and drink in the celebration of the Mass.

That is as good as news can be.

Questions:

What is one way I experience the nourishing power of the Eucharist? Concretely, how can I make my participation in the Eucharist more intentional?

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 11-17

Sunday (Most Holy Trinity), Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40, Romans 8:14-17, Matthew 28:16-20; **Monday**, 1 Kings 17:1-6, Matthew 5:1-12; **Tuesday (St. Anthony of Padua)**, 1 Kings 17:7-16, Matthew 5:13-16; **Wednesday**, 1 Kings 18:20-39, Matthew 5:17-19; **Thursday**, 1 Kings 18:41-46, Matthew 5:20-26; **Friday**, 1 Kings 19:9, 11-16, Matthew 5:27-32; **Saturday**, 1 Kings 19:19-21, Matthew 5:33-37.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 18-24

Sunday (The Body and Blood of Christ), Exodus 24:3-8, Hebrews 9:11-15, Mark 14:12-16, 22-26; **Monday (St. Romuald)**, 1 Kings 21:1-16, Matthew 5:38-42; **Tuesday**, 1 Kings 21:17-29, Matthew 5:43-48; **Wednesday (St. Aloysius Gonzaga)**, 2 Kings 2:1, 6:14, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18; **Thursday (Thomas More and John Fisher)**, Sirach 48:1-14, Matthew 6:7-15; **Friday (Sacred Heart of Jesus)**, Hosea 11:1, 3-4, 8-9, Ephesians 3:8-12, 14-19, John 19:31-37; **Saturday (Nativity of St. John the Baptist)**, Isaiah 49:1-6, Acts 13:22-26, Luke 1:57-66, 80.

Everything you need for a great meeting!

The Catholic Conference Center
www.catholicconference.org

1551 Trinity Lane, Hickory, NC 28602
(828) 327-7441 or Toll-free (888) 536-7441
info@catholicconference.org

ABBOTSWOOD SENIOR LIVING

For more than 17 years, Abbotswood at Irving Park has built a reputation on providing exemplary retirement living services to independent seniors. Residents enjoy the largest 1 and 2 bedroom floorplans in Irving Park, delicious meals, a full-time wellness director and month-to-month rental with **NO BUY-IN FEES**. Optional in-home health care services are available. Call today to schedule your personal tour.

(336) 282-8870

ABBOTSWOOD
at Irving Park

The only full service retirement living address in the heart of Irving Park
3504 Flint Street • Greensboro, NC 27405 • www.kiscoseniorliving.com

Content control

Bishop Kicanas favors 'net neutrality' regulation for Internet

BY MARK PATTISON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Noncommercial religious speech on the Internet is threatened unless protections are put in place to guard against Internet access providers having control over content, the chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Communications said in a May 23 letter to Congress.

"The Internet was constructed as a unique medium without the editorial control functions of broadcast television, radio or cable television," said Bishop Gerald F. Kicanas of Tucson, Ariz., in the letter.

"The Internet is open to any speaker, commercial or noncommercial, whether or not the speech is connected financially to the company providing Internet access, whether it is popular or prophetic," he said.

"Those characteristics make the Internet critical to noncommercial religious speakers," said the bishop.

The House Judiciary Committee May 25 approved a bill requiring that Internet service providers give equal access to all Web services, content and applications, a principle called "net neutrality."

"Net" refers to the broadband network created by Internet service providers.

Proponents of net neutrality fear the

nation's Internet service providers — mainly large telephone and cable television companies — would charge more to guarantee equal access, and slow down access for those who don't pay.

Opponents say net neutrality is a solution in search of a problem.

"Unless Congress requires telephone and cable companies to act as neutral providers of Internet access, as they had been required to do since the birth and through the spectacular growth of the Internet, those companies will use their control over Internet access to speed up or down connections to Web sites to benefit themselves financially," Bishop Kicanas said.

"If the Internet becomes, as it inevitably will without strong protections for net neutrality, a medium where speakers must pay to deliver their messages, religious speech will be effectively barred from the Internet," he said.

The debate over net neutrality arises from a Federal Communication Commission decision to classify broadband providers as information services rather than telecommunications services.

The old regulation meant these providers had to open their high-speed networks to other Internet service providers on nondiscriminatory terms and follow other common carrier rules.

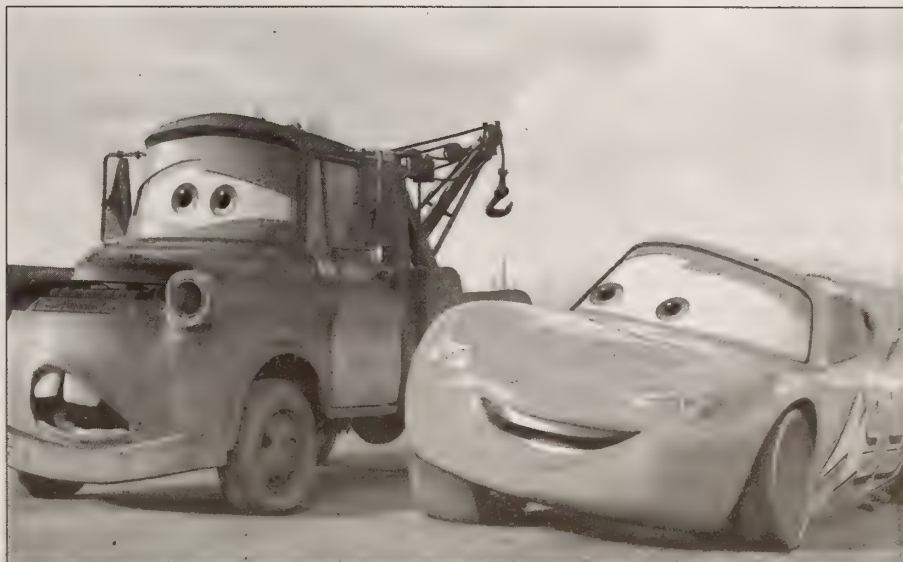
FCC commissioner Michael Copps, a Catholic, told reporters May 22 the FCC has the authority to impose net neutrality.

"I think we have authority to go now to the second phase of network neutrality, to make sure that there's not discrimination against those that are not affiliated with the network owners," Copps said.

"I think we have a good bit of authority in serving the public interest in keeping the networks open to move ahead on this," he said.

The debate on net neutrality has already provided for some unusual alliances. In addition to the U.S. bishops, others calling for such neutrality include the Christian Coalition, the Gun Owners of America, large Internet firms such as Microsoft and Google, and Trent Reznor, leader of the hard rock band Nine Inch Nails.

'Cars' worth a spin



CNS PHOTO BY DISNEY

Mater, a rusty but trusty tow truck, and hotshot rookie racecar Lightning McQueen are pictured in a scene from "Cars," a delightful computer-animated movie set in a world of anthropomorphic autos.

McQueen (voiced by Owen Wilson), while en route cross-country to compete in a prestigious championship, is unexpectedly detained in a neglected desert town, where his growing friendship with the town's four-wheeled residents (voiced by Paul Newman, Bonnie Hunt and Larry the Cable Guy, among others) effects a change of heart regarding fame in the fast lane. The film has a full tank of humor and emotions — not to mention bar-raising visuals — while its solid storytelling imparts a charming message about taking the time to appreciate what really matters in life.

The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-I — general patronage. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is G — general audiences. All ages admitted.

Author creates Web site devoted to American Catholic history

SIDNEY, Ohio (CNS) — While writing two books on Catholic history, Kevin Schmiesing discovered that "although there was a wealth of information pertaining to American Catholic history on the Web no one had collected and organized it."

So Schmiesing has launched a new Web site devoted to American Catholic history at www.catholichistory.net.

Intended as a resource for students,

teachers and researchers, the site displays important events, people and places, organized by time period, and offers lists of suggested readings on topics such as "Catholics in time of war."

The "Spotlight" feature looks at a subject currently in the news from the perspective of its significance in Catholic history. Recent topics have included immigration, Catholics on the Supreme Court and Catholics in Hollywood.

Catholichistory.net, which relies solely on donations, has an advisory board that includes history professors from various universities.

Schmiesing said he hopes the Web site leads to greater awareness of the country's Catholic past.

"All Catholics should have a basic understanding of the history of their faith in the American context," he said.

A rival bill that previously passed the House Energy and Commerce Committee would codify principles the FCC adopted last year that encourage Internet service providers to ensure the Internet is open to consumers to go where they want to on it.

Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Charlotte 704-334-6421

Pineville 704-544-1412

Mint Hill 704-545-4864

Derita 704-596-3291

Mexican Riviera Cruise

12-DAY CRUISE from only **\$899***

Daily Mass Aboard Ship

On October 12, 2006 board your 5-STAR deluxe cruise ship the *ms Ryndam*. HAL's *Signature of Excellence* focuses on spacious elegant ships; sophisticated five-star dining; gracious, unobtrusive service; and extensive enrichment programs and activities aboard ship. Sail for three days along the Mexican Riviera to **Acapulco** (famous for the 'high-divers'); **Zihuatanejo** (a tranquil fishing village); **Puerto Vallarta** (the quintessential resort overflowing with the charm of Old Mexico); **Mazatlan** (with a massive city market and the historic colonial villages of Sierra Madres); and **Cabo San Lucas** (a popular sun drenched vacation spot). *Prices (per pers., dbl. occpy.) plus \$299 port, gov't fees, taxes & service. Add \$500 air from Charlotte. Limited offer! \$500 deposits are now due! Family and friends are welcome!

For information, reservations, and brochure call 7 days a week:

'YOUR MAN' TOURS 1-800-968-7626



Let stairs be our problem... not yours!

Ask about our Stairway lifts.

- Easily attached to steps (not walls)
- Folds out of the way
- Fits most stairways (straight & curved)
- Very affordable (rent or buy)
- We install

Chair & Equipment Rentals & Sales, Inc.

800 Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC • (800) 333-8431

Member of St. Thomas Aquinas



Immigration director outlines potential changes

BILL, from page 1

known as CIS, outlined his efforts to be ready for major new immigration programs that could come out of legislation in the works in Congress if the measure becomes law.

The agency could be managing a new guest worker system, and handling legalization for agricultural workers, for students whose parents brought them to the country as minors as well as for millions of others who are in the country illegally.

He also said that regardless of new mandates from Congress, many fees charged for the agency's ongoing services likely will increase to better cover costs.

Circumstances and compromise

If a legalization program is approved by Congress and signed into law, Gonzalez said that unless there are clear security concerns, he would not be inclined to take information gathered from unsuccessful applicants for legalization and turn it over to enforcement authorities

at Immigration and Customs Enforcement, known as ICE.

Both agencies, formerly part of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, are now within the Department of Homeland Security.

A bill passed by the Senate May 25 would offer all but the most recently arrived of the estimated 11 million to 12 million illegal immigrants in the United States a chance to legalize their status after meeting certain conditions.

The provision is one of the many differences between the Senate bill and one passed by the House in December that focused entirely on enforcement.

A House-Senate conference committee was to begin hammering out a compromise between the two bills the first full week of June. Some congressional sources expect no resolution before late summer at best.

A 1986 legalization program included provisions protecting confidentiality. The federal immigration agency was prohibited from using any information it obtained from applicants and giving it to enforcement authorities.

CIS staff members at the May 31 briefing explained that the provision was



CNS PHOTO BY DAVID MAUNG

Fieldworkers from Mexico harvest watermelons in the early morning May 19 at a Pasquinelli Produce Co. field about 30 miles east of Yuma, Ariz. Located near the Mexican border, the company knows firsthand some of the problems migrant farmworkers face with the U.S. immigration system.

intended to encourage people to apply for legalization without fear that merely seeking legal status would cause them to be deported.

Gonzalez said it would be unwise to have such a broad confidentiality guarantee given current security concerns, but that he expected his agency would only pass along information about people with outstanding warrants or other connections to crimes.

Though he said he would comply with whatever the law ultimately says, he wouldn't be inclined to have his agency provide details that might lead to deportation for people whose legalization applications are rejected but who have clean criminal records.

The Senate bill provides for confidentiality except in connection with the investigation or prosecution of certain crimes when information is requested by an enforcement agency.

'A moving target'

Gonzalez told reporters that his agency is gearing up for a wide range of new responsibilities and changes in its current work, although much remains uncertain about the final legislation — including whether it even will include legalization and guest worker programs.

He pointed out that amid heated debate about immigration, little attention has been given to the fact that the 800-page Senate bill also includes changes intended to eliminate backlogs of applications for

legal immigration.

That also will affect what he called "the day job" at CIS: approving visas, processing applications for asylum and refugee status, and naturalizing citizens.

He said CIS will make recommendations to Congress about the bill he called "a moving target," with many variables and some elements that are simply unworkable as written.

For instance, he said the Senate bill calls for applicants for legalization to register with the government within a 90-day period. Given that as many as 10 million people might apply for legalization, Gonzalez said that time frame is unrealistic.

"In a perfect world it would take nine to 12 months," he said.

One change Gonzalez said appears likely is that application fees will increase for many of his agency's services. Citizenship applications now cost \$330, plus a \$70 fingerprinting fee.

Fees don't cover costs, he said, and it's unlikely that Congress will approve funding to pay for services.

Although an agency ombudsman recently recommended that CIS begin charging for asylum or refugee applications, Gonzalez said that's one cost he won't pass along to applicants.

"It's never been done before," he said. "Nor will it be as long as I'm here."

"How do you charge refugees?" Gonzalez asked. "That's a cost we happily absorb."

Coordinator of Rite of Confirmation

St. Mark Church is currently seeking a Coordinator of the Rite of Confirmation (ROC). Responsibilities include implementing and coordinating all details associated with the successful preparation of students for this Sacrament of Initiation. Ideal candidate for this position is a college graduate with a minimum of two years' experience working in education in a parish or school setting. Also required are strong organizational, computer and communication skills as well as a high threshold of energy and enthusiasm for youth and our Catholic faith. A strong catechetical background is preferred. Please submit resumes to Donna Smith, DRE, c/o St. Mark Catholic Church, 14740 Stumptown Road, Huntersville, NC 28078 (dsmith18@bellsouth.net)

Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT

NANNY: ARE YOU MY GRAMMY??
Waxhaw family looking for experienced mature nanny to care for adorable baby and active toddler; M-Th 8-4. Must be warm and loving, have lots of energy and be more than just a caretaker! Please call: 704 953 0302.

FOR RENT

LAKE LURE VACATION HOME: New! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, all amenities. 3 minutes to Rocky Broad River, Lake Lure beach; fishing, boating, hiking, swimming. Reasonable! 828-299-3714.

CONDO: Myrtle Beach. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath condo available weeks of 6/17, 7/8, and 8/19. Call (336) 924-2842.

FAITH FORMATION ASSISTANT

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, located in Salisbury, NC is seeking a part-time faith formation assistant starting July 1, 2006. Candidate must be a practicing Catholic. Job responsibilities would include the coordination of faith formation for Pre-K to 5th grade, recruiting catechists, Vacation Bible School, and Children's Liturgy of the Word. Also, must work closely with faith formation team in the parish. If interested please contact Chris Beal, DRE, Sacred Heart Catholic Church: (704) 633-0591 x. 12 or cbeal@sacredheartchurchnc.org.

Classified ads bring results! Over 135,000 readers! Over 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

Most Americans oppose embryonic stem-cell research, survey finds

SURVEY, from page 1

The rest said they didn't know or refused to answer.

When told that scientists disagree on whether embryonic stem cells or adult stem cells would "end up being more successful in treating diseases," 57 percent of survey respondents said they favored research "using adult stem cells and other alternatives, to see if there is no need to destroy human embryos for research."

Only 24 percent said they would support "all methods, including those that require destroying human embryos, to see which will be most successful." Another 11 percent said they did not support either option, and the rest said they didn't know or declined to answer.

The poll was conducted by telephone among 1,022 U.S. adults May 19-23. Commissioned by the pro-life secretariat and conducted by International Communications Research, the survey had a margin of error of plus or minus 3.1 percent.

The May 31 release of the poll results coincided with the first-year anniversary of passage in the House of Representatives of the Stem-Cell Research Enhancement Act, which would lift the ban on federal funding of stem-cell research involving the destruction of human embryos.

The legislation was expected to

come before the Senate in June.

"Most Americans do not support federally funded research that requires destroying human embryos," Doerflinger said in a statement.

"Our opponents also know this. No doubt this is why their public statements — and many of their own opinion polls — either ignore or misrepresent what this research involves, while irresponsibly hyping its potential for miracle cures," he said.

Polls by International Communications Research in August 2004 and May 2005 had similar results, with most Americans saying they did not support embryonic stem-cell research. The highest level of support was 43 percent in 2004.

The latest survey also found overwhelming opposition to human cloning. Asked whether scientists should be allowed to use cloning "to try to create children for infertile children," 83 percent said no and less than 10 percent said yes.

When asked about using cloning "to create a supply of human embryos to be destroyed in medical research," 81 percent were opposed and 11 percent said they were in favor.

Although the 2004 and 2005 polls conducted by International Communications Research showed strong opposition to human cloning, the new poll's figure of 81 percent opposed to cloning human embryos for research was the highest in three years.

A 'moral duty'

Catholic doctors urge substitutes for abortion-linked vaccines

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Catholics should pressure pharmaceutical companies and government authorities to quickly come up with alternatives to vaccines derived from cells taken from aborted fetuses, according to an association of U.S. Catholic physicians.

The Catholic Medical Association said in a mid-May statement that "physicians and patients are permitted to use the vaccines when no effective alternative is available."

But patients may decide not to use vaccines derived from aborted fetuses as long as the refusal does not place children or the general public at significant risk, the statement added.

Vaccines derived from cell lines that used tissue taken from voluntarily aborted fetuses include those for rubella (German measles) and hepatitis A, marketed under the names Meruvax, Vaqta and Havrix.

When alternative versions of the vaccines are available, "they must be used in place of those produced by immoral means," the Catholic Medical Association said.

The organization, founded in 1932, describes itself as the nation's largest professional association of Catholic doctors.

The statement was drawn from a June 2005 document of the Pontifical Academy for Life called "Moral Reflections on Vaccines Prepared From Cells Derived From Aborted Human Fetuses," the association said.

The Vatican academy said Catholics

have a "moral duty to continue to fight and to employ every lawful means" to convince the pharmaceutical industry, government agencies and national health systems to make ethical alternatives available.

"The bottom line is that vaccines derived from abortions should mainly be avoided and used only when alternatives are unavailable," said Robert Saxer, executive vice president of the Catholic Medical Association.

"But there is really no reason why those alternatives should be unavailable. The pharmaceutical companies that manufacture the vaccines have the ability and know-how to produce versions of these vaccines which do not depend on cell lines from aborted fetuses.

"They should be pressured to develop those vaccines to meet the health needs of those who have religious and ethical objections to abortion," he said.

Saxer said the Food and Drug Administration could allow licensing and importation of "safe and effective ethical alternative vaccines ... and it has a moral duty to exercise that authority."

Richard Doerflinger, deputy director of the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, said his office would work with the Catholic Medical Association and other groups "to help make alternative vaccines readily available in the United States."

Apply to the Abbey for fall 2006!

Scholarships, financial aid, and housing are still available.



It's not too late to inquire and apply online at:

BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

For more information call 1.888.222.0110 or email: admissions@bac.edu



BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Columnist dishonors vets, skews truth

What a shame to dishonor our dedicated combatants with Tony Magliano's column ("Taking Memorial Day more seriously," May 19) with the following statement: "The lust for power and greed, arrogance, nationalism, the military industrial complex, lack of imagination and ineptitude are the real reasons young people are sent to kill and be killed."

The Catholic News & Herald must be more compassionate to the family members who have dedicated sons and daughters as soldiers, who may think their children are dying for those emotional unsubstantiated accusations.

Magliano's shameful assertion column should have limited itself to praise for these honored deaths.

— Dick Webber
Hendersonville

How unfortunate that on this Memorial Day weekend you printed "Taking Memorial day more seriously" by the anti-military and foolish Tony Magliano.

Does he really believe that a strong military is not a deterrent to world domination by some current despots? Does he think Taiwan would be free today if not for the United States?

How would World Wars I and II have turned out if we didn't lead the way to freedom? How many extermination camps did the United States and Allies liberate?

Today, Iraq and Afghanistan have a chance for freedom and self determination. And yet Magliano is critical of our country taking part in that action. I wonder if he is aware that Isaiah said and Jesus commanded us "to set free the oppressed"?

And then Magliano starts with this "change of heart" nonsense. How can you convert a person whose only purpose in life is to see you dead? After all, they believe God told them to kill us "infidels."

People such as Cindy Sheehan and Magliano owe every veteran — alive or dead — an apology. How shameful!

— R.W. Keenan
Horseshoe, N.C.

I strenuously object to Tony Magliano's column on "Taking Memorial Day more seriously," and I hope he has a different "take" on Memorial Day than he displayed.

Those soldiers who have died to keep us free, and to potentially keep others

Letters to the Editor

from being killed, deserve more than just our respect. They gave their lives at the prime of theirs. I recall Jesus telling us that "man has no greater love than to lay his life down for a friend."

My son was shot in Iraq while trying to prevent terrorists from committing another 9/11. Certainly 9/11 should have been a wake-up call, and I hope Magliano has not forgotten about that. Yet he seems grossly out of touch by claiming military strength does not bring peace.

It should be obvious that the strength of the United States has prevented numerous wars and merciless killings. America has never entered a war to purposely kill — only to prevent as much killing as possible.

I seriously hope no terrorist ever knocks on Magliano's door. Then again, they wouldn't be knocking.

— Kevin Roeten
Asheville

Abortion observers bear responsibility, sin

Father Frank Pavone's column about "The 'tragic triangle'" (May 19) around abortion, and particularly the role of observers, was most interesting to me.

Observers of sin (particularly that in which an innocent victim is harmed) do have greater responsibility because they often have, or should have, greater objectivity, and because their passive consent has tremendous meaning to both the victim and to the perpetrator.

Standing by and letting others be hurt (even from the sidelines) is a decision to participate in sin.

I pray we all recognize our propensity to remain passively quiet in the face of wrongdoing whether it be abortion, child abuse within a family, or any abuse of power. It is never easy to speak out, but it is our calling.

— Tracy Webb
Charlotte

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, *The Catholic News & Herald*, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

Our forgotten heroes

Father's Day to remember sacrifices, victories of dads

We are a nation of children, mothers and fathers. Since we have set aside special celebrations for children and mothers, why not celebrate our fathers?

The idea to honor our fathers actually developed during a Mother's Day sermon.

In spring 1909, Mrs. John Bruce Dodd of Spokane, Wash., heard a Mother's Day sermon that did not mention the word "father." Her mother had died when she was a child and her father was charged with raising her and her five siblings.

Through Mrs. Dodd's influence, the first Father's Day was observed in Spokane June 19, 1910, and on a national level in 1924.

I call my father and all fathers the "forgotten heroes," because by reading Chapter 3 of the book of Ecclesiasticus (Sir.3:1-16), I realize how much we didn't do for our fathers, and yet our fathers kept on doing their best without being recognized.

When I was cleaning my closet, I found some papers that I saved long ago in a torn cardboard box. One was a worn newspaper article quoting a broadcast of radio legend Paul Harvey. The title was "What is a father?"

A father is a thing that is forced to endure childbirth without anesthetic. A father is a thing that growls when he feels good and laughs too loud when he's scared half to death.

A father never feels entirely worthy of the worship in a child's eyes. He is never quite the hero his daughter thinks ... never quite the man his son believes him to be.

Fathers fight dragons almost every day. They hurry away from the breakfast table to the arena that is an office or a factory.

They never quite win the fight, but they never give up. Knights in shining armor and fathers in shiny trousers are very much alike, as they march out to face the world each day.

Our fathers are so important that we take for granted what they do every day.

While driving on I-40, a bumper sticker on the car ahead caught my attention recently. It was about father and dad: "Any man can be a father. It takes a special man to be a daddy."

Any healthy male can biologically generate children, but in my ministry I've discovered that many men are role models, whether they have biological offspring or not. They are the unsung heroes with a love song always in their hearts.

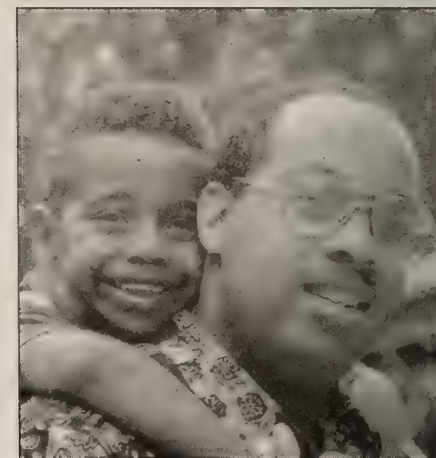
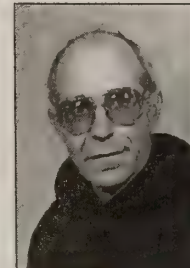
My father was not a preacher. He really didn't speak too much, but preached according to the Franciscan philosophy: "Preach always, sometimes use words."

Words teach, but example compels. For me, the father is a teacher who doesn't know everything, but he knows that he doesn't know and that's real wisdom.

A father was walking with his young son. The boy asked, "Daddy, what is

Guest Column

CAPUCHIN
FATHER JOHN
AURILIA
GUEST COLUMNIST



CNS PHOTO

electricity?"

"Well now, I don't know," said the father. "All I know about electricity is that it makes things run."

A little farther on, the boy asked, "Daddy, how does gasoline make automobiles go?"

The father replied, "Well, I don't know. I don't know too much about motors."

Several more questions followed with much the same result, until at last the boy said, "Gee, Dad, I hope you don't mind my asking so many questions!"

"Not at all, son," said the father, "You go right ahead and ask. How else will you ever learn anything?"

The father knows he is not perfect, but yet we love him. For him, "discipline" means more than chastisement or punishment, which can be misunderstood by the children.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur has been quoted to have said this prayer:

"Build me a son, O God, who will be strong enough to know when he is weak and brave enough to face himself when he is afraid; one who will be proud and unbending in honest defeat, but humble and gentle in victory ...

"Give him humility so that he may always remember the simplicity of true greatness, the open mind of true wisdom, the meekness of true strength; then I, his father, will dare to whisper, 'I have not lived in vain.'"

Yes, General, you have not lived in vain and we will not whisper, but shout, "Happy Father's Day, General!"

Father Aurilia is pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in Hendersonville.

Got 'windows'?

Parents must talk to kids about Internet dangers

As children grow and mature, they demonstrate an increasing desire to assume more responsibility for themselves and their activities.

It can be extremely confusing for parents when it comes to knowing how much privacy to allow their children in their use of the Internet. When trying to decide on a comfortable level of freedom, parents should consider the following:

— Even in adolescence, the brain is growing and developing into an adult brain. Not only are the "wires" and the "departments" of the brain continuing to come together and become complete, brain chemistry is in flux as well.

The most well-behaved and well-intentioned kids are still prone to questionable judgment from time to time.

— Raging hormones — enough said.

— Trusting kids is one thing; trusting the Internet community is another.

As tempting as it may be to strictly curtail kids' usage of the Internet, it is unfortunately all too easy for our children to find access to it somewhere. When they use the Internet outside of the house, we are in the dark about where they have been on the Web.

Creating "windows" into our children's Internet use is probably our best bet to maintain healthy parental controls. Making the Internet a family affair

can help open up the communication about what is okay and what is not.

The following may provide some guidelines:

— Keep the computer in a central location of the home that gets plenty of traffic.

— There are a number of techniques to control what kids can or cannot access on the computer. Computer programs can be purchased that allow parents to tailor children's access to the Internet and even provide reports of Web activity.

— Cell phones that access the Internet should be subject to parental review, if allowed at all.

— Talk as a family about Internet pitfalls for children and adults alike — people lie; there are con artists aplenty; predators are real and active in every community.

— Consider a "Family Pledge for Online Safety." Post that agreement, or general family rules about Internet use, at the computer. A great example of this can be found at www.yahooligans.com under Parent's Resources.

There are a number of resources in the community and online that can help:

— www.netsmartz.org: an interactive educational safety resource to teach kids and teens how to stay safe on the Internet.

— www.playitcybersafe.com:

Peace of Mind

LORI FOX
GUEST COLUMNIST



empowering children, parents and teachers to prevent cybercrime through knowledge of the law, their rights, and how to avoid misuse of the Internet.

— Disney.go.com/cybersafety/index.html: children learn about proper Internet ethics and the importance of keeping private information private via Mickey, Goofy and the gang.

— www.safekids.com and www.safeteens.com: Tips advice, links and suggestions to help make your family's online experience fun and productive.

Talking about Web sites and learning new things on the Web need to be parts of a continuing process. Stay interested, enthusiastic and plugged in on a regular basis to what kids are experiencing on the Internet.

Being a partner rather than an opponent in how children are exploring that enormous world is a good way to keep the "windows" of trust and communication open.

Lori Fox is supervisor of counseling services at Catholic Social Services.

Pope condemns anti-Semitism, says world must not forget Auschwitz

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — "Our world must not forget Auschwitz," German-born Pope Benedict XVI said three days after he visited the site of the Nazi death camp in Poland.

Dedicating his May 31 general audience talk to a review of his trip to Poland, Pope Benedict condemned anti-Semitism and racial hatred and prayed that all people would recognize that "God is the father of all."

The pope said that during his May 25-28 trip he wanted to visit places associated with the life and ministry of Polish-born Pope John Paul II and to call on Poles to remain solid in the faith so that Europe and the world could benefit from their testimony to Gospel values.

"All Christians must be committed to giving this testimony to prevent humanity of the third millennium from knowing again horrors like those tragically evoked by the Auschwitz-Birkenau extermination camp," he said.

Some Jewish leaders had criticized Pope Benedict for not focusing enough on the Nazis' 6 million Jewish victims and for not explicitly condemning anti-Semitism during his May 28 visit to the camp that has become a symbol of the Holocaust.

During his audience talk, the pope said, "At the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp and in similar camps, Hitler had more than 6 million Jews exterminated."

In facing the horror of Auschwitz, he said, Christians must contemplate and learn from the cross of Christ, the symbol of "a love which brings salvation by freely descending into the abyss of evil."

Christ's sacrifice, he said, can heal human beings rebelling against God.

"May modern humanity not forget Auschwitz and the other 'death factories' where the Nazi regime attempted to eliminate God in order to take his place," the pope said.

"May it not give in to the temptation of racial hatred, which is the origin of the worst forms of anti-Semitism," he said.

"May people recognize that God is the father of all and calls us in Christ to build together a world of justice, truth and peace," he said.

Who gets to go to heaven?

Q. Several times I've heard that people who do not believe in Jesus, are not baptized and are not members of the Catholic Church cannot be saved.

Recently Barbara Walters hosted a television special about heaven. She was told to her face that only those who believe in Jesus can go to heaven.

If this is Catholic teaching then God's "chosen people" along with many others will not go to heaven. Where will they go? This is upsetting to me as a Catholic, and I would guess to others as well. (New York)

A. What you report was said on that program is not Catholic teaching. Some other Christians would agree with it, but I think the belief of most mainline Christian communities today, including Catholics, is quite different.

To begin with, if people cannot be saved without explicit faith in Jesus and baptism, salvation would be impossible for most of the human race. Jesus would have failed miserably in the mission he received from the Father.

Let's discuss first the point about belonging to the Catholic Church. The Catechism of the Catholic Church speaks strongly, as we would expect, about the essential role of Jesus Christ and baptism in God's saving plan.

Then it adds a significant and critical sentence:

"Hence, they could not be saved who, knowing that the Catholic Church was founded as necessary by God

through Christ, would refuse either to enter it or to remain in it" (No. 846, quoting Vatican Council II's Constitution on the Church, 14).

When you read this carefully, especially the words between the commas, you can see that they do not apply to billions of people on earth now and in the past, including most if not all people of the Hebrew tradition.

This teaching becomes more explicit in the following catechism paragraph:

"Those who, through no fault of their own, do not know the Gospel of Christ or his church, but who nevertheless seek God with a sincere heart and, moved by grace, try in their actions to do his will as they know it through the dictates of their conscience — those too may achieve eternal salvation."

Note the words "moved by grace." Jesus is, we believe, the universal and only Savior of mankind. All good and virtuous actions, even by those who never heard of the Gospel or Jesus, or of God as we believe in him, happen because of the saving merits of our Lord's life, death and resurrection.

In other words, God's grace is guiding and saving those who live sincere and conscientious good lives, but who have, for whatever reason, honestly never seen the embrace of Christ or the church as a personal religious obligation.

Pope John Paul II, in his book "Crossing the Threshold of Hope," reflects the understanding of the Catholic Church when he speaks of the common elements

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN
DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



of belief between Christianity and what we often call "pagan" religions.

"The Catholic Church rejects nothing that is true and holy in these religions," he writes, because we are "guided by the faith that God the Creator wants to save all mankind in Jesus Christ."

We don't know how God does all this, he continues, but we do know that "Christ came into the world for all these peoples. He redeemed them all and has his own ways of reaching each of them" in the present age of salvation history (pp. 80-83).

This acknowledges that our heavenly Father has told us much about some details of his saving love for us; but he still "has his own ways" of doing things. If that is true anywhere, we would expect it to be true in his plan for the salvation of the world through Jesus Christ.

A free brochure in English or Spanish, answering questions Catholics ask about baptism practices and sponsors, is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 5515, Peoria, IL 61612.

Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address, or e-mail: jjdietzen@aol.com.

COME CELEBRATE CHRIST!

ASHEVILLE — SATURDAY, JUNE 24



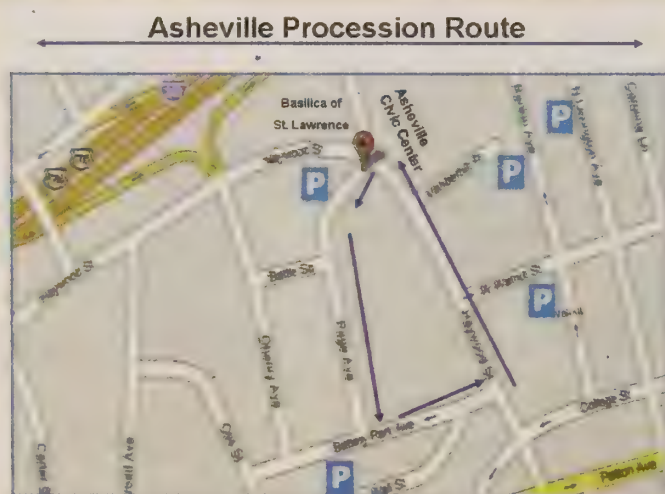
Schedule:

9 am — Holy Mass: Basilica of St. Lawrence
with Bishop Peter J. Jugis, Celebrant

10 am — Procession of the Eucharist through
downtown Asheville (*see map below*)



11 am — Holy Hour : Asheville
Civic Center with
Bishop Jugis, Homilist



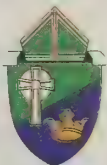
Noon — "Mission to Evangelize,
Search and Rescue" by
Patrick Madrid, Catholic
Evangelist, Asheville
Civic Center



Diocese of Charlotte
EUCCHARISTIC CONFERENCE
2006

For info: www.GoEucharist.com or (828) 684-6098

Roman Catholic
Diocese of Charlotte



Established Jan. 12, 1972
by Pope Paul VI

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

JUNE 23, 2006

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 15 No 34

Vocations

Bishop Peter J. Jugis
announces pastoral
appointments; Sisters of
Mercy jubilarians

| PAGES 4-5

New bishop for Raleigh

BISHOP GOSSMAN RETIRES,
SUCCESSOR NAMED

BY JERRY FILTEAU
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Pope Benedict XVI has accepted the resignation of Bishop F. Joseph Gossman of Raleigh and named Philadelphia Auxiliary Bishop Michael F. Burbidge to succeed him.

Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the United States, announced the changes in Washington June 8.

Bishop Burbidge is to be installed as bishop of Raleigh Aug. 4. Bishop Gossman is to serve as administrator of the diocese until Bishop Burbidge's installation.

Bishop Gossman, 76, has been a bishop since 1968 and head of the Diocese of Raleigh since 1975. With his retirement there are only five active U.S. bishops who were given their current posts by Pope Paul VI.

See BISHOP, page 12

Completing the journey

Bishop Jugis ordains 16
as permanent deacons

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — After six-and-a-half years of diaconate training, 16 men were ordained as permanent deacons at St. Gabriel Church in Charlotte June 10.

Their training included three-and-a-half years of formation preparation, six months of spiritual direction and completion of the two-year lay ministry program.

Bishop Peter J. Jugis celebrated the Mass attended by Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin; Abbot Placid Solari of Belmont Abbey in Belmont;

See DEACONS, page 5

For a new America

Church role seen in
mobilizing Hispanics
after immigration
marches

BY AGOSTINO BONO
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — The Catholic Church can play an important role in mobilizing Hispanics to influence public policy, said several speakers at a Washington symposium examining Hispanic participation

See IMMIGRANTS, page 13



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Bishop Peter J. Jugis kneels before the altar with Deacon George Szalony (left) and Deacon Ben Wenning (right) as the candidates for the permanent diaconate lie prostrate during the litany of the saints at the Mass for the ordination to the permanent diaconate, held at St. Gabriel Church in Charlotte June 10.

Stepping out into a wide-open world

Charlotte Catholic graduates 282

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — A close-knit group of students took their first steps into the world beyond high school as the Charlotte Catholic High School class of 2006 received their diplomas at Ovens Auditorium June 7.

"We are a class that has made, and can continue to make, a difference; a class

filled with possibility and determination," said Rachel Hesler in her salutation address. "These invaluable life lessons will take us far as we address the challenges of an exciting new chapter in our lives."

The diplomas were conferred by Msgr. Mauricio W. West, vicar general and chancellor for the Diocese of

See GRADUATION, page 9



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Charlotte Catholic graduates toss their caps in the air following their commencement ceremony at Ovens Auditorium in Charlotte June 7.

Around the Diocese

Confirmation; Interfaith
prayer meeting

| PAGES 6-7

In Our Schools

End-of-school
celebrations

| PAGES 8-9

Perspectives

Life is precious;
Ominous date

| PAGES 14-15

#BXNPDVQ.....3-DIGIT 275
#420836#
NC COLLECTION
UNC
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001

S25 P1

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

DIVINE PLAY



CNS PHOTO BY IMELDA MEDINA, REUTERS

Father Jose Guadalupe Hernandez Sanchez stands at the altar of his church, which features a statue of the infant Jesus dressed in a made-to-measure replica of the Mexican national soccer team's uniform in Puebla, Mexico, June 8.

Mexican Catholics pray for a World Cup miracle

MEXICO CITY (CNS) — Less than an hour after Mexico won its first World Cup match, worshippers in Mexico City were praying for further success before a statue of the infant Jesus dressed in a soccer uniform.

Since at least as far back as 1990, some churches in Mexico have been putting the national team's jersey on the statue, which many believe can grant miracles.

Early in June, worshippers passed before the statue placed near the altar at St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish in the capital's Tacuba neighborhood. The figure is wearing the full national team uniform — from the green jersey and white shorts right down to little tennis shoes — and is resting a foot on a tiny soccer ball.

"We're praying we'll win the World Cup," Jorge Leon said following a June 11 Mass at the parish. "That would be a miracle."

It seemed like every second person on the streets of soccer-mad Mexico City was wearing a national team jersey, as were many people at the Mass. Outside,

people waved Mexican flags from their cars as they drove down the street, honking to celebrate Mexico's 3-1 win over Iran in Nuremberg, Germany.

Leon, his wife, Monserat, and their 1-year-old daughter, Artet, sat through Mass with each of their faces painted in the flag's green, red and white colors.

The service was during the 90-minute break between Mexico's match and another between Angola and Portugal, both of which Mexico will face later in the first round. The Leon family was among the first out of church as Mass ended; they were hurrying back home to catch the game.

"We usually come to the earlier service, but this is a big day for the national team," Leon said.

Mexico has never advanced past the quarterfinals of the 32-nation cup, and Brazil's superstar-filled team is widely billed to win the trophy. Mexico is tipped to make it to the second round of the tournament, which runs through July 9 in Germany, but would have to beat much stiffer competition to advance further.

Bishops adopt new Mass texts, study reorganization

LOS ANGELES (CNS) — Meeting June 15-17 in Los Angeles, the U.S. bishops approved a new translation of the Order of Mass and studied a proposal to downsize the committee structure of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The bishops debated and voted on a new English translation of the Order of Mass — the exchanges between priest and people and the prayers such as the penitential rite, Gloria, creed, eucharistic prayers and Lord's Prayer that are used regularly in daily or Sunday Masses.

Bishop Donald W. Trautman of Erie, Pa., chairman of the bishops' Committee on Liturgy, said the new translation still has to be approved by the Vatican and probably will not take effect until the rest of the English translation of the Roman Missal is completed and approved. He thought that could take up to two years.

Catholics will find changes in the wording of several prayers they have used for the past 35 years or so, including the Gloria, creed and Sanctus.

Before voting, they heard from Bishop Arthur Roche of Leeds, England, president of the International Commission on English in the Liturgy, which provided the basic translation that the bishops approved with some changes.

Bishop Roche said one thing often lost in the freer translations encouraged by the Vatican was the richness of scriptural references with which the prayers of the liturgy are filled. In 2001 the Vatican adopted stricter translation rules for all new liturgical translations from the Latin.

The bishops approved the Order of Mass by a vote of 173-29. They also adopted some American adaptations, mainly extra prayers not found in the Latin edition of the Roman Missal, by a vote of 184-8.

The bishops also discussed a proposal for restructuring and reducing the number of committees of the USCCB, from 35 standing committees and 16 ad hoc committees to be merged into a total of 14 new committees.

Diocesan planner

ASHEVILLE VICARIATE

ASHEVILLE — The *St. Martin de Porres Dominican Laity Chapter* meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the rectory building at the Basilica of St. Lawrence, 97 Haywood St. Inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Beverly Reid at (423) 638-4744 or bebereid@adelphia.net.

BOONE VICARIATE

SPARTA — St. Frances of Rome Church, Hendrix and Highlands Rds., sponsors the *Oratory of Divine Love Prayer Group* in the parish house the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 1 p.m. Call (336) 372-8846 for more information.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — *Fostering Justice Worldwide*, sponsored by the diocesan Office of Justice and Peace, will share Catholic Relief Services (CRS) stories. This free event will take place at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., St., June 24, 1:30-5 p.m. The program will provide an overview of Catholic social teaching, CRS-related work in the Diocese of Charlotte, CRS work in Africa, presentations on effective advocacy and more. This event will be repeated in Newton Sept. 9 and in Stoneville Nov. 4. For specific details about the Saturday afternoon events please call the Office of Justice and Peace at (704) 370-3234 or (704) 370-3225, or e-mail justicepeace@charlottediocese.org.

HUNTERSVILLE — A *Mass to Honor Deceased Loved Ones* is celebrated the last Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. St. Mark Church, 14740 Stumptown Rd. For more information, call Pam Schneider at (704) 875-0201.

CHARLOTTE — A *Support Group for Caregivers of a Family Member with Memory Loss* meet the last Monday of each month, 10-11:30 a.m., at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, contact Suzanne Bach at (704) 376-4135.

CHARLOTTE — The *Happy Timers* of St. Ann Church meet the first Wednesday of each month with a luncheon and program at 1 p.m. in the Msgr. Allen Center, 3635 Park Rd. All adults age 55 and older are welcome. For more information, call Charles Nesto at (704) 398-0879.

CHARLOTTE — *New Creation Monastery* invites you to a day of silence and solitude in the presence of Almighty God. The monastery offers private spiritual retreats for lay people. Write to Father John Vianney Hoover at New Creation Monastery, 11517 Spreading Oak Ln. Charlotte, N.C. 28226, stating why you want to go on retreat and when. For more information, call (704) 541-5026.

CHARLOTTE — The second annual Eucharistic Congress will be held Oct. 6-7 at the Charlotte Convention Center, 501 S. College St. The Eucharistic Congress brings together laity, clergy, religious men and women, and well-known speakers for a day and a half of worship and lectures related to the Eucharist. For more information, visit the Eucharistic Congress Web site at www.goeucharist.com.

GASTONIA VICARIATE

BELMONT — *First Saturday Devotions* take place on the first Saturday of each month at Belmont Abbey Basilica, 100 Belmont-Mt. Holly Rd. Devotion begins at 9:30 a.m. with the recitation of the rosary, followed by reconciliation and Mass. For more information, call Phil or Terri at (704) 888-6050.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GUILFORD COUNTY — The *Ancient Order of Hibernians* Guilford County Division, the oldest and largest order of Irish Catholic men, is looking

You could be singing too after more than 135,000 readers see YOUR company's ad here!



LOW ad rates - easy for small businesses and individuals, too!

Call (704) 370-3332 now!
or ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org.

THE CATHOLIC NEWS HERALD

THE CATHOLIC NEWS HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

JUNE 23, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 34

The Catholic News & Herald, USPS 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Preacher: Vacation to be lived as a gift

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Vacation time should be lived as a gift allowing workers and students time to think, pray and dedicate time to family relationships, said the preacher of the papal household.

Capuchin Father Raniero Cantalamessa said it is good to have fun and relax on vacation, but extended free time is rare for most people and they should make the most of it.

"It is not that vacations should not also be used for enjoyment and amusement, but they are a gift given in order to discover something; they are not a time to lose or waste, but a time to value to the maximum," the preacher told Vatican Radio June 8.

"Vacations should be that time of year when, through contemplating nature and reading the word of God, people can look inside themselves and get in touch with the most important motivations of their lives," particularly their relationships with God and with

their families, he said.

Father Cantalamessa, speaking in Italian, told Vatican Radio listeners that it was no accident that the British refer to their vacation as holidays, a derivative of "holy days."

"Perhaps the most beautiful meaning of vacation is that of getting back into an intimate, profound contact with the root of our being, with God," he said.

Pope Benedict XVI made similar remarks about the importance and purpose of vacations while he was in the Italian Alps last year.

Vacation time with family is an opportunity to spend "more time dedicated to prayer, reading and meditation on the deep meaning of life," he said in Les Combes, a village in Italy's Valle d'Aosta region.

The regional government and the Aosta Diocese have announced that Pope Benedict will return to Les Combes for a July 11-28 vacation.

for more Irish Catholic men to join them for meetings, educational seminars and social events. Contact Michael Slane at (336) 665-9264 for time and location.

HICKORY VICARIATE

HICKORY — Father Robert Ferris leads a *Lectionary Bible Study* at St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St., Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. This study prepares participants for the following Sunday's Mass by reading and studying the liturgical readings for the next week. For more information on this study, contact Kathy Succop at (828) 327-2341 or stalscoordinator@charter.net.

HENDERSONVILLE — The *Widows Lunch Bunch*, sponsored by Immaculate Conception Church, meets at a different restaurant on the first Wednesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. Reservations are necessary. For more information and reservations, call Joan Keagle at (828) 693-4733.

HICKORY — A *Charismatic Mass* is celebrated the first Thursday of each month in Sebastian Chapel of St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St. NE, at 7 p.m. For further information, contact Joan Moran (828)-327-0487.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

SALISBURY — Our *Lady Rosary Makers* of Sacred Heart Church, 128 N. Fulton St., are making cord rosaries for the missions and the military. The group meets the first Tuesday of each month in the church office conference room, 10-11 a.m. For more information, call Cathy Yochim at (704) 636-6857 or Joan Kaczmarezyk at (704) 797-8405.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

MURPHY — A *Charismatic Prayer Group* meets Fridays at 3:30 p.m. in the Glenmary House of St. William Church, 765 Andrews Rd. join us for praise music, witness, teaching, prayers and laying on of hands for those in need. For more details, call Gery Dashner at (828) 494-2683.

FRANKLIN — *Respect Life* meets the first Wednesday of every month after the 5:30 p.m. Mass in the Family Life Center at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 299 Maple St. All those interested in promoting the sanctity of human life are invited to attend. For more information, contact Julie Tastinger at (828) 349-9813 or jatastinger@aol.com.

WAYNESVILLE — *Adult Education Classes* are held the first three Wednesday evenings of each month beginning at 6:45 p.m. in the St. John the Evangelist Church Social Hall, 234 Church St. For more information, call Charles Luce at (828) 648-7369 or e-mail luce54@aol.com.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

CLEMMONS — The *Knitting Ministry* of Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd., meets Monday evenings, 6:30-8 p.m., to pray, learn to knit, reflect on life's lessons and reach out to others in our community. Opportunities exist for the beginner to the experienced as we knit and puri Prayer Shawls, Premie Blankets or Squares for Survivors. Please contact Rosemary at (336) 766-2315 or Carmel (336) 766-0650 for more information.

WINSTON-SALEM — The *Healing Companions* is a grief support group for the bereaved that meets the first and third Thursdays of the month in conference room B at St. Leo the Great Church, 335 Springdale Ave. For further details, call Joanne Parcel at (336) 924-9478.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

June 24 — 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Eucharistic Conference
Basilica of St. Lawrence, Asheville

June 25 — 12 p.m.
Dedication of new church
Our Lady of the Americas Church, Candor

June 26-28
Province of Atlanta Bishops' Meeting
Savannah, Ga.

Religious leaders discuss unfair detention of refugees

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — "National security" is not a good enough reason to systematically detain refugees, asylum seekers and undocumented migrants, said Catholic, Jewish and Muslim leaders at a Vatican press conference.

The leaders were gathered in Rome June 15 by Jesuit Refugee Service, a member of the steering committee of the new International Coalition on the Detention of Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Migrants.

The coalition, which includes human rights and faith-based organizations, was formed to study detention policies, assist detainees and lobby for changes in detention practices.

Cardinal Renato Martino, president of the pontifical councils for Justice and Peace and for Migrants and Travelers, said, "There are real concerns about detention becoming a systematic policy to which many countries resort, more as a rule than as an exception, and justify the policy by so-called national security concerns."

Jesuit Father Lluís Magrina, director of JRS, said more and more governments are using systematic detention "to arbitrarily discourage migration, even flight from persecution."

"Immigration detainees," he said, "are being imprisoned without charge and with less judicial oversight and fewer

rights than are offered to those convicted of crimes."

Cardinal Martino, Father Magrina and representatives of a Jewish group and a Muslim organization agreed governments have a right to control entry into their countries and sometimes to detain people, but not indiscriminately and not in conditions that violate their human rights.

Cardinal Martino denounced unlimited detention terms, overcrowding, unsanitary facilities and the lack of basic health care and adequate food.

JRS said it is "almost impossible" to know how many refugees, asylum seekers and migrants are being detained in the world, because most countries do not publish such information.

However, 5.7 million of the 9.2 million refugees counted by the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees have been living in closed camps for extended periods of time, often decades.

The United States, which does publish figures, "detained over 230,000 non-U.S. citizens for migration-related reasons this past year, and on any given day there are over 20,000 people in U.S. immigration detention centers, jails and prisons pending a final decision in their immigration/asylum cases," the JRS statement said.

Calm waters ahead



CNS PHOTO BY SAM LUCERO, CATHOLIC HERALD

Jesus, portrayed by Eric Grover, 19, raises his hands to calm the seas during a summer Bible camp at St. Anthony on the Lake Church in Pewaukee, Wis., June 15. Organizers of the 10th annual Bible camp said 145 children, ranging from 3-year-olds to fifth-graders, participated in the weeklong camp. Pictured with Jesus are his disciples played by Anselmo Pereira Jr., 17, and Kylie Harris, 15. The biblical re-enactment of Jesus calming the sea took place at a pond adjacent to the church.

Joyous jubilarians



COURTESY PHOTO BY KRIS REICH

Mercy Sister Paulette Rose Williams stands with Mercy Sisters Mary Cecilia Lewis and Josephine Maria Thomas, both of whom celebrated their 70th jubilees as Sisters of Mercy at Sacred Heart Convent's Cardinal Gibbons Memorial Chapel June 3.

Five Sisters of Mercy celebrate combined 310 years of service

BELMONT — Five Sisters of Mercy recently celebrated a combined 310 years of service to the Catholic Church.

Mercy Sisters Mary Cecilia Lewis and Josephine Maria Thomas each celebrated 70 years as women religious at a Mass held at the Sisters of Mercy's Sacred Heart Convent in Belmont June 3.

Mercy Sisters Jeanne Marie Kienast and Maureen Dees, celebrating 60 years each, and Mercy Sister Mary Hugh Mauldin, celebrating 50 years, commemorated their anniversaries at St. Matthew Church in Charlotte June 17.

"In her own way and in her own ministry, each of the five jubilarians has used her unique gifts to benefit those around her," said Mercy Sister Paulette Rose Williams, president of the Sisters of Mercy of North Carolina.

Sister Lewis, 89, entered the convent in June 1935. She earned a bachelor's degree in liturgical music and a master's degree in music education, and holds certificates of professional advancement from the North Carolina Music Teachers Association and the Music Teachers National Association.

She has served as a teacher, a principal, on boards and committees, including Gaston Fine Arts Council; volunteered at Gaston Memorial Hospital and for AIDS patients at House of Mercy in Belmont; and played and taught piano.

Clinton, N.C., native Sister Thomas, 91, entered the Sisters of Mercy in 1935.

She earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education and has served as a superior, regional superior and principal in Guam.

She also has taught and served in administrative positions at schools in North Carolina, Florida and New York.

Currently she is a pastoral associate at Queen of Apostles Church in Belmont,

providing respite care and follow-up care to those who are hospitalized or confined to their homes.

Born in Port Au Prince, Haiti, Sister Kienast, 78, was received as a Sister of Mercy in 1946.

She earned a bachelor's degree in English and a master's degree in education administration and has taught in the United States and in Guam. She has also served as an administrator within the Diocese of Charlotte and as diocesan vicar for women religious.

Her passion is "helping others find their own unique God-given gifts so that they can respond to God's call to serve God's people — with joy," she said.

Currently she is a pastoral associate at St. Matthew Church in Charlotte.

Gastonia native Sister Dees, 80, spent the majority of her ministry years within the Catholic education system.

She earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education, and taught and served as an administrator at schools in the Diocese of Charlotte.

Sister Dees has taught at schools in New York and Florida, served at a mission in Guam and has cared for AIDS patients at House of Mercy.

Currently she works at Catherine's House for homeless women and their children in Belmont.

Sister Mauldin, 69, was born in Honolulu, Hawaii. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees in mathematics education, a master's in theology and a certificate in liturgical studies.

She also served for 25 years as director of McAuley Center in Belmont, a program focused on adult religious education, primarily within the Diocese of Charlotte.

Currently she is an assistant professor of mathematics and theology at Limestone College in Gaffney, S.C.

Pastoral Appointments

Bishop Peter J. Jugis of Charlotte announces the following pastoral changes, effective July 5, 2006:

APPOINTMENTS OF PASTORS

Father Joe Mack

From: Pastor, St. Joseph Church, Asheboro
To: Pastor, Holy Infant Church, Reidsville

Father Carmen Malacari

From: Parochial Vicar, St. Matthew Church, Charlotte
To: Pastor, Holy Spirit Church, Denver

Father Philip Scarcella

From: Administrator, Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Charlotte
To: Pastor, Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Charlotte

Father Francis O'Rourke

From: sabbatical
To: Pastor, St. Ann Church, Charlotte

Father Dean Cesa

From: Pastor, St. John the Baptist Church, Tryon
To: Pastor, St. Barnabas Church, Arden

Father Matthew Buettner

From: Parochial Vicar, St. Dorothy Church, Lincolnton
To: Pastor, St. Dorothy Church, Lincolnton

Father Joseph Dinh

From: Chaplain, Holy Trinity Middle School, Charlotte
To: Pastor, St. Francis of Assisi Church, Jefferson, and St. Frances of Rome Church, Sparta

Father Patrick Winslow

From: Pastor, St. Francis of Assisi Church, Jefferson and St. Frances of Rome Church, Sparta
To: Pastor, St. John the Baptist Church, Tryon

Father Francis Cancro

From: sabbatical
To: Pastor, St. Joseph Church, Asheboro

Father Roger Arnsparger

From: Pastor, St. Barnabas Church, Arden
To: Pastor, St. Michael Church, Gastonia

APPOINTMENTS OF PAROCHIAL VICARS

Father H. Alejandro Ayala

From: newly ordained
To: Parochial Vicar, Sacred Heart Church, Salisbury

Father James Stuhrenberg

From: newly ordained
To: Parochial Vicar, St. Mark Church, Huntersville

Father John Starczewski

From: Parochial Vicar, St. Vincent de Paul Church, Charlotte
To: Parochial Vicar, Our Lady of Grace Church, Greensboro

Father Julio Dominguez

From: Parochial Vicar, Sacred Heart Church, Salisbury
To: Parochial Vicar, St. Aloysius Church, Hickory

Father Luis Osorio

From: Parochial Vicar, St. Michael Church, Gastonia
To: Parochial Vicar, St. Vincent de Paul Church, Charlotte

Father Timothy Reid

From: Parochial Vicar, St. Mark Church, Huntersville
To: Parochial Vicar, St. Matthew Church, Charlotte

OTHER APPOINTMENTS

Father Jose Antonio Juya

From: Pastor, St. Dorothy Church, Lincolnton
To: Hispanic Ministry Coordinator, Gastonia Vicariate

Redemptorist Father Dimas Arce Estrada

From: Redemptorist Order
To: Hispanic Ministry, St. Joseph Church, Kannapolis

Redemptorist Father Oscar E. Rojas Paniagua

From: Redemptorist Order
To: Hispanic Ministry, St. James Church, Concord

Father Christopher Roux

From: Administrator, Holy Infant Church, Reidsville
To: Secretary, Office of the Bishop

Father J. Enrique Gonzalez Gaytan

From: Parochial Vicar, St. Aloysius Church, Hickory
To: Academic studies in Hispanic Ministry

Father James Ebright

From: Parochial Vicar, Our Lady of Grace Church, Greensboro
To: Academic studies in Canon Law

Father Conrad Hoover

From: Pastor, St. Ann Church, Charlotte
To: Retirement, at his request

Father Joseph Ayathupadam

From: Pastor, Holy Spirit Church, Denver
To: Retirement, at his request

Bishop ordains 16 men to permanent diaconate

DEACONS, from page 1

Msgr. Mauricio West, chancellor and vicar general; officials from the Redemptorist order, and priests and permanent deacons of the Diocese of Charlotte, as well as the deacons' wives, children and grandchildren.

A deacon is an ordained minister in the Catholic Church and is one of the three degrees of the sacrament of Holy Orders, the origins of which can be found in the Acts of the Apostles.

As ordained ministers, permanent deacons may perform many of the sacramental ministries of the church except consecration of the Eucharist, anointing of the sick and reconciliation.

The permanent deacon is the only ordained man allowed to be married. However, if a deacon's wife passes away, he is not allowed to remarry. If a man is single, he is not allowed to marry after ordination.

"When we think of the life and ministry of the deacon, we think of Jesus himself," said Bishop Peter J. Jugis in his homily. "Jesus was not averse to being seen in the role of servant."

During the Mass, Bishop Jugis asked each candidate if he wanted to be ordained and if he was willing to serve

the bishop and the diocese.

"In the promises you are about to make, you will be asked to conform your way of life always to the example of Christ, of whose body and blood you are ministers at the altar," said Bishop Jugis.

The candidates prostrated themselves before the altar to signify their commitment, during which the litany of the saints was sung.

The bishop then prayed the prayer of consecration, completing the ordination of the permanent deacons. Each deacon was invested with a stole, a sign of his office; and dalmatic, the outer garment worn during the liturgy.

During the liturgy of the Eucharist, the newly ordained deacons distributed the Eucharist to their families, friends and fellow worshippers.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information about the permanent diaconate, call Deacon Louis Pais, director of the diaconate, at (704) 370-3344 or visit www.charlottediocese.org/deacons.html.



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Deacon John Kopfle receives the Book of the Gospels from Bishop Peter J. Jugis during the Mass for the ordination of permanent deacons at St. Gabriel Church in Charlotte.

Diaconate appointments

The following deacons were ordained June 10, 2006:

- Deacon James Lewis Atkinson, Holy Spirit Church, Denver
- Deacon David Paul Boissey, Sr., Good Shepherd Church, King: prison ministry and tribunal advocacy
- Redemptorist Brother Darrell Cevalco, reassigned by Redemptorist order
- Deacon Mark Shawn Diener, DC, St. Gabriel Church, Charlotte: Engaged Encounter and tribunal advocacy
- Deacon Walter Haarsgaard, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, High Point
- Deacon Richard Edwards Hanners, St. Gabriel Church, Charlotte: airport chaplaincy and formation for deacons
- Deacon Edward Andrew Konarski, Jr., St. Charles Borromeo Church, Morganton: prison ministry
- Deacon John Thomas Kopfle, St. Vincent de Paul, Charlotte: hospital ministry
- Deacon Paul nhia cha Lee, Hmong community
- Deacon Larry Lisk, St. Paul the Apostle Church, Greensboro: prison ministry
- Deacon John Angelo Martino, Our Lady of the Angels Church, Marion: formation for deacons
- Deacon Brian Patrick McNulty, DDS, St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Charlotte: hospital ministry
- Deacon Robert Terrence Murphy, St. Mark Church, Huntersville: formation for deacons
- Deacon Anthony Stephen Pickett, St. Francis of Assisi Church, Lenoir
- Deacon Michael Stout, St. Barnabas Church, Arden: prison ministry
- Deacon Kevin Bernard Williams, Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Charlotte: airport ministry

LOOKING FOR SOME GREAT SUMMER READING?

FIND IT HERE!

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri
10:00am-4:00 pm

Tuesday
10:00am-6:00 pm

Saturday
10:00am-1:00 pm

We have books for all ages, religious and inspirational artwork, statues, rosaries, jewelry, medals, crosses, crucifixes, prayer and greeting cards, music, audio books on CD's, DVD's, sacramental and general gift items and so much more!

Bring this ad and receive a free gift when you purchase \$20 or more in our store!

Limited time offer while supplies last



The Catholic Shoppe
AT BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

Located in St. Leo's Hall • 704.461.5100 • CatholicShoppe@bac.edu
Shop securely online at BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

Live Your Faith

Be affirmed in your present ministry.
Upgrade your certification as a catechist and religion teacher. Fulfill the prerequisite for the Permanent Diaconate.
Grow in your faith.

If you have these desires, the Diocesan Office of Lay Ministry offers a two-year program designed to help you understand more fully your baptismal call to minister to your family, to others in the Church, and to those in your daily life.

LAY MINISTRY
TRAINING PROGRAM

For more information call
Frank Villaronga,
704-370-3274 or E-mail
fvillaronga@charlottediocese.org

Confirmed in faith



COURTESY PHOTO

Bishop Peter J. Jugis and Father Walter Williams, pastor of St. Mary, Mother of God Church in Sylva, stand with the parish's confirmation candidates May 18. Bishop Jugis celebrated the confirmation Mass; Father Williams concelebrated.

Confirmation is one of the three sacraments of initiation, along with baptism and the Eucharist. Confirmation is usually administered during the teen years to those baptized in infancy.

Pictured (from left): Belle Harcourt, parish faith formation director; Anne Thurston, teacher; Ryan Vickery; Nicholas Provost; Father Williams; Bishop Jugis; Ana Maria Balta; Stormy DeLucia; Chelsea Phipps; Rachel Farrell; and Sara Freeman, confirmation assistant.

Good eats and golf



PHOTO BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY

Don Hock, Larry Poll and Steve Zdanski cook hamburgers and hot dogs for the annual golf fundraiser of Holy Infant Church in Reidsville, held at the Monroeton Golf Club in Reidsville May 20.



COURTESY PHOTO

Peter McNulty, of Boy Scout Troop 234 and parishioner of St. Aloysius Church in Hickory, recently earned the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank in Boy Scouts.

McAnulty earns Eagle Scout rank

HICKORY — Peter Charles McAnulty of Boy Scout Troop 234 recently earned the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank in Boy Scouts.

Family and friends gathered to honor him at a Mass celebrated by Capuchin Father Gregory Reisert, Peter's great uncle, at St. Aloysius Church April 1. A court of honor ceremony followed.

To earn Eagle Scout, Peter earned 33 merit badges and completed a service project at Jenkins Elementary School in Hickory. The project consisted of four parts, including an erosion control project, landscaping and refurbishing.

Peter also completed the requirements to earn a Bronze Palm.

Peter is a Vigil Honor Member of the Order of the Arrow, the highest achievement a Boy Scout can earn as a member of the Order of the Arrow. The Order of the Arrow is recognized as the national honor society for Boy Scouts of America.

An active member of the Esau Huppeday Lodge and Oconoluftee Chapter, Peter was elected to serve as vice chief of administration, the second highest youth leadership position of the 500-member Lodge.

In Troop 234, Peter held the offices of patrol leader, assistant senior patrol leader, senior patrol leader, librarian and troop guide.

He also earned the Arrow of Light award, the highest award in Cub Scouts. As a Catholic Boy Scout, Peter earned the Ad Altare Dei religious emblem.

Peter is an active member of Life Teen at St. Aloysius Church and serves as an altar server, lector and usher.

A senior at Hickory High School, Peter is a member of the National Honor Society, Math Honor Society, Beta Club, National Latin Honor Society and Latin Club.

He was captain of the 2005 cross country team and co-captain of the 2006 track and field team.



THE ORATORY

434 Charlotte Avenue, P.O. Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586
(803) 327-2097

25th SUMMER BIBLE INSTITUTE

Sunday, July 16th to
Friday, July 21st

OLD TESTAMENT

Irene Nowell, OSB

Topic: Women in the Old Testament

NEW TESTAMENT

Robert Karris, OFM

Topic: Eating your way through
Luke's Gospel

NEW COVENANT BOOKSTORE

- Books
- Cards
- Videos
- Jewelry
-and more!

336-760-1673

304 Upton St.,
Winston-Salem, NC
www.newcovenantbookstore.com

Groce
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

1401 Patton Ave. 72 Long Shoals Road
Asheville, NC Arden, NC
(828) 252-3535 (828) 687-3530

**Assuring
Absolute
Integrity**

Asheville's Catholic Funeral Directors
Dale Groce • John Prock

Toll-free (888) 874-3535

Pre-arrangements and obituaries on-line at www.grocefuneralhome.com

Providing help. Creating hope. Changing lives.

Catholic Social Services — The Diocese of Charlotte



Executive Director: Elizabeth Thurbee (704) 370-3227

Associate Director: Gerard Carter (704) 370-3250

Refugee Office: Cira Ponce (704) 370-6930

Family Life: Gerard Carter (704) 370-3228

Justice and Peace: Joe Purello (704) 370-3225

OEO/CSS Murphy Satellite Office (828) 835-3535

Charlotte Region: 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203

Area Director: Geri King (704) 370-6155

Western Region: 50 Orange Street, Asheville, NC 28801

Area Director: Debra Braese (828) 255-0146

Piedmont-Triad: 621 W. Second St., Winston-Salem, NC 27108

Area Director: Gerard Carter (Interim) (336) 727-0705

Greensboro Satellite Office (336) 274-5577

Latino Family Center (336) 884-5858

For information on specific programs, please call your local office.

1123 South Church Street, Charlotte NC 28203

www.cssnc.org

Attention: Homeowners...Have a plumbing problem? Don't Panic!...

"How To Get A Top Talent Plumber To

Show Up On-Time So You Don't Waste Time"

You have a busy schedule and value your time. Most plumbing companies won't give you a real appointment time and keep you waiting all day for a plumber to show up. Now there's a new way to get your plumbing problem fixed, save money, and get a precise Appointment Window so you don't have to waste time waiting.

Three-Way Plumbing Services, Inc.

We're The Good Guys Your Friends Told You About®

(704) 535-4795 Charlotte

(704) 795-9349 Concord

Serving The Entire Charlotte Diocese Area

www.3wayplumbing.com

Proud member of St. James Church

Seeking healing and forgiveness after an abortion?

Experience God's love and compassion once again —

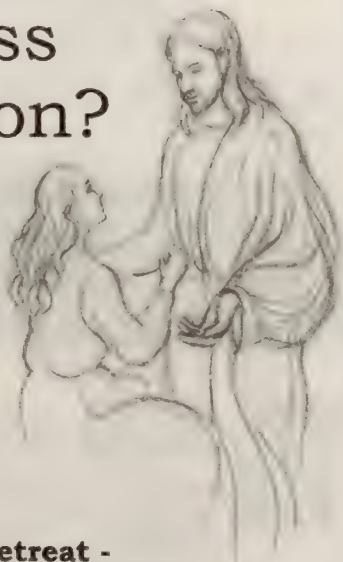
The Charlotte Diocese Respect Life Office of Catholic Social Services offers help to both men and women, in confidence, at **704-370-3229**.

Upcoming Rachel's Vineyard Retreat -

July 28-30 at Mepkin Abbey near Charleston, SC



You may also want to visit Rachel's Vineyard Web site at www.rachelsvineyard.org for helpful articles, retreat information and other direction to new hope and meaning for your future.



Many faiths, common goals



COURTESY PHOTO

Franciscan Sister Andrea Inkrott speaks during an interfaith prayer meeting at First United Methodist Church in Charlotte June 4.

Interfaith prayer meeting held for immigration reform

CHARLOTTE — Immigration was the focus of a recent international interfaith prayer meeting in Charlotte.

Franciscan Sister Andrea Inkrott, director of Hispanic ministry for the Diocese of Charlotte, joined members of other faith groups and organizations at First United Methodist Church June 4.

Participants shared Scripture and reflections at the meeting to "unite for comprehensive immigration law reform," according to organizers.

"The experience was indeed a Pentecost experience," said Sister Inkrott.

The participants shared prayers and writings of their faith traditions and were "together in their prayers to the one God," said Sister Inkrott.

"All the prayers were different, but all pertained to the message that God is

one and that we are all to love one another," she said.

Other faith groups represented included the Islamic Center of Charlotte, Charlotte Presbytery, Temple Israel, Hickory Grove Baptist Church, Western Conference of the United Methodist Church and the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina.

Also present were members of International House, a center for international diversity; the Latin American Coalition; and Mecklenburg Ministries.

"Interest and openness were evident in all the participants and that is what we prayed and hoped for, that all in our country will be interested in and open to one another so together we can resolve the issues that are challenging us at this time," said Sister Inkrott.



The Catholic Conference Center

www.catholicconference.org

1551 Trinity Lane, Hickory, NC 28602
(828) 327-7441 or Toll-free (888) 536-7441
info@catholicconference.org

Signing off for summer



COURTESY PHOTO

Eighth-graders from Immaculate Heart of Mary School in High Point say goodbye by writing farewell wishes on each other's gym shirts before the school's annual Field Day June 1.

Naturally resourceful



COURTESY PHOTO

Second-graders at St. Matthew School in Charlotte stand in front of the rainforest they created after learning about the environment and how to treat natural resources. They studied the importance of preserving ecological wonders to keep the balance of nature that God has created.

What page is your picture on?



COURTESY PHOTO

Three students at St. Leo the Great School in Winston-Salem look through their yearbooks during a carnival celebrating the end of their school year. During the carnival, the basketball court was dedicated and blessed, yearbooks were handed out, a special blessing was given to the children, and a flag that had been flown at the Provincial Government Center in Ramadi, Iraq was donated to the school.



*Please pray for the
following priest who
died during the month
of July*

*Rev. Bertrand Pattison
1992*

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

**Retirement isn't
what it used to be.
PLAN accordingly.**



Les Davaz
Financial Advisor
Member, St. Patrick's Church

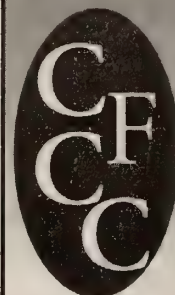
100 N. Tryon St., Suite 3300
Charlotte, NC 28202

(704) 331-2233 or
(800) 438-0397

<http://fc.smithbarney.com/davaz>

citigroup
SMITHBARNEY

© 2006 Citigroup Global Markets Inc. Member SIPC. Smith Barney is a division and service mark of Citigroup Global Markets Inc. and its affiliates and is used and registered throughout the world. CITIGROUP and the Umbrella Device are trademarks and service marks of Citigroup Inc. or its affiliates and are used and registered throughout the world.



**Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center**

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212

704-568-0023

www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma

Owner/Director

Privately, Locally Owned

Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

Please come and help us celebrate!

40th Anniversary

St. Frances of Rome Catholic Church

Hendrix Road at Highland, Sparta, NC

12 Noon — Sunday — July 9th

Please join us for —

*** a special bi-lingual Mass with
Bishop Peter J. Jugis, and**

*** a festive reception following the Mass**

For information, please call: (336) 372-8846

Closing the book

Bishop McGuinness graduates 90

KERNERSVILLE — Seniors at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School celebrated the conclusion of their high school careers June 3.

During the graduation ceremony, Sandy McMonagle, principal of Our Lady of Mercy School in Winston-Salem, was honored for her upcoming retirement and was awarded the Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School Founders Award for her leadership excellence and a career marked by extraordinary service to the church, the community, Catholic education and the teaching profession.

Diplomas were conferred by Msgr. Mauricio W. West, vicar general and chancellor for the Diocese of Charlotte; Linda Cherry, superintendent of diocesan Catholic schools; and George Repass, principal of Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School.

Repass presented McMonagle with a recognition plaque.

The class of 2006 also heard remarks from Anna Sweigart, salutatorian; Paul Gerlach, valedictorian; and special guest speaker Gregory Beier, president of Novant Health Triad Region,

and father of two Bishop McGuinness graduates.

FAST FACTS

Bishop McGuinness' class of 2006 consisted of 90 students, who received more than \$1.6 million in combined scholarships.



COURTESY PHOTO

Valedictorian Paul Gerloch addresses his fellow graduates of Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville June 3.

Charlotte Catholic celebrates graduation of 282

GRADUATION, from page 1

Charlotte; Linda Cherry, superintendent of diocesan Catholic schools; and Gerald Healy, principal of Charlotte Catholic High School.

"We know that we are more than GPAs and SAT scores," said Courtney Peterson, valedictorian. "We are a class of action and friction, not mindless academia. ... What you see is infinitely less than what we are."

Following the closing prayer, the euphoric graduates marched out into the open green space outside the auditorium. After tossing their caps into the air

against a vibrant blue sky, young men and women embraced each other as if for the first time, and the last.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

FAST FACTS

Charlotte Catholic's class of 2006 consisted of 282 students, who received more than \$5.5 million in combined scholarships.

Charlotte Catholic sports teams won 12 conference championships and three state championships in 2005-06, including the second consecutive state football championship.

Ready for takeoff



COURTESY PHOTO

Matthew Horne, an eighth-grader at Our Lady of Grace School in Greensboro, prepares for a flight after a presentation by Bryan Reich, a pilot. Reich was one of more than 30 professionals who spoke to middle-school students during Career Day May 24.

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels.

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



INTRODUCING...

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES WEST -

St. Barnabas in Arden -

open after all Masses of 2nd and 4th weekends each month

Visit our others satellite stores, too:

St. Charles Borromeo in Morganton

St. Gabriel in Charlotte

St. Therese in Mooresville

Come in and check out our GREAT SUMMER READING selections!!

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Bishop urges more public-interest shows

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Television stations should be required to air more public-interest programming before the expected conversion of broadcast signals from analog to digital is to be completed in 2009, said the chairman of the U.S. bishops' communications committee.

In a letter to Federal Communications Commission Chairman Kevin Martin released June 6, Bishop Gerald F. Kicanas of Tucson, Ariz., said a "substantial effort to provide programming that better serves the public" should be required of broadcasters in exchange for the new spectrum rights they will receive with digital broadcasting.

"Today, even as the broadcasting industry continues to benefit from its subsidized use of the public airwaves, broadcasters' observance of meaningful public interest obligations has declined," Bishop Kicanas said in the letter.

The experience of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops "is that there has been a steady decline in television stations willing to broadcast noncommercial religious programming or local public interest programming featuring local religious leaders," Bishop Kicanas said.

"A significant number of dioceses that produce television programs and public service announcements have consistently informed us of the financial burden and increased difficulty involved in obtaining airtime on local broadcast stations," he added.

"The bishops are concerned that local broadcasters' programming decisions are more deeply rooted in their desire for commercial gain, rather than meeting their statutory obligations to serve their communities' needs and interests," he said.

Bishop Kicanas said the U.S. bishops were concerned that, "with the imminent conversion to all-digital broadcasts, the already limited amount of religious programming will decline even further."

The FCC has given additional spectrum to each station for its digital programming.

Analog, the traditional TV broadcasting system, uses magnetic waves to transmit and display pictures and sound. By transmitting information used to make a TV picture and sound as "data bits" — like a computer — a digital broadcaster can carry more information than analog technology allows.

Bishop Kicanas offered three ways that public interest requirements could be ensured with digital broadcasting:

— By amplifying the views of the public, including community organizations and noncommercial religious entities.

— By increasing the amount of local news and public affairs programming, including religious programs and public service announcements.

— By increasing programming for the educational needs of children, people with disabilities and underserved communities.

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: JUNE 25, 2006

June 25, Twelfth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Job 38:1, 8-11
Psalms 107:23-26, 28-31
- 2) 2 Corinthians 5:14-17
- 3) Gospel: Mark 4:35-41

Jesus protects us on perilous journeys

BY SHARON K. PERKINS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Near the university campus where I am currently a graduate student, there is a busy street that serves as the property's western boundary. Unfortunately, the two pedestrian traffic lights are not situated at the place where I usually need to cross, so when I'm in a hurry — which is most days — I join dozens of other students who navigate through moving traffic with heavily laden briefcases and book bags in tow.

As an experienced street-crosser, I can gauge whether I have sufficient time to safely traverse the distance, and I have learned that once I assess the traffic and commit to the crossing, I need to proceed without hesitation. Still, it's a little scary and certainly not something I would do at night or with a child.

The Gospel reading for this Sunday is intriguing in that Jesus initiates a lake crossing in the evening when a storm is

threatening — not the most prudent time. The image of water gone out of control, common to all the readings, is a powerful metaphor for the very human fear we experience when our lives are out of control or we face an unfamiliar situation.

In the midst of an experience that terrifies even seasoned boatmen, Jesus does not panic, hesitate or ask them to turn the boat around. Rather, he calms both the tempests outside the boat and within their hearts, and seizes the moment to teach them something important about faith.

In the course of life, one often must "make crossings" — leaving a secure job for a new vocation, committing to love a person for life, giving birth to a child — that carry an element of risk. Some ventures are foolish and should not be attempted. Yet other risks are necessarily taken in order to answer and obey God's call of love. In those moments, even seasoned risk-takers know the jolt of adrenaline that fear brings.

But persons of faith know that Jesus always makes the crossing with them, calming the storms within, paving the way and encouraging them to proceed without hesitation to the other side. Awakening that faith — as the disciples awakened Jesus in the back of the boat — is the key to safe passage.

QUESTIONS:

When was the last time you felt paralyzed by an unfamiliar or overwhelming situation? How did your faith in Jesus help you overcome your fear?

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 25-JULY 1

Sunday (Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Job 38:1, 8-11, 2 Corinthians 5:14-17, Mark 4:35-41; Monday, 2 Kings 17:5-8, 13-15, 18, Matthew 7:1-5; Tuesday (St. Cyril of Alexandria), 2 Kings 19:9-11, 14-21, 31-36, Matthew 7:6, 12-14; Wednesday (St. Irenaeus), 2 Kings 22:8-13; 23:1-3, Matthew 7:15-20; Thursday (Sts. Peter and Paul), Acts 12:1-11, 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18, Matthew 16:13-19; Friday (First Martyrs of the Roman Church), 2 Kings 25:1-12, Matthew 8:1-4; Saturday (Bl. Junipero Serra), Lamentations 2:2, 10-14, 18-19, Matthew 8:5-17.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 2-8

Sunday (Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Wisdom 1:13-15; 2:23-24, 2 Corinthians 8:7, 9, 13-15, Mark 5:21-43; Monday (St. Thomas), Ephesians 2:19-22, John 20:24-29; Tuesday (St. Elizabeth of Portugal), Amos 3:1-8; 4:11-12, Matthew 8:23-27; Wednesday (St. Anthony Zaccaria), Amos 5:14-15, 21-24, Matthew 8:28-34; Thursday (St. Maria Goretti), Amos 7:10-17, Matthew 9:1-8; Friday, Amos 8:4-6, 9-12, Matthew 9:9-13; Saturday, Amos 9:11-15, Matthew 9:14-17.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 9-15

Sunday (Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Ezekiel 2:2-5; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10, Matthew 6:1-6; Monday, Hosea 2:16-18, 21-22, Matthew 9:18-26; Tuesday (St. Benedict), Hosea 8:4-7, 11-13, Matthew 9:32-38; Wednesday, Hosea 10:1-3, 7-8, 12, Matthew 10:1-7; Thursday (St. Henry), Hosea 11:1-4, 8-9, Matthew 10:7-15; Friday (Bl. Kateri Tekakwitha), Hosea 14:2-10, Matthew 10:16-23; Saturday (St. Bonaventure), Isaiah 6:1-8, Matthew 10:24-33.



Let stairs be our problem... not yours!

Ask about our Stairway lifts.

- Easily attached to steps (not walls)
- Folds out of the way
- Fits most stairways (straight & curved)
- Very affordable (rent or buy)
- We install

Chair & Equipment Rentals & Sales, Inc.

800 Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC • (800) 333-8431

Member of St. Thomas Aquinas



AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles
Licensed & Insured
FREE ESTIMATES
www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185

Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Charlotte 704-334-6421

Pineville 704-544-1412

Mint Hill 704-545-4864

Derita 704-596-3291



Join our Oratorian Congregation to SERVE GOD AS PRIEST OR BROTHER

As priests and lay men, our community lives without vows and serves God's people numerous ways, including:

Parishes Youth Camps Nursing
Retreats Campus Ministry Hospital Chaplains

Find out more about serving God with us:

Fr. Ed McDevitt, CO The Oratory
P O Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586



Active, fun, and inspiring:

The perfect retirement picture!

NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN HIGH POINT: A New Beginning For You! Pennybyrn at Maryfield will offer a carefree lifestyle filled with energy and excitement. No more yard work or chores... just good friends, a perfect location, and every convenience you can imagine, including on-site short or long-term care.

Soon, this extraordinary lifestyle will be a reality — A New Beginning for you — so act now. Picture yourself at Pennybyrn at Maryfield!

Call (336) 886-4103 or toll-free (866) 627-9343.



1315 Greensboro Road, High Point, NC 27260

www.pennybyrnatmaryfield.com

Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor Servants
of the Mother of God



Recreating the Nativity



CNS PHOTO BY CAROL GLATZ

The city of Matera, Italy, famous for its rock-hewn homes and grottos, is being used to film "The Nativity Story." The filmmakers used the hill facing the city to shoot crucifixion scenes.

When filming about Jesus' birth, animals don't always follow script

MATERA, Italy — The hardest part about making a movie about Mary, Joseph and the birth of Jesus is convincing the animals to follow the script.

Herd of sheep, ornery oxen, caravaning camels and pack donkeys all feature in a new film, "The Nativity Story," due out in theaters Dec. 1.

Digital technology has made putting a shooting star and hovering angels on celluloid a cinch, but convincing an ox to kneel and low before the baby Jesus in a manger proved to be an ordeal.

The film by New Line Cinema is being shot this spring and summer in the ancient city of Matera.

Scriptwriter Mike Rich said he wanted the story to flesh out who Mary and Joseph were and what emotions they must have felt as they faced the immense responsibilities God entrusted to them.

Rich said he felt the story of the Nativity had always been presented as an "event-based" story. After months of research and input from religious scholars, Rich started writing what he called "a character-based story."

Rich noted that the only description of Joseph he found in the Bible was that "he was a righteous man."

A nondenominational Christian, Rich said that even though his story was

speculative he still sought to keep it faithful to the spirit of the biblical account.

The result is that the young Mary, played by Keisha Castle-Hughes ("Whale Rider"), and Joseph, played by Oscar Isaac, leap to life on the script's pages and hopefully, Rich said, also on the screen.

Co-producer Marty Bowen, a Catholic, said that growing up he always put Mary "up on a pedestal."

"The Nativity Story" is trying to make Mary real, Bowen said, adding that he hoped that the movie would help people see "Mary was a girl before she became a woman and a woman before she became the mother of God."

The film's promoters sent copies of the script to a number of religious scholars for their input as well as to the head of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications, Archbishop John P. Foley, and secretary of communications for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Msgr. Francis J. Maniscalco.

While Archbishop Foley told Catholic News Service in late May that he had yet to read the script, Msgr. Maniscalco said he found the screenplay "faithful to the biblical narrative and that the additions made for narrative and theatrical purposes were tasteful."



St. Thomas Aquinas Academy
Asheville, North Carolina

www.stthomasaquinasacademy.org

(828) 687-7714

Accepting applications for ninth, tenth and eleventh grades.

Member, National Association of Private, Catholic and Independent Schools
St. Thomas Aquinas Academy is a private school, independent of the Charlotte Diocesan school system.

New bishop of Raleigh selected

BISHOP, from page 1

Bishop Gossman

Francis Joseph Gossman was born in Baltimore April 1, 1930. He was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Baltimore in 1955 after studies at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore and the Pontifical North American College in Rome, the U.S. national seminary in Rome.

After ordination he earned a doctorate in canon law at The Catholic University of America in Washington.

He served as an assistant pastor, cathedral administrator, vice chancellor, tribunal official and St. Mary's Seminary professor before he was named an auxiliary bishop of Baltimore in 1968 at the age of 38.

He was the first U.S. bishop to be ordained in the new, simplified ceremony for the ordination of a bishop, which had just received Vatican approval for use in the United States on an experimental basis as part of the liturgical reforms following the Second Vatican Council.

In place of the traditional banquet honoring a newly ordained bishop, he celebrated his ordination with a simple buffet and reception and had the money that would have been spent on a banquet sent for aid to Biafra, a short-lived secessionist state of Nigeria, which was then in the midst of a destructive civil war and faced massive humanitarian needs.

When he was made bishop of Raleigh in 1975, the 38,000 Catholics in the diocese formed a tiny minority, less than 2 percent of the 2.5 million people in the eastern half of North Carolina.

During his 31-year tenure the

Catholic population more than quadrupled. It now numbers about 190,000 in a population of 4.1 million.

Active in ecumenical relations and social justice issues, Bishop Gossman used the sale of a property in 1989 to establish a permanent \$2.5 million diocesan endowment for the poor.

He supported a nuclear freeze in the early 1980s and in 1990 warned against unilateral U.S. military action before the Persian Gulf War. He fought for the rights of immigrants and in 1992 was one of five Southern bishops who issued a joint statement opposing use of the death penalty.

He promoted lay leadership in parishes and the role of women in church leadership positions.

In 1997 he and then-Bishop William G. Curlin of Charlotte issued a joint pastoral letter on economic justice in their state, expressing concern that while North Carolina was enjoying economic prosperity and expansion the working poor were being left behind.

Bishop Gossman was a member of the Anglican-Roman Catholic dialogue in the United States and in 1991 was a leader in the formation of a statewide Catholic-Lutheran covenant, an agreement of joint witness and collaboration that at the time was only

the second such covenant in the nation.

In 1999 he started the diocesan Reconciliation Initiative, a program of pastoral outreach to Catholics separated from the sacraments because of irregular marriages.

Over the years he has served on numerous committees of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

He welcomed the appointment of Bishop Burbidge, 48, to Raleigh, describing his successor as "a man of prayer and faith."

Bishop Burbidge

Michael Francis Burbidge was born in Philadelphia June 16, 1957. He was ordained a priest of the Philadelphia Archdiocese in 1984 following studies at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary there.

He also studied at Villanova and Immaculata universities in Pennsylvania and has a doctorate in education as well as master's degrees in theology and education administration.

After two years in parish work he spent five years teaching high school. In 1991-92 he was dean of students at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary.

From 1992 to 1999 he was a special assistant to Cardinal Anthony J. Bevilacqua, then archbishop of Philadelphia, and from 1999 to 2004 he returned to the seminary as rector.

In 2002 he was named an auxiliary bishop of Philadelphia. As a bishop, he has held several archdiocesan posts including vicar general and head of the Priests' Personnel Board.

Join us for a pilgrimage to Guadalupe



with Fr. Fidel Melo
Pastor, Our Lady of Grace
October 24-29, 2006

*Price — \$1575 includes:
Roundtrip airfare from Greensboro
3 nights in Mexico City
2 nights in Puebla
5 lunches and 3 dinners
Sightseeing in air-conditioned coach
English-speaking guide
Mass daily

*based on double occupancy

For information: New Covenant Pilgrimages
Patti Dameron (336) 413-8127

Coordinator of Rite of Confirmation

St. Mark Church is currently seeking a part-time Coordinator of the Rite of Confirmation (ROC). Responsibilities include implementing and coordinating all details associated with the successful preparation of students for this Sacrament of Initiation. Ideal candidate for this position is a college graduate with a minimum of two years' experience working in education in a parish or school setting. Also required are strong organizational, computer and communication skills as well as a high threshold of energy and enthusiasm for youth and our Catholic faith. A strong catechetical background is preferred. Please submit resumes to Donna Smith, DRE, c/o St. Mark Catholic Church, 14740 Stumptown Road, Huntersville, NC 28078 (dsmith18@bellsouth.net)

Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT

NANNY: ARE YOU MY GRAMMY??
Waxhaw family looking for experienced mature nanny to care for adorable baby and active toddler; M-Th 8-4. Must be warm and loving, have lots of energy and be more than just a caretaker! Please call: 704 953 0302.

FOR RENT

LAKE LURE VACATION HOME: New! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, all amenities. 3 minutes to Rocky Broad River, Lake Lure beach; fishing, boating, hiking, swimming. Reasonable! 828-299-3714.

CONDO: Oceanfront on Pleasure Island. 2 BD/2 BA. Minutes from Wilmington. Rent by day or week. 4 BDs also available. Call 703.450.8480 or write wfkelle@aol.com for availability.

Classified ads bring results! Over 135,000 readers! Over 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

ABBOTSWOOD SENIOR LIVING



For more than 17 years, Abbotswood at Irving Park has built a reputation on providing exemplary retirement living services to independent seniors. Residents enjoy the largest 1 and 2 bedroom floorplans in Irving Park, delicious meals, a full-time wellness director and month-to-month rental with NO BUY-IN FEES. Optional in-home health care services are available. Call today to schedule your personal tour.

(336) 282-8870

ABBOTSWOOD
at Irving Park

The only full service retirement living address in the heart of Irving Park
3504 Flint Street • Greensboro, NC 27405 • www.kiscoseniorliving.com

Church role seen in mobilizing Hispanics

IMMIGRANTS, from page 1

in U.S. political life.

On the local level, priests can promote civic involvement and church organizations can sponsor courses in English as a second language, said Rodolfo de la Garza, law professor at Columbia University in New York.

"There is a crying need in the Hispanic community for that help," said de la Garza, who has written books on Hispanic politics in the United States.

Robert de Posada, president of the Latino Coalition, said that the church "has the moral authority to make things happen."

In the heavily Catholic Hispanic community, "when people need help, they first turn to their family, then to the church and then to the government," he said.

Both men attended a June 7 symposium on Latino participation in U.S. politics after the series of rallies calling for immigration reform held earlier in the year.

The symposium was organized by the Tomas Rivera Policy Institute, an independent social research center specializing in Hispanic issues.

De Posada and de la Garza cited encouraging voter registration drives and getting people to vote as important tasks

for the church.

"Priests from the pulpit have a captive audience" to encourage registration, said de Posada.

"Our church also needs to push stronger in making sure that citizens vote," he said.

De la Garza said that priests need to preach the importance of voting because it's elected officials who decide how to spend taxpayers' money.

The Latino Coalition does an annual survey of Hispanic views on political and social issues.

One of the symposium speakers was Sen. Ken Salazar, D-Colo., who said that the energy from rallies pushing for immigration reform "should be the beginning point for Latino participation" in a wide variety of political issues.

He stressed working with young Latinos, most of whom are U.S. citizens, to get them to vote. Salazar estimated that there are about 5 million Hispanics who are citizens but not registered to vote or who are currently eligible to become citizens.

Although the number is small when compared to the total number of eligible voters, many of these Hispanics are in key swing states in presidential elections, such as Texas, California and Florida, he said.

Salazar said that a main difference in the Senate and House versions of immigration legislation concerns the wall

"The rallies said: 'We are here. We are visible.'"

— Roberto Suro, director of Pew Hispanic Center

to be built along the border.

Unlike the House bill, the Senate bill would require local government officials on both sides of the border to approve construction of the wall in their jurisdictions, he said.

Several speakers disagreed as to whether the immigration rallies had a positive or negative impact on U.S. public opinion.

Roberto Suro, director of the Pew Hispanic Center, said the events were basically positive and looked like peaceful family affairs because among participants there were many little children being carried by their parents.

"The rallies said: 'We are here. We are visible,'" he said.

It also showed the strength of the informal networking and intercommunication among immigrants who got the message out about the marches through churches, labor unions and radio station

disc jockeys, he said.

Mark Krikorian, executive director of the Center for Immigration Studies, said the marches promoted immigration control because they showed the general U.S. public the "size of the problem" of illegal immigration.

People saw hundreds of thousands of demonstrators filling downtown Los Angeles, Chicago and Washington, he said. This was more powerful than reading about an estimated 11 million to 12 million illegal immigrants, he said.

The marches "guaranteed that there will be no amnesty this year" for illegal immigrants, he said.

They also eroded the reasoning of business leaders who see illegal immigration as a source of docile, cheap labor, said Krikorian.

"This undermined the rationale because the docile, cheap labor was now marching in the streets," he said.

Several speakers said that many immigrants risk death to sneak into the United States because of the poor domestic policies in their countries and because of U.S. trade policies that promote U.S. exports at the expense of the production of other countries.

"Mexicans used to pluck chickens in Mexico. Now they do it here," said Suro. "We used to buy chickens from Mexico. Now we export chickens to Mexico."

Apply to the Abbey for fall 2006!

Scholarships, financial aid, and housing are still available.



It's not too late to inquire and apply online at:
BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

For more information call 1.888.222.0110 or email: admissions@bac.edu



BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

'666 babies'

*Ominous date
reminder of difficulty
in reporting faith issues*

Chalk up another one for those brainy marketing folks in Hollywood. Somebody out there thought it would be clever to open the movie "The Omen" on a Tuesday instead of the usual Friday to take advantage of the date 6/6/06. It worked!

As communications director for the diocese, I got lots of calls from reporters who wanted to know what the church was telling people about the ominous date.

June 6, 2006, or 6/6/06, has no relation to the mark of Satan referred to in the Book of Revelation. The number 666 refers to an evil thing or person. The date, which occurs once every hundred years, is related to evil the way diet is related to pizza. But lacking a connection to reality has never prevented a reporter from searching for a story.

I had several conversations with reporters doing 666 stories that went like this:

Reporter: We've heard that some pregnant women, due to deliver, don't want to have a baby on June 6. Have you heard that?

Me: No.

Reporter: Does the church have any advice for a woman who is concerned about having a 666 baby?

Me: A what? Look, that's something between a woman and her doctor.

Reporter: So, the church doesn't want any 666 babies?

Me: ANY WHAT?

And so it goes. I know reporters often ask silly questions bordering on the offensive; I was very good at it when I had a press card. But I've often wondered why most reporters seem so clueless when it comes to matters of faith. Some are Catholic, and many belong to other Christian denominations, but most seem willing to accept the silliness of 666 because it gives them a story.

Faith is important. It gives individuals meaning to their lives, it motivates good on a grand scale and, in the case of some aspects of the Muslim

Catholics & the Media

DAVID HAINS
GUEST COLUMNIST



faith, it underpins an ongoing war with the West. (Christians have plenty of wars to be of ashamed, too — remember the Crusades?)

Yet most news organizations assign minimal or no resources to the understanding of faith. For the average reporter, a "religion" story is about a church fire.

Faith is a difficult subject to report. An explanation of the Resurrection or transubstantiation won't fit very well into a sound bite.

People of faith usually can't prove a miracle and they are predictable when it comes to showing gratitude, repeatedly thanking God. But those should be minor obstacles to news organizations that have the wherewithal to "imbed" reporters in a war in Iraq, or send us pictures from the summit of Mt. Everest.

In February 2005, Time magazine ran a profile of Catholicism in the South. The Diocese of Charlotte and Bishop Peter J. Jugis figured prominently in the story about the vibrant faith life found below the Mason-Dixon Line.

The reporter on that story, Tim Padgett, told me that most national news organizations felt that they had completely dropped the ball in the coverage of the recently completed presidential campaign because they didn't understand the role that faith played in the re-election of George W. Bush. Padgett thought that more in-depth reporting of faith would soon be the norm. It sounded like a good start for a new kind of journalism. The reporting on 666 day is a reminder that bad habits are hard to break.

David Hains is director of communication for the Diocese of Charlotte. Contact him at dwhains@charlottediocese.org.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

Catholic, Orthodox have a relationship as sister churches, says pope

BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Just as Sts. Peter and Andrew were brothers, the Catholic and Orthodox churches have a special relationship as true sister churches, Pope Benedict XVI said.

After Christ's death and resurrection, St. Peter left Jerusalem for Rome in order to carry out the universal mission Jesus entrusted to him, the pope said during his June 14 weekly general audience.

St. Andrew, fluent in Greek, went to the Greek world, he said, and became the "apostle of the Greeks."

The Gospels show that in their life and death, Sts. Peter and Andrew were "true brothers" and that their brotherhood is expressed "symbolically in the special rapport between the sees of Rome and Constantinople, churches (that are) truly sisters," Pope Benedict said.

In St. Peter's Square, the pope continued a series of talks on the apostles by turning to St. Andrew, patron saint of the Ecumenical Orthodox Patriarchate of Constantinople.

His June 14 talk came less than a week after bishops of the patriarchate expressed concern over the pope's decision to drop "patriarch of the West" from his official titles in the Vatican yearbook.

The Orthodox bishops' synod said in a June 8 statement, "It is of extreme importance to the Orthodox church that Pope Benedict, while having rejected the title 'patriarch of the West,' retained the titles 'vicar of Christ' and 'supreme pontiff of the universal church.'"

The synod said these titles still create serious difficulties for the Orthodox since the titles seem to imply "a universal jurisdiction of the bishop of Rome over the entire church, which is something the Orthodox have never accepted."

"By retaining these titles and discarding the 'patriarch of the West' the term and concept of 'sister churches' between the Roman Catholic and Orthodox church becomes hard to use," they said.

Meanwhile, in his catechesis, Pope

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



Benedict said Jesus foresaw that after his death his teachings would spread and be embraced by people beyond the Jewish world and into the pagan lands of the ancient Greek world.

St. Andrew helped translate to a group of Greeks Christ's parable of the grain of wheat in which Jesus said the grain will produce fruit only if it dies after it falls to the ground.

Christ's "meeting with the Greek spirit, with the Greek world" was to come about not as an encounter with curious onlookers, but as a true welcoming and fruitful following of his teachings, he said.

That grain of wheat, a symbol of Christ crucified, will be resurrected and grow into the "bread of life for the world; will be light for peoples and cultures," the pope said.

St. Andrew, who was crucified in the Greek city of Patras, teaches today's faithful an important lesson about how to confront one's own sufferings, the pope said.

During his crucifixion, St. Andrew praised the "good cross" as an object that had been "consecrated by the body of Christ and adorned by his limbs as if with pearls" and that it would "take me away from men and restore me to my master."

Pope Benedict said the saint's words reflect the Christian interpretation of the cross not as "an instrument of torture as much as an incomparable way for a full assimilation with the Redeemer."

"Our crosses take on value if they are seen and received as part of Christ's cross," the pope said, adding that "only from that cross our sufferings, too, become noble and take on their true meaning."

Stances on Abortion

U.S. adults who say these statements reflect their position on abortion



Based on April 2006 national survey of 1,000 adults with a sampling error of +/- 3.1 percent

Source: Real Women's Voices coalition
©2006 CNIS

Hating the waiting

Patience, prayer can help us find God

"You must have a very hungry cat," I said to the man in line in front of me at the grocery store.

Thirty or 40 small cans of cat food sat in his basket. Nothing more. Just cat food and lots of it. He laughed.

"I don't even have a cat," he said. Then he went on to explain that he was going shrimp fishing and cat food makes the best bait.

"There's something about this greasy stuff that shrimp love."

Who knew? Sometimes grocery lines can be very educational. Sometimes they can be fun, when you end up next to a good friend.

But for most of us, they apparently are downright exasperating. At least, that's according to an Associated Press article, which cites a poll conducted recently showing that Americans are a very impatient people.

Americans don't like waiting. The post office and the motor vehicle registry are places we especially hate to tarry, said the article. And we detest phone calls that put you on hold until the next representative is available.

But "almost one in four in the AP-Ipsos Poll picked the grocery checkout as the line where their patience is most likely to melt like the ice cream turning to goo in their carts," said the story.

For the Journey

EFFIE
CALDAROLA
CNS COLUMNIST



Why are we so impatient? It seems we're always rushing. Even our children — maybe especially our children — are scheduled into one activity after another.

As a group, Americans are way too busy. At least that's the conventional wisdom and perhaps explains why we hate waiting.

But I think we rather take pride in our busyness. We brag about it. We have stuff to do, so we must be important — and impatient.

So, when the clerk at the post office puts up a "closed" sign when it's our turn, or the woman in front of us at the grocery is having trouble with her credit card, we fret, we fume.

Samuel Beckett's "Waiting for Godot" is a play about two tramps who are waiting for a mysterious gentleman named Godot. The whole play centers on their waiting, but Godot never shows up.

The title makes one wonder if they really are waiting for God, but Beckett claimed that wasn't so.

Literary critics imagine that the existential play deals with the meaninglessness of life. But as Christians we don't believe our lives are meaningless, and we do believe that waiting is an essential part of faith.

Think how long the Hebrews waited for a savior.

Perhaps it's a stretch to imagine that what we experience in life as waiting for God can be related to the waiting we are forced to do at the grocery store. But could a time given for prayer each day, which is essentially a time of waiting for God, strengthen patience throughout our lives?

Could it help to turn those moments of fretful waiting into moments of prayer?

When an archbishop of Canterbury was asked once how much time he prayed each day, he replied with humor, "About two or three minutes, but it takes me a half an hour to get there."

In other words, he gave time to prayer but had to wait, with patience and perseverance, for the glimpse of God he so desired.

Sometimes I wonder if our constant need to hurry is because we, perhaps like the men waiting for Godot, struggle to find our life's meaning, and being busy masks that struggle.

Giving a half an hour each morning to simply waiting on God might bring meaning into even the most frustrating moments of our day.

Traumas remind us life is precious

The Human Side

FATHER
EUGENE HEMRICK
CNS COLUMNIST



I was sitting at a golf course near the Washington Hospital Center. It is the norm there to see helicopters shuttling patients to the center.

But this time we suddenly heard a great thud. I knew immediately that a helicopter had crashed.

Some of us jumped into a golf cart and sped down the hill. There in the distance was scattered debris, a tree cut in two and the downed helicopter on its side.

As I went to assist other men who had gotten to the copter first, I noticed it was smoldering. Normally, the injured should not be moved until medics arrive to remove people without causing further injury.

But we felt we had no time to wait. It seemed the helicopter could burst into flames at any moment.

We tried to lift the pilot out as best we could as he shrieked in pain. It was extremely difficult to get him out because his feet were strapped into pedals that maneuver the plane.

I next looked into the rear of the helicopter where a nurse and her patient were trapped.

As we dragged her away from the helicopter, I asked her how she was. She replied that her shoulder was in extreme pain.

We had to wait and hope that the helicopter wouldn't blow up until the fire department arrived to cut free the patient who initially was being transported to the hospital center. Later, we were informed that the patient, who had been in critical condition prior to the crash, died.

I have been in trauma situations before. You never get used to them. They leave you traumatized yourself.

That accident spoke of life in a way I never thought of it before. When others' lives are in danger and your life is endangered in the process of helping them, the urge is to forget danger and do what has to be done to save another.

As I looked at the trapped nurse and her patient, all I wanted to do was to free them as soon as possible, just in case the helicopter exploded. Their lives meant everything to me, even at the cost of losing mine.

As painful as it is, traumatic life-and-death situations make us realize how precious life is. There is no taking death or even injury for granted.

The experience of such a trauma is a very difficult reminder that we can never become callous about people getting blown up before our very eyes.

In an ironic way, it reminds us of the human being next to us and the God-given instinct within us to ensure his or her life, no matter the cost, no matter whether we know or don't know the person.

The bite of 'choice'

Many doctors choose not to end unborn life

In my current series of columns, I've been examining the truth that the price to be paid for doing abortions is life as an abortionist. It is, in many ways, its own punishment, and the examples we have given of how it destroys the personality are only the tip of the iceberg.

Another dimension of this truth is how the stigma of being an abortionist is causing the abortion industry to collapse for lack of personnel.

Here we find a beautiful irony, because "choice" has come back to bite the abortion industry.

They have discovered the hard truth that if women can choose to have abortions, so doctors can choose not to perform them. There is an amazing disparity in the medical community between the number of those who will identify themselves as "pro-choice," and the number of those who are willing to work in an abortion clinic.

Abortionist Morris Wortman attested, "There is tremendous support in the medical community for a woman's right to choose, as long as she doesn't 'choose me' to perform her abortion" (Medical Tribune, March 6, 1997).

This has created nothing less than a crisis for the abortion business, and has caused many in it to express openly their

fears that the pro-life movement will end abortion without even having to make it illegal.

Abortion is quickly becoming the legal procedure that no doctor wants to do and fewer and fewer women want to undergo. Don't take my word for it; read these quotes:

— "When I look back on the [Roe v. Wade] decision, I thought these words had been written in granite. But I've learned it was not granite. It was more like sandstone. The immediate problem is, where will the doctors come from?"

(Sarah Weddington, pro-abortion attorney who successfully argued Roe v. Wade before the Supreme Court; Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, February 15, 1998)

— "That's how the anti's are going to win ... by attrition, because fewer and fewer doctors will perform abortions."

(Abortionist Herbert Hodes, Glamour, September 1991)

— "Abortion opponents will achieve their goal without ever having to overturn Roe vs. Wade."

(Kate Michelman, former director, National Abortion Rights Action League, Dallas Morning News, October 4, 1997, commenting on the shortage of abortionists)

— "We've seen a turn-off of

Guest Column

FATHER FRANK
PAVONE
GUEST COLUMNIST



physicians coming into this field."

(Abortionist Ed Boaz, ABC World News Tonight, January 16, 1998)

— "Having the right to abortion doesn't mean a [expletive] thing if you can't access it."

(Barbara Ellis, abortion advocate, National Abortion Federation Annual meeting, San Francisco, March/April 1996)

So many pro-life activists have looked for visible results of their legislative and educational activity, and often don't find as much as they would like. Yet these quotes prove that the abortion industry feels the weight of our success.

The goal in war is not to destroy one's enemy, but to destroy the enemy's capacity for waging war.

By educating the public, especially medical students, about how ugly life as an abortionist is, we continue to rob them of what they need to keep abortion going.

Father Pavone is national director of Priests for Life.

Cloistered monks maintain spiritual connections with outside world

BY CAROL ZIMMERMANN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

BERRYVILLE, Va. — At first glance, the Holy Cross Abbey in Berryville seems completely shut off from the world at large.

For starters, its location is off the beaten path in the foothills of Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains. This is not a place that visitors accidentally stumble upon.

And yet, the quiet pastoral setting is often inundated with visitors, those who come seeking solace or perhaps wanting to absorb some of the rich spiritual tradition on the monastery grounds.

"The retreat house is always full," Trappist Father Robert Barnes, the abbot, said of the guest house that sleeps 16, either for weeklong or weekend retreats.

He said people reserve their spots months in advance and plenty are "on standby" if anyone cancels.

Visitors essentially set their own routines. They are welcome to attend any of the five times reserved for prayers in the chapel with the Trappist monks — with the first prayers, the night Office of Vigils, at 3:30 a.m. and the closing prayers, or compline, at 7:30 p.m.

They may attend meals with other participants or receive spiritual counseling from one of the monks, but they are not required to do so.

After the Second Vatican Council, the grille in the church dividing monks and guests was taken down. Now there is a simple rope separating the two groups. Guests are restricted from the monastery's private quarters and dining area.

Providing an opportunity for spiritual renewal is key for the Trappists, according to Father Barnes, who said

Pope Paul VI "insisted that monks have to be in touch with people seeking to renew their spirituality."

Capuchin Franciscan Brother Effrin Sosa, who is in the process of becoming a Trappist brother, is not at all surprised by the large turnouts at Trappist retreat houses, particularly in recent years.

"People are starving out there, especially young people. They're looking for depth," he said.

And when they visit, if nothing else, they get a chance to experience firsthand a silent environment in a TiVo- and radio-free zone. They also get the chance for some spiritual counseling or to receive the sacrament of reconciliation.

Trappist Father Edward McCorkell, 80, a native of South Africa, frequently counsels married couples who stay at the retreat house.

Although he did not choose married life and has long lived inside the monastery walls, he can certainly say a thing or two about facing challenges head on. When he decided to become a priest, he came to the United States by ship in a 55-day trip at times surrounded by U-boats in World War II.

The priest, who helped start a Trappist monastery in Chile, was the abbot at Holy Cross Abbey in 1966-80, a period of significant change in the world, the church and even the abbey. In the early 1960s, the abbey had the highest number of monks in its history — 61.

Father McCorkell welcomed the changes brought by Vatican II, particularly the decision to do away with silence on the abbey grounds and the use of the Trappist sign language. Today he gets plenty of opportunity to talk, either in informative



CNS PHOTO BY BOB ROLLER

Trappist monks gather for lunch in the dining hall of Holy Cross Abbey in Berryville, Va., in early May. The men in the cloistered community, who range in age from 32 to 87, live by the Rule of St. Benedict and follow simple routines of prayer and work, far removed from the hectic pace of modern life.

lectures to the monks or in discussions with guests where he sometimes gets the chance to speak Spanish.

He is also quick to point out that meeting with those on retreat is a two-way street. "It's wonderful for me to

see them here," he said of the guests, noting the sacrifices they make just to go on retreat.

He also said the couples are a witness to him by their example of living out their faith in the world.

Catholic Heritage Society

Please join us

Honoring the generosity of Catholic friends who provide for the future of the Church through a planned gift to the Diocese of Charlotte or a diocesan parish, school, agency, or diocesan foundation.

Become a member by making:

- a gift from a retirement plan
- a gift of life insurance
- a bequest in your will
- a gift of real estate
- a gift of a trust
- a gift of life estate
- a gift of an annuity

The Foundation
of the
Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte

To receive the free booklet "Better Estate Planning" contact Judy Smith, Director of Planned Giving, 704-370-3320; 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203. jmsmith@charlottediocese.org.

WALK WHERE JESUS WALKED ON A DIOCESAN-SPONSORED PILGRIMAGE TO

THE HOLY LAND

September 5 – 14

with Fr. James Hawker, Diocesan Vicar
of Education and Pastor, St. Luke Church



Deepen your understanding of our Catholic faith and watch the pages of the Bible come alive as you experience daily Mass at many of the historical sites of our faith.

Highlights include:

- Tiberias, Mt. Carmel, Sea of Galilee area
- Mt. Tabor, Cana, Nazareth – Jesus' boyhood area
- Capernaum, Mount of Beatitudes, River Jordan
- Jerusalem area: Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Via Dolorosa, Lord's Tomb at Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Mount Zion, Upper Room, Dormition Abbey, Wailing Wall
- Dead Sea (excavations and scrolls), Masada, Holocaust memorial
- Bethlehem's historic sites – PLUS much more!

* Price: \$2,599 from Charlotte includes airfare, most meals, first class hotels and all tours. Airport taxes/fees, tips and insurance are extra.

Call Cindi Feerick at 704/370-3332 for a brochure with complete details or Pentecost Tours 800/713-9800 for registration.



Following in faith



PHOTOS BY KAREN A. EVANS

Hundreds join Bishop Peter J. Jugis as he carries a monstrance during a eucharistic procession through Asheville, part of the diocesan Eucharistic Conference June 24.

Hundreds honor Eucharist in Asheville

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

ASHEVILLE — They came from near and far, singing and praying the rosary as they solemnly processed through the streets of downtown Asheville.

Echoing a scene from the inaugural Eucharistic Congress in Charlotte in September 2005, Catholics gathered in Asheville for a Eucharistic Conference June 24.

The conference began with Mass celebrated by Bishop Peter J. Jugis in the standing-room-only Basilica of

St. Lawrence, followed by a procession around four city blocks to the Asheville Civic Center.

The conference was organized by the diocesan Eucharistic Congress Committee in response to the requests of people in the western part of the diocese.

Many people wanted an opportunity to gather for Mass, a procession and speech in preparation for the Eucharistic Congress in October, Bishop Jugis said.

See EUCHARIST, page 10

Moving into ministry

LAY MINISTRY GUIDES
CATHOLICS TO DEEPER
SPIRITUALITY

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

HICKORY— Following on the heels of two men being ordained to the priesthood and 16 to the permanent diaconate, 41 men and women recently celebrated their completion of the diocesan Lay Ministry program.

After two years of study and reflection, the lay ministers received certificates of recognition at a ceremony at the

See MINISTRY, page 6

Defending dignity

CARDINAL: THOSE INVOLVED
IN STEM-CELL RESEARCH MAY
FACE EXCOMMUNICATION

BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Female egg donors, doctors and researchers involved in the destruction of embryos for stem-cell studies may face excommunication, said the head of the Vatican's family council.

Because embryonic stem-cell research involves the

See STEM CELLS, page 7

Smoke and spirit



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Bishop Peter J. Jugis prepares the incense on the altar during the dedication Mass of the new Our Lady of the Americas Church in Biscoe June 25. Incensation of the church indicates the dedication of the church as a house of prayer.

FOR THE STORY AND PHOTOS, SEE PAGE 5.



Renewed in Spirit

Charismatic conference
explores Holy Spirit

| PAGE 8

Culture Watch

Book on Founders' fight;
St. Padre Pio DVD

| PAGES 14-15

Perspectives

Superman and Jesus;
charity and faith

| PAGES 18-19

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

MAKING A 'SPLASH'



CNS PHOTO COURTESY TOYCHALLENGE

St. Louis-area Catholic school students Alexis Jennings, Gloria Maciorowski, Melissa Rey and Jack Terschluse display the components of their award-winning game Splash Dash. The quartet won a TOYchallenge competition with their invented outdoor tag game.

Student inventors create new toy, win competition

Children inspired by teammate's illness

ST. LOUIS (CNS) — Four Catholic school students in the St. Louis area finished sixth grade with a bang.

Alexis Jennings, Gloria Maciorowski, Melissa Rey and Jack Terschluse are the Neon Warriors, a team of inventors who won the grand prize in the East Coast Nationals TOYchallenge competition.

The Neon Warriors invented Splash Dash, a fitness-focused outdoor tag game that involves "blasting" opponents with splash balls.

"We went through a lot of designs before we came up with the right one," Melissa said. "It was really fun to see our ideas working and in action."

Jack added, "I learned one person can't do it all. You always need help on a project like this. A team is like a puzzle. You can't put together the puzzle if you don't have the pieces or the help from team members."

The East Coast Nationals, held in Research Triangle Park, N.C., was one of two final rounds of TOYchallenge, an annual contest sponsored by Sally Ride Science company.

More than 350 teams competed across the country, with 50 making it to each of two finals. The West Coast final at the end of April at the San Diego Aerospace Museum in California yielded its own prize-winning team.

The grand prize is a Kennedy Space Center weekend VIP tour this summer that

includes air travel, along with a trophy.

"I want to be an astronaut when I grow up, so I can't wait until our trip to the Kennedy Space Center," said Melissa.

TOYchallenge aims to interest middle-school students, especially girls, in science and engineering. The toy and game competition has three categories — family games, teaching toys and "get out and play."

That last category was the one the Chesterfield youngsters chose for strong personal reasons.

"We decided on a game that allowed the players to get some exercise after our teammate Jack was diagnosed with juvenile diabetes last summer," said Melissa. "We learned that exercise helps keep blood-sugar level in check, so we wanted to invent a game that would especially benefit people like Jack who have diabetes."

The game works like this: Players, wearing special vests, use a slingshot-type mechanism to toss lightweight sponge balls at one another. The object is to avoid being hit while staying within the boundaries.

Splash Dash is aimed at children age 8 and older.

"I learned that working hard is the only way to get things done," said Gloria. "I also learned that if you have pride and faith in something, follow through with it. You never know how things will turn out."

West Virginia bishop commends Bush, governor for new mine safety laws

WHEELING, W.Va. (CNS) — Bishop Michael J. Bransfield of Wheeling-Charleston commended President George W. Bush for signing into law the Mine Improvement and New Emergency Response Act June 15 to improve the safety of coal miners and to strengthen recovery efforts of miners who are trapped.

He also commended West Virginia Gov. Joe Manchin, who was present for the signing at the White House, for state legislation passed in January.

"In the past months, because of the great catastrophes in West Virginia and the loss of life, we have seen improved laws concerning the protection of our miners," Bishop Bransfield said. "It is to the governor's credit and recently to the president's credit that these mining laws have been updated."

The MINER Act carries the first revisions to federal mine safety laws

since the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977.

"The MINER Act will build on the Mine Safety and Health Administration's ongoing efforts to enhance mine safety training, to improve safety and communications technology for miners and provide more emergency supplies of breathable air along escape routes," Bush said.

With Bush for the signing of the new law was Randal McCloy, the sole survivor of the Jan. 2 Sago Mine disaster in Upshur County, W.Va., that left 12 miners dead.

A total of 33 miners, including 19 in West Virginia, have been killed in mine-related accidents in the U.S. this year. Bush's signing of the mine safety measure into law came less than a month after the latest tragedy in the state in which Todd Upton of Fairmont was killed in an accident May 25 at a mine in Harrison County.

Diocesan planner

BOONE VICARIATE

SPRUCE PINE — A *Rosary of Intercession for Priests* is recited each Friday at St. Lucien Church, 695 Summit St., before the 9 a.m. Mass. Prayers are offered for bishops, priests and deacons, and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. For more information, call the church office at (828) 765-2224.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — Susan Brady presents "*Listening to Luke*," a week-long exploration of the Gospel of a master storyteller and a dynamic theologian, who gave us the opportunity to walk with Jesus and experience him encountering others and teaching us about his Father. The program will take place July 17-21, 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m., at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., in the New Life Center Banquet Room. RSVP to Susan Brady at (704) 541-8362 ext. 4 or e-mail sbrady@stmatthewcatholic.org.

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., will host a *Christian Coffeehouse* July 15, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Single and married adults are invited for an evening of contemporary Christian music, food and fellowship. For more information, call Kathy Bartlett at (704) 400-2213.

CHARLOTTE — *Pathfinders*, a peer-led support group for separated and divorced adults, offers education, support and fellowship through the divorce process. The group meets Tuesdays, 7:30-9 p.m., in St. Gabriel Church's Ministry Building, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, call Nancy at (704) 752-0318.

CHARLOTTE — The *Society of Mary and Martha* meets the third Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828

Old Reid Rd. For more information, call Peggy Pohlheber at (704) 588-7311.

CHARLOTTE — The *Healing Prayer Group* will pray with you in the name of the Lord Jesus for your healing, be it mental, spiritual or physical. Come and know the gentleness and unconditional love of the Lord. We meet the third Monday of each month in the St. Matthew Chapel, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., at 7:30 p.m. For more information, e-mail Barbara Gardner at chlt5nc@aol.com.

CHARLOTTE — The *Young Widowed Group* meets at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month in the Fellowship Hall of St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, contact facilitator Sister Therese Galligan at (704) 362-5047, ext. 216.

HUNTERSVILLE — *Elizabeth Ministry* is a peer ministry comprised of St. Mark Church parishioners who have lost babies before or shortly after birth. Confidential peer ministry, information and spiritual materials are offered at no cost or obligation to anyone who has experienced miscarriage, stillbirth or the death of a newborn. For details, call Sandy Buck at (704) 948-4587.

CHARLOTTE — The *50+ Club* of St. John Neumann Church, 8451 Idlewild Rd., meets the second Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. with a program and lunch in the parish hall. For reservations and more information, call Elaine at (704) 847-2835.

CHARLOTTE — The *Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians*, St. Brigid Division 1, an Irish-Catholic group of women dedicated to their faith, country and Irish heritage, meet the third Wednesday of each month. Anyone interested in membership, call Jeanmarie Schuler at (704) 554 0720.

GASTONIA VICARIATE

BELMONT — *First Saturday Devotions* take place on the first Saturday of each month at

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

JULY 7, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 35

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte, NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Catholics can get indulgence for praying for families in early July

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — To encourage Catholics to attend the Fifth World Meeting of Families in Valencia, Spain, and to recite prayers with their families, Pope Benedict XVI is offering a special spiritual gift, the Vatican said.

"The gift of a plenary indulgence" will be given to those who participate in the July 1-9 meeting in Spain or who gather their own families together in early July to pray for families, the Vatican announced June 27.

An indulgence is a remission of the temporal punishment deserved for sins.

In order to receive the indulgence, Catholics must attend the meeting in Spain, go to confession, receive the Eucharist and offer prayers for the

intentions of the pope.

If they cannot go to Spain, the decree said, "they will obtain the same plenary indulgence under the same conditions," but rather than going to the meeting they are to "recite as a family the Our Father, the creed and other devoted prayers" asking God to strengthen their families.

Both those in Spain and those remaining at home are to promise to "dedicate themselves generously to conforming their families ... to the holy rule of the Gospel," said the decree, which was signed by U.S. Cardinal J. Francis Stafford, head of the Apostolic Penitentiary, a Vatican court responsible for regulations governing indulgences.

Belmont Abbey Basilica, 100 Belmont-Mt. Holly Rd. Devotion begins at 9:30 a.m. with the recitation of the rosary, followed by reconciliation and Mass. For more information, call Phil or Terri at (704) 888-6050.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — If you have a special need for prayers, or would like to offer your time in prayer for others' needs, please call the *Prayer Chain* at Our Lady of Grace Church. The Prayer Chain is a sizable group committed to praying for your needs and the needs of your family and friends on a daily basis. To request a prayer or to participate in the Prayer Chain, call the church office at (336) 274-6520, ext. 10 and leave your name, address and phone number.

GREENSBORO — All Irish-Catholic women are invited to participate in the *Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians*, a social, cultural and charitable group for an ongoing series of fun and informative activities. LAOH meets the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Kloster Center of St. Pius X Church, 2210 N. Elm St. Please join us for refreshments and to learn more about our group. Any questions can be directed to Mary Giff at (336) 855-7014.

GUILFORD COUNTY — The Guilford County Division of the *Ancient Order of Hibernians*, the oldest and largest order of Irish Catholic men, is looking for more Irish Catholic men to join them for meetings, educational seminars and social events. Contact Michael Slane at (336) 665-9264 for time and location.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

SALISBURY — *Elizabeth Ministry* is a peer ministry comprised of Sacred Heart Church parishioners who have lost babies before or shortly after birth. Confidential peer ministry, information and spiritual materials are offered at no cost or obligation to anyone who has experienced miscarriage, stillbirth or the death of a newborn. For details, call Renee Washington at (704) 637-0472 or Sharon Burgess at (704) 633-0591.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

July 9 — 12 p.m.
Mass celebrating 40th anniversary of the church's dedication
St. Frances of Rome Church, Sparta

July 16 — 2 p.m.
Mass at Camp Kahdalea
Camp Kahdalea, Brevard

Aug. 4 — 2:30 p.m.
Installation Mass of Bishop Michael F. Burbidge of Raleigh
Center for the Performing Arts, Raleigh

No one should be put to death, not even Saddam, says Vatican official

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — No one should be put to death, not even former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, said Cardinal Paul Poupard, president of the pontifical councils for Interreligious Dialogue and for Culture.

"The Catechism of the Catholic Church, the church itself and the pope reaffirm that every person is a creature of God and that no one but the creator can claim to be the lord of the life and death of another," the cardinal said June 21 in an interview with the Italian news agency ANSA.

"Every creature, even the most wretched, was created in the image and likeness of God," the French cardinal said. "God is the master of life and death."

The cardinal made his comments after *Avvenire*, the Italian bishops' daily newspaper, published an editorial June 20 calling for the life imprisonment and not

the execution of Saddam and his co-defendants, who are on trial in Iraq.

"Even in the daily slaughterhouse of Iraq a human life — any human life — always is sacred," the newspaper said.

Revenge, even resulting from a fair trial, "will not heal wounds, but rather risks exacerbating them further," *Avvenire* said. "Nothing gives legitimacy to a killing unless it is motivated by a compelling need for legitimate defense."

In his final arguments in Saddam's trial June 19, the chief prosecutor called for the death penalty for Saddam and his co-defendants "because they spread corruption on earth, they showed no mercy even for the old, for women or for children, and even the trees were not safe from their oppression."

"The law calls for the death penalty, and this is what we ask be implemented," the prosecutor told the court.

Shared blessings



CNS PHOTO BY ANTO AKKARA

Hindus and Buddhists wait in line at Assumption Catholic Church in Katmandu, Nepal, for a blessing immediately after Communion. Nearly half the 700 people present at the church April 29 were non-Catholics so they queued up for the blessing since they cannot receive Communion.

"Only Catholics can receive Communion. But there are many Hindus who come for the Mass regularly," Father Justin Lepcha, vicar of the church, told Catholic News Service in mid-June. "Certainly, the number of non-Catholics attending the Mass is steadily going up. So, we have introduced this system of special blessing ... to make them feel at home in the church."

Msgr. Anthony Sharma, apostolic prefect of Nepal, who heads the 7,500-strong Catholic community in the Hindu kingdom, also said that "there is a growing demand from the people (Hindus and Buddhists) to become Christians."

In recent years, there have been between 300 and 400 mostly adult baptisms, said Msgr. Sharma.

DIOCESAN REQUIREMENTS FOR REPORTING MINISTRY-RELATED SEXUAL ABUSE OF A MINOR

1. Any individual having actual knowledge of or reasonable cause to suspect an incident of ministry-related sexual abuse is to immediately report the incident to the Chancery.
2. The Chancery will then report the incident to the proper civil authorities. The individual reporting the incident to the Chancery will be notified of the particulars regarding the Chancery's filing of the incident with civil authorities.
3. This reporting requirement is not intended to supersede the right of an individual to make a report to civil authority, but is to ensure proper, complete and timely reporting. Should an individual choose to make a report to civil authority, a report is still to be made to the Chancery.

Student from Charlotte wins national religious award

CHARLOTTE — Jeffrey Durkin, a parishioner of St. Gabriel Church in Charlotte and sophomore at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., recently won a religious studies award.

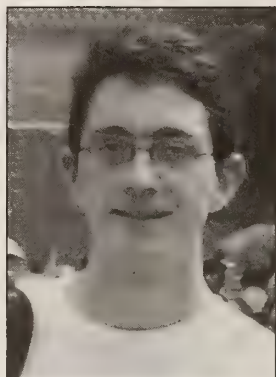
Durkin, 18, is the 2005 winner of the A. Albert Clark Award for best undergraduate paper in religious studies or theology. Theta Alpha Kappa, a national honor society for religious studies and theology, presents the \$200 annual award.

Durkin was recognized at a Georgetown Theta Alpha Kappa chapter awards dinner in April.

His essay, which was written as a term paper for theology class, will be published this year in the Journal of Theta Alpha Kappa.

Entitled "A Cultural Reading of Luke 16:1-9," it examines the historical context of the puzzling parable in which the dishonest steward is commended by his master.

At Georgetown, Durkin is in the



Jeffrey Durkin

School of Foreign Service. He graduated from the International Baccalaureate program at Myers Park High School in Charlotte.

At St. Gabriel Church, he played piano for the youth choir.

Rallying for the rosary



COURTESY PHOTO

Second-graders, dressed in their first Communion attire, carry a statue of Mary down the aisle during the semi-annual Rosary Rally at St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte May 7. The rally has taken place in the Diocese of Charlotte for more than 30 years as a way to pray and to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary. Pictured are (from left) Morgan Witt, Joseph McGoldrick, Nathanael Rusciolelli, Dominica McGoldrick (center), Peter Rusciolelli, David McGoldrick and Clare Delucca.

Prayers of appreciation



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Employees of Catholic Social Services, along with other employees of the Diocese of Charlotte, pray during a Mass held in the chapel at the Pastoral Center in Charlotte June 30. The Mass was part of Catholic Social Service's Appreciation Prayer Day, in which CSS employees offered prayers for CSS volunteers and donors and their loved ones.

Appreciation Prayer Day Masses were celebrated also at the Basilica of St. Lawrence in Asheville and Our Lady of Mercy Church in Winston-Salem. Prayers were offered at Masses at St. William Church in Murphy and Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hayesville.

Catholic Social Services, a member of Catholic Charities USA, offers services including domestic and international adoption, pregnancy support, counseling, refugee resettlement, elder ministry, justice and peace education and advocacy, and economic development.

For more information about Catholic Social Services in the Diocese of Charlotte, go online to www.cssnc.org.



**Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center**

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

NEW COVENANT BOOKSTORE

- **Books**
- **Cards**
- **Videos**
- **Jewelry**
- **....and more!**

336-760-1673

304 Upton St.,
Winston-Salem, NC
www.newcovenantbookstore.com

ABBOTSWOOD SENIOR LIVING



For more than 17 years, Abbotswood at Irving Park has built a reputation on providing exemplary retirement living services to independent seniors. Residents enjoy the largest 1 and 2 bedroom floorplans in Irving Park, delicious meals, a full-time wellness director and month-to-month rental with **NO BUY-IN FEES**. Optional in-home health care services are available. Call today to schedule your personal tour.

(336) 282-8870

ABBOTSWOOD
at Irving Park



The only full service retirement living address in the heart of Irving Park
3504 Flint Street • Greensboro, NC 27405 • www.kiscoseniorliving.com

A spiritual home for all

New Our Lady of the Americas Church dedicated

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

BISCOE — Once a sleepy little mission, Our Lady of the Americas Church is now home to approximately 1,000 Catholics.

Since its establishment in the late 1980s, the mission church quickly outgrew its first home, a former Baptist church.

Approximately 1,000 members, guests, local officials and clergy attended the dedication Mass of the new Our Lady of the Americas Church June 25.

The Mass was celebrated by Bishop Peter J. Jugis, with Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin presiding. Principal concelebrants were Msgr. Mauricio W. West, vicar general and chancellor of the Diocese of Charlotte; Benedictine Abbot Patrick Shelton, pastor of St. James the Greater Church in Hamlet and Sacred Heart Church in Wadesboro; and Father Ricardo Sanchez, pastor of Our

Lady of the Americas Church.

Msgr. Michael Buttner, pastor of Holy Family Church in Clemmons; and Father Mark Lawlor, pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Church in Charlotte, also concelebrated along with priests of the Diocese of Raleigh.

"Here in the new church we come to worship and praise Jesus Christ, and celebrate the mystery and presence of Jesus Christ," said Bishop Jugis in his homily presented in Spanish.

Humble beginnings

When Our Lady of the Americas Church was founded in 1989, a multicultural outreach to the ever-growing Hispanic community in the Diocese of Charlotte was further strengthened.

Then-Bishop John F. Donoghue and Oblate Father Gerard Clarke established the first Catholic church in Montgomery County. When it came time to choose a name for the church — a mission of Our Lady of the Annunciation Church in Albemarle — Father Clarke suggested Our Lady of Guadalupe because the mission was made up mainly of Mexican immigrants.

Bishop Donoghue, wanting to ensure that the church would represent all the Catholics of the area, asked Father Clarke for other suggestions, and Our Lady of the Americas was chosen.

Bishop Donoghue dedicated and blessed the church in February 1990. Two Masses in Spanish, along with one in English, were scheduled originally. Since then, growth in the mission prompted the addition of a Saturday vigil Mass as well.

Over the next 15 years, the mission grew steadily as 2,000 Hispanic immigrants moved into Montgomery County.

"The original building ... was built to accommodate only about 130 people. We often squeezed in 300 or so," said Father Lawlor, who served as pastor of Our Lady of the Americas Church from August 1997 to July 1999.

"For Masses such as Palm Sunday, confirmation, first Communion, we used a community auditorium that was part of the old high school," said Father Lawlor.

Fundraising for the new facility began in January 1998 by selling food after the Sunday Masses. Two car raffles netted an additional \$24,000.



PHOTOS BY KAREN A. EVANS

Above: Bishop Jugis prays during the liturgy of the Eucharist at the dedication of Our Lady of the Americas Church in Biscoe June 25.



Left: Young men carry the statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe down the aisle following the dedication Mass. The statue stands in an alcove to the left of the altar, while a statue of St. Joseph holding the infant Jesus stands to the right of the altar.

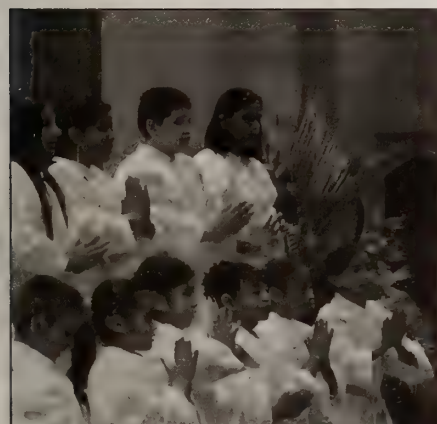


PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Members of the children's choir sing during the dedication of Our Lady of the Americas Church.

By July 1999, \$100,000 had been collected for the building fund and 15 acres were purchased from a farmer by using a diocesan loan.

On April 9, 2005, Bishop Jugis presided at a groundbreaking ceremony for the new church.

The new church

The new 24,000-square-foot facility features a worship space, social hall, four classrooms and meeting rooms, all under one roof. Many of the church furnishings were donated by members, church groups and other diocesan churches.

"May this new church be a place where the love of Christ is celebrated," said Bishop Jugis.

The 6,400-square-foot church includes stained-glass windows, Stations of the Cross made in California, and an Italian-made crucifix. The new altar contains relics of St. Augustine donated by St. John Neumann Church in Charlotte.

The matching baptismal font, altar and ambo were handcrafted in Mexico,

and statues of Sts. Joseph and John and Our Lady of Consolation were imported from Mexico.

The new bell tower carillon is programmed with more than 100 hymns for daily Mass, Sunday Mass and special occasions such as Christmas, Easter, weddings and funerals.

A statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe, which is housed in an alcove to the left of the altar, was blessed by Bishop Jugis after it was processed to the altar by the Aztec Dancers, who performed a traditional Aztec ceremonial dance following the conclusion of the dedication Mass June 25.

Parish life

The emphasis on community is strong in the parish, with ethnic lines disappearing in a cooperative effort involving both Hispanic and Anglo church members. About 100 Anglo members work side-by-side with their Hispanic brothers and sisters to maintain the church's vitality.

The educational mission within Our Lady of the Americas Church is shared by volunteers through an active faith formation program taught in English and Spanish. Hispanic parishioners learn English at the church as well.

"It is great to see that the community persevered and they have constructed a very suitable place for worship, faith formation and fellowship," said Father Lawlor. "I was happy to concelebrate the dedication Mass and to know that I had a small part in the building of the community."

"May this church always be a place from which the love of Christ Jesus is spread throughout the surrounding community," said Bishop Jugis.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

www.andersonfamilymed.com

**Anderson Family
Medicine**

...Healthcare with a heart.

Dr. E. Kelly Anderson is available to help with all of your family's healthcare needs. A graduate of the Yale University School of Medicine and the residency program at Carolinas Medical Center - Union, Dr. Anderson is now accepting patients of all ages.

Dr. E. Kelly Anderson
Parish Nurse
Our Lady of
Consolation, Charlotte

HOURS:
Mon, Tue, Th, Fri. 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Wednesday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, (by appt.)

704-283-8888

An NFP-only practice

OCRS
CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

Thinking about a will?

Practice good stewardship,
create a lasting legacy and help
the poorest of the poor overseas.

Request a free Wills Kit from
Catholic Relief Services.

1-800-235-2772 ext. 7318 or kdudzik@crs.org

Lay ministry guides Catholics to deeper spirituality

MINISTRY, from page 1

Catholic Conference Center in Hickory June 11. Msgr. Mauricio W. West, chancellor and vicar general of the Diocese of Charlotte, presided.

The Lay Ministry Program is comprised of 12 classes each year, covering such topics as Scripture, Christology, theology and history of the Catholic Church, Vatican II, liturgy and sacrament, morality, social ministry and the "nuts and bolts" of ministry.

"Lay ministry isn't just learning about your faith," said Frank Villaronga, director of the diocesan Evangelization and Ministry Formation Office. "It is a formational program, and the idea behind lay ministry is that participants are in the program in order to answer their baptismal calls to ministry."

"The program is an extremely beneficial preparation for taking an active role in participating in Christ's mission to which we have been called in baptism," said Ralph Sullivan of Charlotte, who completed the lay ministry in June.

"The opportunity to learn about that mission through Scripture, tradition and church history, from talented instructors, while feeding off the energy of students committed to serve, left me thirsting for more," he said.

Most participants in the lay ministry

program are trying to figure out what it means to be a minister, Villaronga said.

The program is comprised of people who might already be involved in some kind of activity or formal ministry in their parishes — prison ministry, catechesis, feeding the homeless — and those who are exploring various ministries.

Lay ministers contribute much-needed help to the sacramental ministers in parishes throughout the diocese.

"Bishops, priests and deacons can't do it all," said Villaronga.

Lay ministers can serve as counselors, spiritual companions, extraordinary ministers of holy Communion, catechists and in many other areas of the parish.

"(The program) was a call and a reminder that (Christ) still loves and cares for me," said Mark Mejias, Hispanic ministry coordinator at Holy Family Church in Clemmons. "I feel his love growing more and more."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

WANT MORE INFO?

The Lay Ministry Program is now accepting applications for 2006-07. For more information, contact director Frank Villaronga at (704) 370-3274 or e-mail favillaronga@charlottediocese.org.

Fit for life



COURTESY PHOTO

Peggy O'Hanlon, a parishioner and volunteer at St. Michael Church in Gastonia, accepts her Presidential Active Lifestyle Award from Amy Hill, an instructor at South Gaston YMCA in Gastonia in April.

The award, part of the President's Challenge Physical Activity and Fitness Awards Program, is earned by performing physical activity five times a week over a six-week period.

O'Hanlon, 71, was nominated for the award due to her strong commitment to physical fitness, according to YMCA instructors, who tracked her regular participation in various group fitness and water aerobic classes.

Students earn fitness awards



COURTESY PHOTO

Rising sixth-graders Mackenzie Evans and Michael Tepedino earn top honors in this year's President's Challenge Physical Activity and Fitness Awards program. They both won the Presidential Physical Fitness Award by scoring above the 85th percentile (based on the 1985 School Population Fitness Survey) in all five events, including pull-ups, curl-ups, push-ups and running.

The national physical fitness test is conducted annually at most schools and offers three levels of awards for students who meet the qualifications — the Presidential Physical Fitness Award, the National Physical Fitness Award and the Participant Physical Fitness Award.

Fifty-eight students from Immaculate Heart of Mary School in first- through eighth-grades also received the national award by scoring above the 50th percentile in all five events.

Live Your Faith

Be affirmed in your present ministry.
Upgrade your certification as a catechist and religion teacher. Fulfill the prerequisite for the Permanent Diaconate.
Grow in your faith.

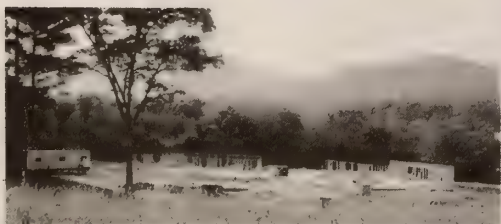
If you have these desires, the Diocesan Office of Lay Ministry offers a two-year program designed to help you understand more fully your baptismal call to minister to your family, to others in the Church, and to those in your daily life.

LAY MINISTRY
TRAINING PROGRAM

For more information call
Frank Villaronga,
704-370-3274 or E-mail
favillaronga@charlottediocese.org

Groce
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

Asheville & Arden
The Catholic Funeral Directors
(888) 874-3535



Congratulations to St. Joan of Arc Parish!
The walls are going up!

Those involved in stem-cell research may face excommunication

STEM CELLS, from page 1

destruction of a human embryo and therefore human life, "it is the same thing" as abortion and similarly entails excommunication, Cardinal Alfonso Lopez Trujillo, head of the Pontifical Council for the Family, said in a recent magazine interview.

Italy's leading Catholic magazine, *Famiglia Cristiana*, published the interview with the Colombian cardinal in its July 2 issue, released June 28.

"To destroy the embryo is equivalent to an abortion," he said, "and the excommunication applies to the woman, the doctors, the researchers who eliminate embryos."

In his 1995 encyclical "Evangelium Vitae," Pope John Paul II wrote that the church's evaluation of the immorality of abortion "is to be applied also to the recent forms of intervention on human embryos," even if the aim of the experimentation is legitimate, such as in research to treat fatal or debilitating diseases.

Any act that uses embryos or fetuses "as an object of experimentation constitutes a crime against their dignity as human beings" and this "killing of innocent human creatures, even if carried out to help others, constitutes an absolutely unacceptable act," the

encyclical said.

The church supports the use of stem cells derived from adults or umbilical-cord blood for scientific research.

Cardinal Lopez Trujillo said those who face excommunication in the case of an abortion include "the mother, the doctor, the nurses, the father if he is in agreement" with aborting the child.

Abortion "is a crime, and instead it is becoming a right" in some countries, the cardinal said.

Human life is no longer considered something "sacred, untouchable, but has become something flexible in the hands of people who can decide even when (life) begins and when it ends," he said.

Instances where Catholic politicians pass laws that go against the teachings of the church call for "a reflection, because these (legislators) would not be able to approach the Eucharist," he said.

"No one in the world is authorized to contradict church doctrine concerning the protection of life at all stages," he added.

Threats against family

The cardinal's comments came a little more than a week before he and Pope Benedict XVI were set to attend the Fifth World Meeting of Families in Valencia, Spain, where life issues and threats against the family were expected to be major topics of discussion among participants.



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

Ampuls containing a medium for storing stem cells are shown by supervising cell biologist Lesley Young at the UK Stem Cell Bank in London May 19, 2004. The world's first embryonic stem-cell bank opened, breaking ground in one of the most controversial areas of medical research.

In the magazine interview, Cardinal Lopez Trujillo also denounced the growing trend among governments to legally recognize same-sex unions and said giving legal rights to gay couples was "even more serious" than giving similar rights to heterosexual couples.

Couples can only be a man and a woman, he said, and homosexual relationships represent "absolute emptiness."

Because of the church's vocal stand

against laws that oppose church teaching, Cardinal Lopez Trujillo said he feared "the church risks being brought before some international court, if the debate gets more tense."

Speaking out in defense of human life and the family, "in some places, is becoming a sort of crime against the state, a form of disobedience against the government, discrimination against women," he said.

LOOKING FOR SOME GREAT SUMMER READING?

FIND IT HERE!

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri
10:00am-4:00 pm

Tuesday
10:00am-6:00 pm

Saturday
10:00am-1:00 pm

We have books for all ages, religious and inspirational artwork, statues, rosaries, jewelry, medals, crosses, crucifixes, prayer and greeting cards, music, audio books on CD's, DVD's, sacramental and general gift items and so much more!

Bring this ad and receive a free gift when you purchase \$20 or more in our store!

Limited time offer while supplies last



The Catholic Shoppe
AT BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

Located in St. Leo's Hall • 704.461.5100 • CatholicShoppe@bac.edu
Shop securely online at BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

Join us for a pilgrimage to Guadalupe



with Fr. Fidel Melo
Pastor, Our Lady of Grace
October 24-29, 2006

*Price — \$1575 includes:
Roundtrip airfare from Greensboro
3 nights in Mexico City
2 nights in Puebla
5 lunches and 3 dinners
Sightseeing in air-conditioned coach
English-speaking guide
Mass daily

*based on double occupancy

For information: New Covenant Pilgrimages
Patti Dameron (336) 413-8127

Renewed in the Spirit

Gifts of Holy Spirit shared at charismatic conference

BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY
CORRESPONDENT

HIGH POINT — The gifts of the Holy Spirit continue to inspire the faithful in the Diocese of Charlotte.

"Stay With Us," a Catholic charismatic conference, was held at Maryfield Chapel in High Point June 16-17.

Speakers included Deacon Dennis and Elizabeth Chitwood, charismatics from the Archdiocese of St. Louis, Mo., and founders of Genesis Ministry, which helps people who are emotionally scarred.

A Mass was celebrated by Father Andrew Lasko, a retired priest of the Diocese of Charlotte and resident at Maryfield Nursing Home.

"We are here today to bring the Good News that Jesus Christ is alive and well and is still fully present in the Eucharist," said Deacon Chitwood, who has a master of theology degree in pastoral studies with a focus on spiritual counseling from Aquinas Institute of Theology in St. Louis, Mo.

"Satan and his works are very prevalent in the world today, but he can be overcome by the grace of the Holy Spirit," said Deacon Chitwood.

"Remember that God is continually trying to restore us to that original goodness in which he first created us through the words of the Holy Spirit," he said.

Charismatics emphasize the living presence of the Holy Spirit in the Catholic Church. The charismatic renewal movement grew rapidly in the 1960s and '70s as a spiritual revival movement; it had its beginnings in prayer groups, mainly on U.S. college campuses, following the Second Vatican Council.

The birth of the movement is considered to be the outpouring of the Holy Spirit to two dozen students during a retreat at the Duquesne University in Pittsburgh in 1967.

But during a congress of lay movements in Italy in June, Patti Mansfield, who attended the 1967 retreat, said the Duquesne students were not founders of a movement.

"We are simply witnesses to what God has done."

— Patti Mansfield

"We are simply witnesses to what God has done," she said.

Nearly 120 million Catholics around the world have had some experience of the movement, she said.

The gifts, or charisms, of the Holy Spirit "are given for the purpose of building up the Body of Christ," said Elizabeth Chitwood.

"Therefore, we must be open to these gifts. Not for ourselves, but so that we might use them, give them away, all for the glory of God in the strengthening of the mystical Body of Christ," she said.

Throughout their lives and ministry, the Chitwoods have learned and reaffirmed their belief in articulating God's word.

"It is Satan who lies," said Elizabeth Chitwood. "He tells us that you are not good enough where you are. The truth is God loves you completely and beyond your understanding right where you are."



PHOTO BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY

Elizabeth Chitwood emphasizes a point during her talk at the Catholic charismatic renewal conference at Maryfield Chapel in High Point June 16-17.

"There is nothing that I've done or can do that will cause God to love me less. And all we need to do in return is to love, to be like St. Paul as we are present to all people in all situations."

Many participants felt renewed after the conference.

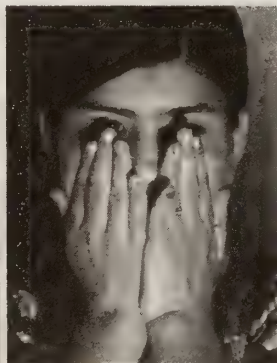
"I think it's wonderful for all of us to be here together worshiping God. It pleases God that we are ... so enthusiastic

about his son, Jesus," said Hanna Hammer, a parishioner of St. Pius X Church in Greensboro.

"At the same time, it is the Holy Spirit who gives us the desire to witness," she said.

Contact Correspondent Deacon Gerald Potkay by calling (336) 427-8218 or e-mail gpotkay@triad.rr.com.

Human Trafficking



The Sisters of Mercy of North Carolina invite you to join us for a free daylong meeting on Human Trafficking on Aug. 4, 2006, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Featured speakers include:

Mary Ellen Dougherty, SSND, Office of Migration, USCCB &

Ann Rodriguez, President of Immigration Rights Advocacy Center, Florida Coalition Against Human Trafficking

Seating is Limited. . .so Register Early!

To attend, clip & fill out coupon below, return it with a check or money order for \$10 to cover the cost of your lunch, and mail it to Jeanne-Margaret McNally, RSM, 101 Mercy Dr., Belmont, NC 28012 by July 28, 2008. Conference will be held in Curtin Hall, Mercy Administration Center, 101 Mercy Dr., Belmont, NC. For directions, call 704.829.5260.



Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State: _____ Zip code: _____
Phone: _____
eMail: _____

**THE GOOD NEWS IS, YOU HAVE THOUSANDS OF INVESTMENT OPTIONS.
THE BAD NEWS IS...**

- You have thousands of investment options, and you don't know how to pick the best ones for your situation.
- You have thousands of investments options, and you don't have time to research even a fraction of them.

Call to learn more about:



PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

Les Davaz

Financial Advisor

Member, St. Patrick's Church

100 N. Tryon St., Suite 3300

Charlotte, NC 28202

(704) 331-2233 or

(800) 438-0397

<http://fc.smithbarney.com/davaz>

citigroup
SMITHBARNEY

* Minimum balance \$25,000 Equity, \$100,000 Fixed Income. © 2006 Citigroup Global Markets Inc. Member SIPC. Smith Barney is a division and service mark of Citigroup Global Markets Inc. and its affiliates and is used and registered throughout the world. CITIGROUP and the Umbrella Device are trademarks and service marks of Citigroup Inc. or its affiliates and are used and registered throughout the world.

Body and Blood of Christ

Corpus Christi celebration brings together faithful

BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY
CORRESPONDENT

REIDSVILLE — Both English- and Spanish-speaking parishioners came together recently to celebrate the power of the Eucharist.

"The people must be able to see, with the eyes of faith, the superiority of Jesus' divine flesh, which will ultimately transform us," said Father Christopher Roux, administrator of Holy Infant Church in Reidsville.

Father Roux led a eucharistic procession outside the church as part of the parish celebration of the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ June 18.

The Catholic feast was formerly known as Corpus Christi and often involves the Eucharist being carried in procession down city streets or around public squares.

"If we spend our time and effort on sin, we cannot focus upon Jesus, who is the center of our worship," said Father Roux.

"We all must know that the grace of Christ is found in this present moment," he said. "Jesus says, 'Don't look for me in the past. I am not there. Don't look for me in the future. I am not there. I am in the present. Look for me here, for I am here.'"

The celebration included a bilingual Mass with the English- and Spanish-language choirs, as well as the children's choir from St. Mark Church in Huntersville.

"This celebration truly brought everyone together. It is good to see our community come together as one," said parishioner Bob Krebs.

"It was just overwhelming to see one community come together like this," said Lisa Poppa, a parishioner of St. Paul the Apostle Church in Greensboro.

"It must have taken a lot of planning, coordination and effort on everyone's

part to make a celebration like this happen," she said.

The celebration, which took six months of planning, was designed to bring the two communities together with Jesus Christ at the center of their faith.

The efforts have inspired other changes within the parish — work crews, including members of the parish and Knights of Columbus Council 6970 — have made improvements and changes to the church and parish hall.

The alterations were accomplished in time for the feast day.

"I really thought this was a good celebration," said parishioner John Wall. "The people really turned out in great numbers for it."

During his midday Angelus address June 18, Pope Benedict XVI said that while the Eucharist is the church's treasure, the focus of its liturgy and adoration, its life-giving and life-changing power extends beyond the walls of a church or chapel.

"The Eucharist is the Lord Jesus who gives himself for the life of the world," the pope said.

By transforming bread and wine into his Body and Blood, Jesus began the process of the "divinization of creation itself," demonstrating that his life, death and resurrection were meant to transform the whole world, the pope said.

The Corpus Christi celebration is a sign that "we want to immerse the bread come down from heaven in our daily lives; we want Jesus to walk where we walk and to live where we live," he said.

The public procession, he said, proclaims to the world that "the Eucharist is everything" for the church, it is the church's life and source of love.

Contact Correspondent Deacon Gerald Potkay by calling (336) 427-8218 or e-mail gpotkay@triad.rr.com.



PHOTOS BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY

Above: Surrounded by Knights of Columbus, Father Christopher Roux carries a monstrance during a Corpus Christi procession at Holy Infant Church in Reidsville June 18, the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ.

Below: Patrick Smithwick, grandson of Holy Infant Church parishioners Michael and Ann Smithwick, keeps cool on a waterslide during the festivities after the Corpus Christi celebration at Holy Infant Church June 18, the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ.



"When I'm gone, who will receive the gifts God gave me?"

A will is your answer to the question. 60-70% of Americans die without a valid will. If you die without a will, the laws of the state you live in will determine how your assets are divided including assets to your family. Without a will or other charitable estate plan, charitable desires you may have for your parish, Catholic school, agency, diocese or the diocesan foundation will be ignored. Don't let your answer be silence.

The Foundation
of the
Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte



To receive the free booklet "Better Estate Planning" contact Judy Smith, Director of Planned Giving, 704-370-3320; 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203. jmsmith@charlottediocese.org.

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



INTRODUCING...
IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES WEST —
St. Barnabas in Arden —
open after all Masses of 2nd and 4th weekends each month

Visit our others satellite stores, too:
St. Charles Borromeo in Morganton
St. Gabriel in Charlotte
St. Therese in Mooreville

Come in and check out our GREAT SUMMER READING selections!!

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

Hundreds honor Eucharist at Asheville conference

EUCHARIST, from page 1

In his homily during the Mass opening the conference, Bishop Jugis gave reasons for having a eucharistic procession.

"The procession reminds us that the whole people of God are on a journey, or procession, through history. On the journey through history, the holy Eucharist is with us for food for the journey," he said.

"As we are also on a journey, or procession, we are reminded of the journey of the people of God to the promised land of heaven, and of the mission to change the world around us to reflect more closely the values of the Gospel," said the bishop.

About 500 Catholics from throughout the Diocese of Charlotte participated in the procession.

"It was wonderful to see and experience our eucharistic Jesus being given the praise and honor of which he is so deserving," said Gail Carroll, a parishioner of the Basilica of St. Lawrence.

"At first, I felt a little foolish walking through the streets," said Carroll. "Then I thought of how Jesus humbled himself for us on his way to the cross."

"I was so happy to see him on display for everyone to see, to exalt him for what he does for us," she said.

The conference was designed to be a prelude to the second Eucharistic Congress to be held in Charlotte Oct. 6-7. Like the congress, the event in Asheville centered on the Eucharist and its importance in Catholic life.

Following the procession to the Asheville Civic Center, Bishop Jugis led the participants in a holy hour, including a Gospel reading, homily and singing of the litany of the saints.

The conference also featured Patrick Madrid, a Catholic apologist and author of several books defending the Catholic faith, who spoke on "The Mission to Evangelize, Search and Rescue."

The first step to evangelization is to be willing to stand up and speak about Jesus and the gift of the Eucharist, said Madrid.

"Let's not be ashamed of the Eucharist ... but be proud of the Eucharist in a charitable and winsome sense," he said.

Madrid presented his audience with six reasons to believe in the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and three "don'ts" for Catholics.

According to Madrid, Catholics should not doubt Christ; should not be ashamed of the Eucharist; nor should they be "lukewarm" about their faith.

"Be faithful and we can conquer

"The holy Eucharist is with us for food for the journey."

— Bishop Peter J. Jugis

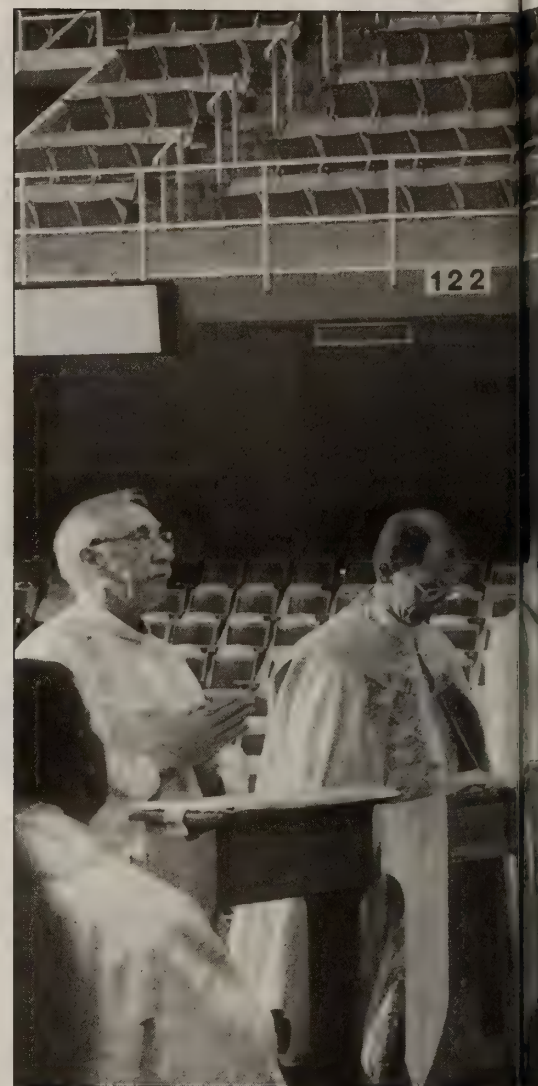
apathy and ignorance about the Eucharist," Madrid said.

"The conference was such a witness to what our faith is, to what's going on here, a proclamation of our faith and what we believe," said Rosemary Kingsley, parishioner of the Basilica of St. Lawrence.

"The conference was a beautiful opportunity for people in the western part of the diocese to come together and celebrate their unity in faith through the sacrament of the unity: the holy Eucharist," Bishop Jugis said.

Contributing to this article was Correspondent Carole McGrotty.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.



Above: Bishop Peter J. Jugis and priests and altar server adds incense to the censer during the procession.



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Bishop Peter J. Jugis carries a monstrance during the eucharistic procession in Asheville June 25. The procession was part of the diocesan Eucharistic Conference in Asheville.

What participants said about the Eucharistic Conference:

"Aside from the blessings that the faithful receive, for the city of Asheville to receive the blessings of our Lord literally walking through its streets is incomprehensible," said Father Matthew Kauth, pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Franklin.

"This was a day of spiritual reflection and community, a chance to share with fellow Catholics who share the same beliefs with a more in-depth feeling of community," said Clarisse Grubby, a parishioner of St. Benedict Church in Greensboro.

"I read about the conference and saw it as a day to reflect on more peace in the world and to bring unity for people who participate," said Joan Calvert, a parishioner of Our Lady of Grace Church in Greensboro. "Walking

through the streets of Asheville made me proud to be a Christian, a Catholic."

"The conference made me feel stronger about my faith," said Tommy Davis, a parishioner of the Basilica of St. Lawrence. "Mass is mostly the same each day, but a big change such as this opens people's eyes and makes them see things differently about the (Catholic) Church."

"The people bonded and were joyful during the conference," said Alice Cella, a parishioner of the Basilica of St. Lawrence. "All the various groups pulled together, and the pagentry was ... quite moving."

— Compiled by Correspondent Carole McGrotty

Attention: Homeowners...Have a plumbing problem? Don't Panic!

"How To Get A Top Talent Plumber To Show Up On-Time So You Don't Waste Time"

You have a busy schedule and value your time. Most plumbing companies won't give you a real appointment time and keep you waiting all day for a plumber to show up. Now there's a new way to get your plumbing problem fixed, save money, and get a precise Appointment Window so you don't have to waste time waiting.

Three-Way Plumbing Services, Inc.

We're The Good Guys Your Friends Told You About®

(704) 535-4795 Charlotte

(704) 795-9349 Concord

Serving The Entire Charlotte Diocese Area

www.3wayplumbing.com

Proud member of St. James Church



PHOTOS BY KAREN A. EVANS

ns of the Diocese of Charlotte pray during the holy hour at the Asheville Civic Center. Madrid speaks about "The Mission to Evangelize, Search and Rescue." Below right: A young eucharistic procession.



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Many participants prayed the rosary during the eucharistic procession in Asheville June 24.

Create a winning event



Having your meeting or conference at the center makes you a winner every time!

We can help you turn an ordinary conference, meeting, retreat, or banquet into a special event! You plan the event, we'll provide the environment!

1551 Trinity Lane, Hickory, NC
(828) 327-7441 or toll-free at
(888) 536-7441
info@catholicconference.org
www.catholicconference.org



**The Catholic
Conference
Center**



Let stairs be our problem... not yours!

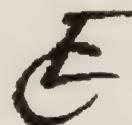
Ask about our Stairway lifts.

- Easily attached to steps (not walls)
- Folds out of the way
- Fits most stairways (straight & curved)
- Very affordable (rent or buy)
- We install

Chair & Equipment Rentals & Sales, Inc.

800 Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC • (800) 333-8431

Member of St. Thomas Aquinas



Holy Spirit Church bids pastor a fond farewell

DENVER — Parishioners at Holy Spirit Church in Denver had the opportunity to thank their pastor, Father Joseph Ayathupadam, for his six-and-a-half years of spiritual guidance June 25.

A farewell reception was held in the parish activity center to wish him well in his upcoming retirement.

Following Mass, the Knights of Columbus escorted Father Ayathupadam from the church to the parish activity center, where he was met with a standing ovation by about 170 parishioners who had gathered to pay tribute to their pastor.

He was presented with cards, a laptop computer and other gifts. Earlier that morning, the Knights of Columbus and faith formation groups had sponsored a living rosary in his honor.

During Father Ayathupadam's leadership, Holy Spirit Church's membership grew from 260 to 450 families. In September 2005, the parish built a 20,000-square-foot activity center for its fast-growing congregation.

Father Ayathupadam grew up in

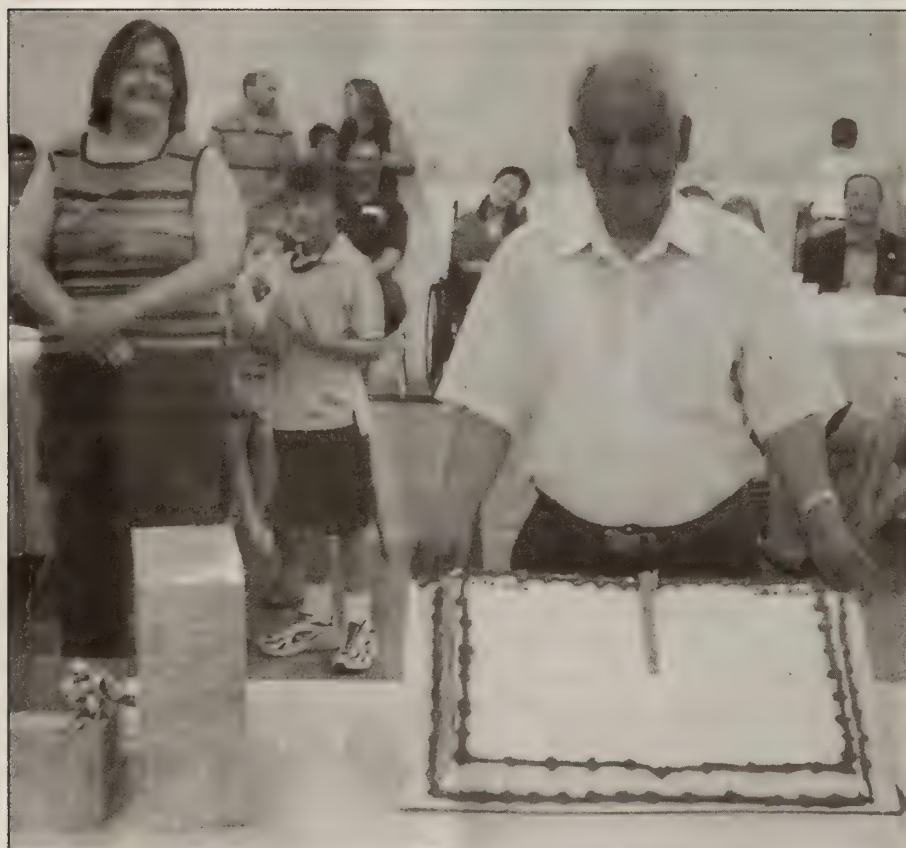
southern India and knew at an early age that he wanted to serve in religious life. In the 45 years he has served as a priest, he worked in India, Africa, Europe and Canada before coming to the United States in 1978.

"Father Ayathupadam has served the Lord and the Catholic Church in many parts of the world, and we in the Diocese of Charlotte have been blessed to benefit from his priestly zeal and faithfulness to the Lord," said Bishop Peter J. Jugis.

"From the time Father Ayathupadam and I served together as parochial vicars of St. Leo the Great Church in Winston-Salem in the early 1990s, I have respected his wisdom and enjoyed his sense of humor," said Bishop Jugis.

Father Ayathupadam said he looks forward to traveling again and visiting his family. Although he has traveled worldwide, Father Ayathupadam considers America his home.

Recently, he bought a house in south Charlotte and will spend his retirement years there.



COURTESY PHOTO

Father Joseph Ayathupadam regards the cake for his retirement party at Holy Spirit Church in Denver June 25.

Father Hoover celebrates retirement at St. Ann Church

Catholic convert served several parishes in Diocese of Charlotte

CHARLOTTE — More than 400 parishioners, friends and family members gathered at St. Ann Church in Charlotte June 10 to honor Father Conrad Hoover upon his retirement.

Father Hoover celebrated his "farewell" Mass, concelebrated by Msgr. Mauricio W. West, diocesan chancellor and vicar general; and Msgr. Richard Bellow, pastor of St. Mark Church in Huntersville. Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin presided at the Mass.

Following the Mass, special guests, including Msgr. West; Sister of St. Joseph Helene Nagle, principal of St. Ann School; Nancy West, a founding member of St. Ann Church; and others paid tribute to Father Hoover with stories and anecdotes.

Father Hoover began his ministry as an ordained Presbyterian minister. In 1970, he became a member of the ecumenical Church of the Saviour in Washington, D.C.

In 1979, Father Hoover was received into the Catholic Church and was ordained to the priesthood in 1989. He earned a master's degree from Union Theological Seminary in New York and a doctorate in ministry from Catholic University in Washington, D.C.

"Father Hoover has been a faithful servant of the Lord, as pastor of several parishes in the diocese over the years," said Bishop Peter J. Jugis.

Father Hoover plans to spend his

retirement traveling and reading. He also will be assisting Msgr. Bellow at St. Mark Church.

"I am glad he will be settling here in our diocese during his retirement, so he can continue to offer his priestly ministry to the faithful of the diocese," said Bishop Jugis.

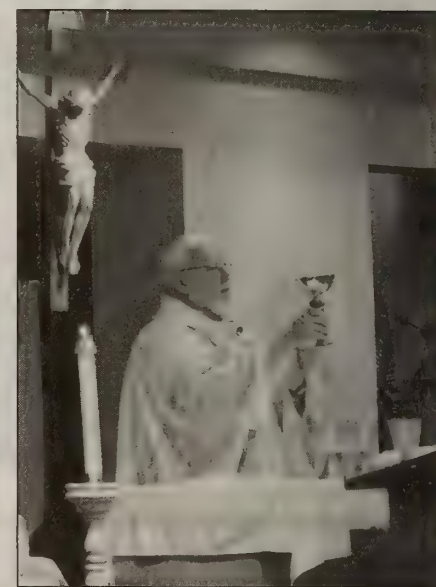


PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Father Conrad Hoover celebrates Mass at St. Ann Church June 10. The Mass and celebration afterward paid tribute to Father Hoover for his 17 years as a priest.

Join your Catholic Chaplain Fr. Heise

Rose Parade

Las Vegas & Laughlin Tour

9 Days from \$799*

Join your spiritual director Fr. Bert Heise, and other Catholics on this popular Your Man Tours Rose Parade Golden West Vacation. Get away from the cold weather during the first week in January, avoid the post-holiday blahs, and enjoy the best New Year's Eve and New Year's Day you have had in years! **Mass will be available some days on tour.** Included are four nights in Los Angeles; two nights in Las Vegas on the strip; and two nights in Laughlin, Nevada, on the Colorado River. You'll enjoy Your Man Tours' city tour of L.A. including Hollywood, Beverly Hills, and pre-parade float building and viewing at the Floats and Flowers Expo, and on January 1, 2007, **RESERVED GRANDSTAND SEATS AT THE ROSE PARADE.** Also included is Barstow Station; baggage handling, hotel transfers and optional sightseeing tours including the "Glory of Christmas" at the Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove, California. You've seen the parade on TV for years; now see the excitement and hoopla of the most famous parade in America live and up close! The sights, the sounds, and especially the smells all make being there truly spectacular. *Prices (per person, double occupancy) start at \$799 plus \$149 tax/government fees & services. Add \$500 round-trip airfare from Charlotte.

Friends and family are welcome. \$100 deposits are now due.

For information, brochure, and letter from Fr. Heise call today:

'YOUR MAN' TOURS 1-800-968-7626

LEARN MORE ABOUT education centered on Christ...focused on excellence.

Blessed Sacrament Academy is happy to announce the relocation of the school to North Mecklenburg. Parents! Enroll students now in grades K-9 for Fall 2006.

Reserve your place in our exceptional, traditional classical school.

Call Pre-registration 704-806-3780

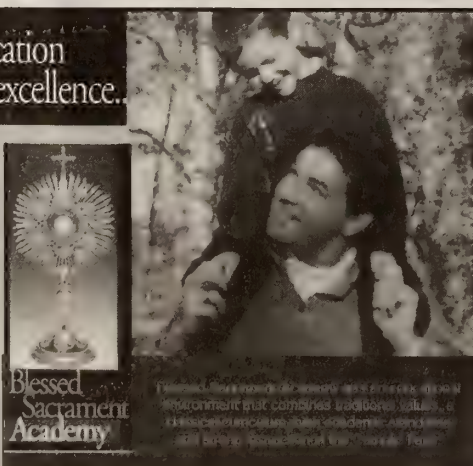
JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL INFORMATION NIGHT

Wednesday, July 12 and Tuesday July 18 7:00 pm

Immaculata Catholic Companies

19905 W. Catawba Ave. Cornelius, NC 704-655-9090

Learn more about Blessed Sacrament Academy www.blessedsacramentacademy.org



Forming the faithful

Sister Meehan to take on parish work in Charleston

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — After a decade of helping form North Carolina students in the faith, Mercy Sister Maureen Meehan is moving on.

Sister Meehan, director of religious formation for diocesan Catholic schools, accepted a position in the Diocese of Charleston, S.C., where she will serve as director of religious formation at two parishes.

She was honored by her coworkers at a farewell reception at the diocesan Pastoral Center June 23.

Father James Hawker, vicar for education and pastor of St. Luke Church in Mint Hill, said Sister Meehan's role in the Diocese of Charlotte was "truly valuable."

Since 1996 she ensured that "teachers throughout the system have been enabled to appreciate the nature and mission of the Catholic school, as well as their responsibility to contribute to the realization of its identity and mission," he said.

Sister Meehan's duties included coordinating the formulation and implementation of curriculum guidelines and the certification and ongoing development of religion teachers in Catholic schools.

"The teacher must take diligent care to faithfully present the entire treasure of the Christian message," she said.

In 2002, Sister Meehan developed a book of standards that was adopted by the Religion Education Office for religious curriculum in kindergarten through the 12th grade. More than 30 training workshops throughout the year further assisted teachers in implementing the standards and guidelines into their everyday curriculum.

"All new teachers, whether they're teaching religion or not, must go through a period of training on the traditions of the church and Scripture to remind them that our schools are beacons of Catholic identity," said Sister Meehan.

For three decades, Sister Meehan's life has been centered around Catholic instruction within schools. In addition to her bachelor's degree in education, she has master's degrees in religious education administration, theology and spirituality, and a doctorate in ministry.

She has taught at the elementary, high school and college levels and served as a principal.

"We are grateful for the richness of her contribution to Catholic education in this diocese," said Father Hawker. "Her impact upon the diocese will be apparent well into the future."

Contact Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail kemurray@charlottediocese.org.



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Father James Hawker commends Mercy Sister Maureen Meehan's work as director of religious formation during her farewell reception at the Pastoral Center in Charlotte June 23. Sister Meehan accepted a position in the Diocese of Charleston, S.C.

Spanish Colonial Art

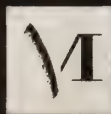
from the Lilly and Francis Robicsek Collection

June 3 - September 10, 2006

Mint Museum of Art
2730 Randolph Road, Charlotte

704/337-2000 www.mintmuseum.org

The Mint Museums are supported, in part, with a Basic Operating Grant from the Arts & Science Council.



The Mint Museums
Experience Art

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Books tell of Founders' fight for religious freedom, beliefs

BY BEN GRUVER
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — This Fourth of July, Americans not only can celebrate their independence but also their religious liberty, thanks to our Founding Fathers.

"The Founders on Religion: A Book of Quotations" and "Washington's God" both illustrate the truth about the Founders' faiths and religious beliefs.

James Hutson, chief of the manuscript division at the Library of Congress, is the editor of "The Founders on Religion."

Hutson said many books of quotations only mention one or two things about the Founders' religion and try too hard to make a case for what they believed by using anecdotes that are false, which he said damages the credibility of what is true.

"The Founders on Religion" is a byproduct of a 1998 exhibition at the Library of Congress: "Religion and the Founding of the American Republic," which Hutson put together.

In it, he showed that the Founding Fathers were Christian and that religion was indispensable to the nation's institutions.

"(The Founding Fathers) were idiosyncratic," Hutson said.

For instance, he said, John Adams was a Unitarian and George Washington was an Episcopalian who believed in providence — the guiding power of an invisible hand.

Washington was also a Mason, as were many Christians in his day.

Hutson searched for figures who represented religious views of people at the time. Seventeen people are quoted in the book.

In addition to the Founding Fathers, Hutson quoted some lesser known figures, such as John Dickinson, who was president of Delaware in 1781 and Pennsylvania in 1782, and Benjamin Rush, one of the most influential physicians and social reformers of the Revolutionary period.

Some of them had opinions about Catholicism.

"I have long been decided in opinion that a free government and the Roman Catholic religion can never exist together in any nation or country," Adams said to Thomas Jefferson as quoted in Hutson's book.

In "Washington's God," co-authors Michael Novak and his daughter, Jana, both Catholics, examine the way Washington spoke of God and providence.

They also debunked the myth that Washington was a deist. Deists reject revelation or authority as sources of belief, believing in God purely on rational grounds.

"A deist," Novak said, "is someone who believes, 'Well, God may have created the world but he doesn't really take sides. He really doesn't interfere in individual lives.'"

Washington respected all religions

and didn't criticize anyone because of what they believed, according to Novak's book.

When Washington asked Maryland politician Charles Carroll what Catholics hoped to gain from their newfound freedom, Carroll responded that Catholics wanted to be free from religious tests for public office, Novak said.

Carroll was the only Catholic to sign the Declaration of Independence and worked to win political and civil rights for American Catholics.

Novak said an example that illustrates Washington wasn't a deist comes from when he was general of the Continental Army — he encouraged his men to pray for the assistance of divine providence in their duties.

Belief in providence helps one understand his or her success is owed in part to God, "and it tempers the bitterness of defeat," said Novak.

Another piece of evidence is when Washington accepted the offer to be the godfather of eight children of Christian parents, Novak said. He took on the responsibility of providing them with a Christian education and sent them prayer books as well as other signs of his Christian faith, he said.

He also noted that such terms as "under God," which was added to the Pledge of Allegiance in 1954, really "begin with Washington."

Abraham Lincoln, who was a student of Washington, used "under God" in the Gettysburg Address.

"The phrase 'under God' ties us to ... early historical moments," Novak said. "And it's main point is there're limitations on government."

"Both men recognize that they aren't the controller of events, they aren't the disposer of events," he said. "They depend very heavily (on) divine providence. So the use of the phrase in the Pledge of Allegiance has tremendous historic resonance."

The America of Washington's era held religion and freedom in the same regard.

The great Christian preachers were in favor of independence, Novak said. People didn't need to be intimidated by each other because they all had the same rights by the same God, he said.

"That's why Washington insisted on public prayer — to keep people faithful to that and behaving in light of that," Novak said. "They're asking God's favor — they better behave like God's people."

Washington believed there are some things that go beyond human understanding. By that, Novak said, he meant that just because something disappears, such as the sun behind a cloud, doesn't mean one should stop believing in it.

"It's a violation of American history not to see ... the great role that religion played in giving people courage and direction in fighting for liberty," he said.

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: JULY 16, 2006

July 16, Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Amos 7:12-15
Psalm 85:9-14
- 2) Ephesians 1:3-14
- 3) Gospel: Mark 6:7-13

Faith heals, but cannot be forced

BY JEAN DENTON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

It was only 20 minutes into the deacon's introductory class on Christian morality that it became obvious the three people slinging questions at him from the back of the room had an agenda.

They had come not to learn, but to make sure he "got it right." Judging by their increasing agitation, they clearly thought he didn't.

Deacon Mike was highly and widely regarded in the local Catholic community for his homilies and teaching. Fully a third of the participants in this particular class had come because he was the teacher.

A university economics professor,

Deacon Mike had a reputation for his knowledge of theology, church history, and Catholic teaching, and a gift for making it understandable to everyone. When he gave the homily at Mass even teenagers sat up and listened.

But on this night he was under fire, as the questions grew more heated.

The other students became restive and not a little resentful as these participants soon were dominating class time by loudly interrupting to push their contrary opinions on two or three specific issues of Christian morality.

But the deacon firmly and kindly answered them in steady tones with what he had promised in the course: accurate, current Catholic teaching based on Scripture and the latest edition of the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

He was simply teaching the truth of God's Word. For some it was not easy to believe or follow. But he would not be drawn into a fight. There was no point. The truth takes hold in an open heart.

But there is no forcing it into a hardened one. It is receptiveness, not coercion, that is the key to salvation. Jesus explained repeatedly that it is our faith that heals and saves us.

In today's Gospel he tells his disciples to share his message, but not to waste energy on those who are not receptive.

Here's another important instruction for all of us who might spread the Word: Take a walking stick, not a club.

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 9-15

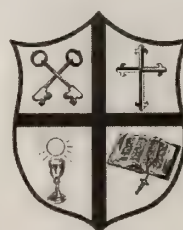
Sunday (Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Ezekiel 2:2-5, 2 Corinthians 12:7-10, Matthew 6:1-6; **Monday,** Hosea 2:16-18, 21-22, Matthew 9:18-26; **Tuesday (St. Benedict),** Hosea 8:4-7, 11-13, Matthew 9:32-38; **Wednesday,** Hosea 10:1-3, 7-8, 12, Matthew 10:1-7; **Thursday (St. Henry),** Hosea 11:1-4, 8-9, Matthew 10:7-15; **Friday (Bl. Kateri Tekakwitha),** Hosea 14:2-10, Matthew 10:16-23; **Saturday (St. Bonaventure),** Isaiah 6:1-8, Matthew 10:24-33.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 16-22

Sunday (Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Amos 7:12-15, Ephesians 1:3-14, Mark 6:7-13; **Monday,** Isaiah 1:10-17, Matthew 10:34—11:1; **Tuesday (St. Camillus de Lellis),** Isaiah 7:1-9, Matthew 11:20-24; **Wednesday,** Isaiah 10:5-7, 13-16, Matthew 11:25-27; **Thursday (St. Apollinaris),** Isaiah 26:7-9, 12, 16-19, Matthew 11:28-30; **Friday (St. Lawrence of Brindisi),** Isaiah 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8, Isaiah 38:10-12, 16, Matthew 12:1-8; **Saturday (St. Mary Magdalene),** Micah 2:1-5, John 20:1-2, 11-18.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 23-29

Sunday (Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Jeremiah 23:1-6, Ephesians 2:13-18, Mark 6:30-34; **Monday (St. Sharbel Makhluf),** Micah 6:1-4, 6-8, Matthew 12:38-42; **Tuesday (St. James),** 2 Corinthians 4:7-15, Matthew 20:20-28; **Wednesday (Sts. Joachim and Anne),** Jeremiah 1:1, 4-10, Matthew 13:1-9; **Thursday,** Jeremiah 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13, Matthew 13:10-17; **Friday,** Jeremiah 3:14-17, Jeremiah 31:10-13, Matthew 13:18-23; **Saturday (St. Martha),** Jeremiah 7:1-11, John 11:19-27.



St. Thomas Aquinas Academy
Asheville, North Carolina

www.stthomasaquinasacademy.org

(828) 687-7714

Accepting applications for ninth, tenth and eleventh grades.

Member, National Association of Private, Catholic and Independent Schools
St. Thomas Aquinas Academy is a private school, independent of the Charlotte Diocesan school system.



Active, fun, and inspiring:

The perfect retirement picture!

NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN HIGH POINT: A New Beginning For You! Pennybyrn at Maryfield will offer a carefree lifestyle filled with energy and excitement. No more yard work or chores... just good friends, a perfect location, and every convenience you can imagine, including on-site short or long-term care.

Soon, this extraordinary lifestyle will be a reality — A New Beginning for you — so act now. Picture yourself at Pennybyrn at Maryfield!

Call (336) 886-4103 or toll-free (866) 627-9343.



PENNYBYRN
at MARYFIELD
A Continuing Care Retirement Community

1315 Greensboro Road, High Point, NC 27260

www.pennybyrnatmaryfield.com

Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor Servants
of the Mother of God



NP/CNHConst1

'Water' worth wading through



CNS PHOTO BY FOX SEARCHLIGHT

Seema Biswas (right) and Sarala star in a scene from the movie "Water," a poignant drama set in 1938 India about the lives of women who, in accordance with Hindu tradition, are required — following their husbands' deaths — to live out their days as outcasts in a squalid widows' ashram.

These women include an 8-year-old child bride (Sarala); a young beauty (Lisa Ray) forced into prostitution by the camp's matriarch (Manorma) who falls for a progressive-minded law student (John Abraham); and a devout older woman (Biswas), torn between conscience and her faith.

Visually poetic with soulful performances, director Deepa Mehta's film is simple yet deeply moving, balancing heartbreak and hope as it explores the lives of the widows in whose humanity is reflected the dignity of all women.

Implied prostitution, a suicide, brief drug usage, a transvestite character, some sexual references and a few mildly crude expressions. Subtitles.

The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

St. Padre Pio brought to life in biographical drama on DVD

BY DAVID DiCERTO
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW YORK — Beloved by millions, Padre Pio — saint, stigmatic, humble priest — is brought to life in the artfully crafted biographical drama, "Padre Pio, Miracle Man," starring Sergio Castellitto.

Originally broadcast over two nights on Italian television in 2000, the film — now released on DVD from NoShame Films — traces the life of the pious Capuchin friar, born Francesco Forgione in 1887, from his peasant roots in rural southern Italy to his death in 1968.

Told through a series of flashbacks as an elderly and mortally ill Padre Pio recounts his story to a skeptical bishop (Jurgen Prochnow), the DVD runs nearly four hours and focuses on the monk's years at the monastery of San Giovanni Rotondo, where his popularity as a confessor, visionary and miracle worker attracted both devotion and controversy, prompting two Vatican investigations.

Padre Pio was beatified in 1999 and canonized in 2002 by Pope John Paul II, who, as the film dramatizes, visited the mystic as a young priest.

Director Carlo Carlei's reverent, if episodic, approach avoids hagiography in presenting a nuanced portrait of Padre

Pio in remarkably human terms, showing him grappling with fear and self-doubt, battling poor health and spiritual trials while remaining steadfast in his faith, his fidelity to the church, and his concern for the souls in his care.

Castellitto's soulful performance conveys an accessible blend of humor, sanctity and tough love.

Beautifully shot, with picturesque Italian vistas, the film eloquently captures Padre Pio's simple spirituality of uniting one's life with Christ — especially in suffering — and should be of particular interest to those with a special devotion to the saint.

The DVD includes a companion booklet containing a short biography of Padre Pio, Pope John Paul II's address during the saint's canonization and an interview with the film's star.

Subtitled.

The film contains scenes of demonic torment and some mature thematic elements. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. Not rated by the Motion Picture Association of America.

DiCerto is on the staff of the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Considering careers



COURTESY PHOTO

Students at Immaculata School in Hendersonville learn about the work of an artist during the school's annual Career Fair, May 19. Students were able to explore careers with representatives from Flat Rock Playhouse, Employment Security Commission, Gaylord Architects, a United States Army Judge Advocate, Margaret R. Pardee Hospital and The Times-News.

Parish Office Secretary/Bookkeeper

Full-time position available for Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper beginning September 1, 2006. Individual will be responsible for all essential office functions. Seeking a bi-lingual (English-Spanish) candidate with experience in office procedures, bookkeeping, and MS Office programs. Candidate must have strong interpersonal skills. Knowledge of PDS Census and Ledger Programs is a plus. Must be high school graduate and have a minimum of 2 years of work experience.

Please submit resume to: **Parish Council Chair**
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
328-B Woodsway Lane NW
Lenoir, NC 28645-4356

Classifieds

FOR RENT

LAKE LURE VACATION HOME: New! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, all amenities. 3 minutes to Rocky Broad River, Lake Lure beach; fishing, boating, hiking, swimming. Reasonable! 828-299-3714.

CONDO: Oceanfront on Pleasure Island. 2 BD/2 BA. Minutes from Wilmington. Rent by day or week. 4 BDs also available. Call 703-450-8480 or write wkelle@aol.com for availability.

Classified ads bring results! Over 135,000 readers! Over 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

Murphy named Teacher of the Year

CHARLOTTE — Joanne Murphy, a second-grade teacher at St. Patrick School in Charlotte, was recently named a Teacher of the Year.

Since 1995, the Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year program, one of the largest teacher recognition programs in the country, has recognized more than 25,000 teachers in the United States and Puerto Rico and contributed more than \$19 million in educational grants to those schools.

Murphy accepted a \$1,000 educational grant on behalf of St. Patrick School.

"We are proud to help raise awareness for excellence in education and to salute teachers, who play such an important role in growing and shaping young people," said Betsy Reithemeyer, director of the Wal-Mart/Sam's Club Foundation.

"We encourage parents to help students nominate a teacher who's made a difference in their lives," she said.

Murphy, a parishioner of St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte, was nominated by a parent of one of her students.



COURTESY PHOTO

Teacher Joanne Murphy, pictured with her second-grade class at St. Patrick School in Charlotte, is a 2006 local winner of Wal-Mart's Teacher of the Year award.

DIOCESAN TRIBUNAL

AUDITOR / ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Tribunal is hiring a full-time Auditor/Administrative Assistant — someone who is self-directed, with a good command of English and writing skills, and proficiency in Word. Work-study of Church marriage Tribunal auditing procedures will be required. A paralegal certificate from a teaching institute, and Spanish-speaking is a plus. Please send resume to smrichardson@charlottediocese.org by July 31, 2006.



Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels.

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065

Fifth-graders win top prizes in county contest

GREENSBORO — Three fifth-graders took home top honors for explaining the U.S. government.

Students Jonah Carmichael, Jack Sartore and Alex Bruno from Our Lady of Grace School in Greensboro received first and second places in the "Liberty Under Law: Separate Branches, Balanced Powers" multimedia contest, in which Guilford County students illustrated the three branches of U.S. government.

The contest, sponsored by the Greensboro Bar Association, was part of

the annual Law Day observance May 1. In addition to receiving cash prizes, the winning entries were displayed at the Law Day panel discussion at the Greensboro Historical Museum May 1.

The three students were recognized during Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church May 3.

Alex and Jack won the first place elementary school award for their Lego movie on the three branches of government. Jonah won second place for a Power Point presentation.



COURTESY PHOTO

Our Lady of Grace School teacher Joan Regan stands with fifth-grade students Jonah Carmichael, Jack Sartore and Alex Bruno at Our Lady of Grace Church in Greensboro May 3.

Taking on the Cougars



COURTESY PHOTO

Players from the Cougars, the football team at Charlotte Catholic High School, stand with students from St. Matthew School during a "football party" held at the high school June 9.

Pictured with the St. Matthew School students are Charlotte Catholic players Walker Ferebee, Ben Herlocker, Henry Lawson, Connor Gavigan, Matt O'Shields and Jimmy Eichorn.

The students played football, performed touchdown dances and got autographs from the Cougars.

The Cougars have won two straight N.C. state titles — in the 2AA and 3AA classes — and have the state's second-longest winning streak at 32 games. They will take on Independence High School's Patriots, winners of six straight N.C. football championships, in a preseason scrimmage at Independence High School in Charlotte Aug. 10.

Apply to the Abbey for fall 2006!

Scholarships, financial aid, and housing are still available.



It's not too late to inquire and apply online at:

BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

For more information call 1.888.222.0110 or email: admissions@bac.edu



BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE

EST. 1863

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Superman and Jesus

Similarities abound, but Son of God trumps Man of Steel

Look! Up in the sky, it's a bird, it's a plane ... you know the rest.

Superman, the ultimate hero, is back in the film "Superman Returns." His cape and costume are darker; the flying sequences are as breathtaking as a roller coaster.

And just so aging baby boomers won't feel guilty about their affection for a comic book character, this version of the Man of Steel has a deeper meaning.

Part of the hype associated with this latest iteration of Superman is his connection to the biblical story of Jesus. This is a retrofit at best.

The creators of Superman, Jerry Siegel and Joe Schuster, are both dead, but early accounts of their inspiration for the character include Tarzan and Popeye, not Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

But a comparison between the son of Jor-El and the Son of God can be instructive and even fun.

Superman, like Jesus, was sent here by his father and both were wrapped in swaddling clothes upon arrival. The Superman story takes an Old Testament twist when the Kent family finds the infant in his rocket ship. It is reminiscent of Moses among the river reeds, but that kind of confusion can happen when you retrofit a story.

Both Superman and Jesus had relatively obscure formative years. The only account of Jesus as a boy is found in the second chapter of Luke, where he made an impression on the leaders of the Temple at the age of 12.

In the latest film, Superman flies through the heavens with the greatest of ease; in the Bible, Jesus ascended into heaven.

Superman has X-ray vision and he uses it to look through walls and to check Lois Lane for damage after she takes a hard knock on the head.

Jesus has the ability to look into our souls. He demonstrates this in the Gospel

Catholics & the Media

DAVID HAINS
GUEST COLUMNIST



of John when the teachers at the temple bring an adulterous woman to him; "If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her" (John 8:7).

Superman died and came back to life about a year later — this happened in a series of comic book stories in the early 1990s. Jesus' Resurrection was a tad more spectacular, is far better remembered and obviously more significant.

Superman and Jesus are both close to women with alliterative names — Lois Lane for Superman, Mary Magdalene for Jesus. But there is a big difference between the women.

Lois Lane is a damsel in distress. Mary Magdalene is one of the strongest women in history. She demonstrated great courage at the foot of the cross and was the first human to proclaim the Resurrection.

And then there is Kryptonite, those green remnants of the planet Krypton. The glowing stones are the only physical connection Superman has to his home and, oddly, they make him ill.

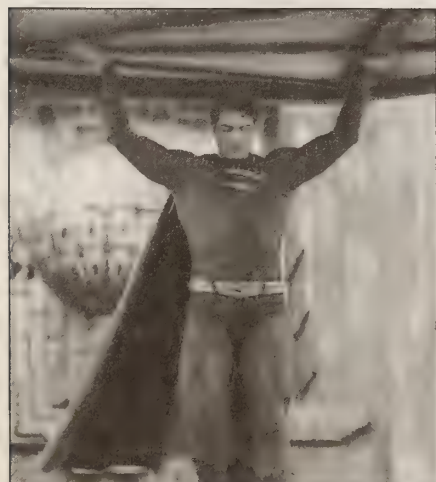
In the literal realm, Kryptonite is the Achilles heel, the one weakness, the tragic flaw in the character of Superman. The presence of this vulnerability gives comic book writers the hook they need to craft stories in which the readers can't predict the outcome.

Without Kryptonite, Superman always wins and the reader ends up bored. With it, there is a chance that he and his spandex costume could be harmed, just like the rest of us.

With Jesus there is no Kryptonite. He was, is and always will be divine. His life has no flaws, nothing can defeat him. Jesus isn't a character who provides us a diversion of fantasy; he is real, he is with us.

But perhaps the biggest difference between Superman and Jesus is that the character with the "S" on his chest rescues a few people, while the man with the wound in his side saves us all.

David Hains, director of communications for the Diocese of Charlotte, is frequently confused with reporter Clark Kent when he puts on horned-rimmed glasses. Contact him at dwhains@charlottediocese.org.



CNS PHOTO BY WARNER BROS.

Pope says being Christian includes living out faith through charity

VATICAN CITY — To be a Christian is more than just identifying oneself as a believer in the faith; it entails living out the Gospel through concrete works of charity, especially for the poor and those in need, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Faith in Christ "must come to fruition in one's life, above all in one's love for the other and in particular in caring for the poor," he said during his weekly general audience June 28.

The pope continued a series of talks on the church's apostolic ministry by focusing his catechesis on St. James the Less.

The pope concentrated on the important legacy St. James left today's Christians in his teachings in the New Testament Letter of James.

This apostle showed people "a Christianity (that is) very concrete and practical," the pope said.

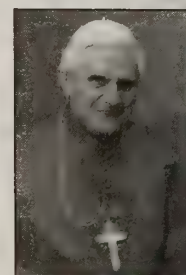
His epistle insists that faith in Christ must not be "reduced to a plain verbal or abstract declaration," but that it must be "expressed concretely in doing good works," said the pope.

St. James also invites people to joyously accept one's trials, he said, and serenely abandon oneself to the will of God, "who knows the true good for us."

Through prayer, God will give the gift of wisdom that leads one to discover that what has true value in life is not the

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



"fleeting riches" on earth but is the awareness that people are meant to share their "means with the poor and needy," the pope said.

While St. Paul said a person will be known as just by his faith in Jesus and not by performing "works of the law," the pope said this seemingly contradictory teaching, in fact, complements what St. James teaches.

St. Paul was speaking out against pride and self-righteousness that tempt a person into thinking God's grace is not a gift that only God can give, but that it can be earned through performing rituals or good deeds, he said.

Good works, instead, follow from true faith in Jesus, the pope said, because just as a body without the spirit is dead, faith without good works is dead.

At the end of the audience, the pope called on young people to take advantage of these summer months of vacation with useful social and religious activities.

Letters to the Editor

I cringe when I see a football player drop to his knees and bless himself after making a touchdown.

What must the rest of the world think about us when we engage in such nonsense?

— Gloria S. White
Charlotte

Mexican Catholic tradition irreverent

We must register a strong objection to the article and photograph of the priest looking at a soccer-dressed statue of Jesus ("Mexican Catholics pray for a World Cup miracle," June 23).

This tasteless article and photo were not only sacrilegious, but also they add fuel to the non-Catholic argument that Catholics "worship idols."

— Jack and Carol Ann Woelfel
Lowell

Your decision to print the article and photograph of the statue of the infant Jesus dressed as a soccer player would imply your approval of such irreverence.

In addition, prayers are meant to ask for important issues in our lives, not to ask to win the World Cup of Soccer.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

Casting out lines, reeling in souls

God is there always to pluck us from the depths

It was deadline day at The Catholic News & Herald — meetings were scheduled, phones were ringing and stories needed editing.

So I decided to knock off for a few hours and do some fishing. I grabbed my rod and tackle box and drove out to my favorite fishing spot in Gaston County.

As I neared the lake, I noticed God fishing from the end of the pier. He was sitting, sandals off, feet dangling just above the water. He held a stick with a string, which disappeared into the calm lake.

He looked up at me and smiled. "Hello there."

"Hi, God," I said. "I didn't know you fished here."

"It's one of many places I like to wet a line," he replied, scanning the scenery.

"So, how are they biting today?" I asked.

"Haven't caught anything yet," he replied, "but you're welcome to join me."

So I did, casting my line out beside his. "What are you using for bait?" I inquired.

"Nothing," he said. "I just let the fish know I'm here. They choose to bite or not."

That was odd, I thought. "How do you expect to catch anything like that?"

He simply shrugged.

The lake was swarming with fish, nibbling on this or that, yet most of them were darting by God's hook with barely a glance.

It made me realize how many people go through life, so consumed with trivial

Murray's Musings

KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR



things that they don't realize God is in their midst, or, worse, that they ignore him completely.

Most of us are starving for something more, and we stuff ourselves with morsels of false hopes and guilty pleasures, yet are always left feeling empty inside. And we turn to God only when we really need him; when we're finally hungry enough to bite.

Thankfully he's always there, waiting to pull us in and pluck us from the murky depths into his loving embrace.

But we are called to more — we are not only meant to recognize God's love, but to share it, live it. A big task for many; perhaps it's easier to just give up, do nothing.

Suddenly, the devil approached in a rowboat. "Good morning!"

"Oh, for the love of me," sighed God. "Not this guy again."

"I noticed you're not having any luck," called Lucifer, grinning. "There are plenty of hungry fish on the other side of the lake. Hop in and I'll take you over."

"No thanks, Lu," said God, waving him off. "We're fine."

"You, sir," said Lucifer, eyeing me. "Throw down your fishing rod and follow me, and you shall have all the fish you can stomach."

It seemed an inviting offer. I glanced to God.

"Sure, he'll feed you," whispered God, "but what he offers will leave quite the bitter taste in your mouth."

I made my decision, and again cast my line out beside God's.

"So be it," grunted Lucifer. "Maybe, then, I'll try my luck with the fish."

He lit a stick of dynamite and went to toss it into the water.

God shook his head, then snapped his fingers. A whirlpool formed under the devil's boat and swallowed him up. A moment later, the water was calm again.

"Wow! You sure showed him," I said.

"I just hope that devil doesn't sour the lake," said God. "These fish — they have enough to worry about."

"What's to worry?" I asked. "You're here."

He smiled and patted me on the head.

I had work to do, so I bid God farewell. Walking away, I glanced back at the pier. God was still there, silently dabbing his line in the water, ever patient, ever mindful.

It's true — some days the fish don't bite, but we never give up the faith. Because if we don't cast our lines, we won't catch a thing.

Your charitable report

Guest Column

JUDY SMITH
GUEST COLUMNIST



Document can recall, inspire stewardship

Putting one's affairs in order usually includes an up-to-date will, a directive to physicians, a power of attorney, funeral instructions and, sometimes, a loving letter or video addressed to immediate family members.

Perhaps another document might be called "My Charitable Report." It could be a notebook, folder or large envelope. The report should explain your philosophy of giving — why you engaged in charitable giving.

The purpose of this report, of course, is not to boast about your gifts, but to explain what you did and why you did it so your survivors can be inspired to imitate your example. If you prefer to avoid listing names and types of gifts, at least provide insight into your purposes and practices.

After stating your philosophy of giving, list the names of those organizations you have supported through your regular giving. Indicate why these organizations were important to you and what led you to start and continue your support.

Then list special gifts you can recall — capital campaign gifts to your parish or others, along with any other major contributions — and explain why you made them.

Finally, disclose the planned gifts you made, including the bequests in your will, any charitable gift annuities, charitable trusts, endowments or other gift arrangements. Explain your thinking and motivation.

Also, include a copy of any gift-related documents in this section of your report. Be sure to highlight any conditions that should be monitored by the family, such as endowment provisions.

Your charitable report brings together in one place the giving philosophy and practices of your life. It will be an important document and highly influential in motivating your children, grandchildren and even great-grandchildren to follow in your steps in the practice of stewardship.

You don't need to preach; the power of your example will be enough to inspire imitation.

Judy Smith is director of planned giving for the Diocese of Charlotte.

The songs of summer

Routines can help build family, relationships

Yessiree, summertime has officially arrived!

Some of us know this because the weather is hot and sticky, our main streets are lined with American flags for the Fourth of July parade, and the radio is cranking out those songs that make us want to head to the beach.

But for many of us, we realize the season has begun when we hear these classic tunes, "Mom, Joey looked at me again ... Hey, he hit me too ... Stop it!" and the ever-popular, "I'm bored."

We ask ourselves, "When did summer stop feeling like heaven on earth and begin feeling like a three-month sentence of conflict-resolution and perpetual event planning?"

If the start of July has you feeling less like "Free Bird" and more like "Witchy Woman," read on for some liberating tips.

Does Anybody Really Know What Time It Is?

Try to build in a rhythm to your summer days.

Maybe mornings are for chores and running errands. Afternoons are for adventures to the water park, shopping

mall, the Raptor Center or Imagination.

It doesn't really matter — find what works for your family. The important thing is having a sense of routine, even though school is out.

Peace Train

"Can't we all just get along?" If too much togetherness is causing riots in your household, try:

— Setting a timer for the sharing of toys, television, computer, etc.

— Deciding on a family tactic for resolving conflict such as "rock, paper, scissors" or rolling dice.

— Posting rules on the refrigerator for consequences to arguments and fights.

When squabbles do break out, don't try to get to the bottom of who did what to whom first. Rather, all involved in the skirmish receive the consequence, such as time out in separate corners (rule of thumb is one minute for each year of the child's age).

This way, kids are motivated to work things out between themselves.

Shower the People

Keep in mind, these days — long as

Peace of Mind

LORI FOX
GUEST COLUMNIST



they may seem — are fleeting. Use this special time to deepen your relationships.

In the summer, it's the simple things that matter most. On Sunday after Mass, pack a picnic and head out to the lake. At the end of the day, turn off the TV and read aloud from a page-turner (even older kids like this).

Try to make a special "date" for each child alone during the week to do something unique with him or her. Go to a favorite restaurant, a movie or sports event. Create time to play board games as a family.

Children cherish this kind of attention and will remember these times well into adulthood.

Above all else, face this summer with a "Peaceful, Easy Feeling" and enjoy two of God's greatest gifts — time and family — with a song in your heart.

Lori Fox is supervisor of counseling services at Catholic Social Services in the Diocese of Charlotte.

Making poverty history

Community, faith leaders rally against poverty

BY BEN GRUVER
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Several hundred community and faith leaders along with religious activists from around the nation marched in Washington June 27 to fight against poverty.

The event celebrated the unveiling of the Covenant for a New America, a faith-based strategy for overcoming poverty.

The march and a related conference were hosted by Sojourners and Call to Renewal, a national network of churches, faith-based organizations and individuals working to overcome poverty in America.

Twenty-three national religious groups and religious leaders endorsed the covenant.

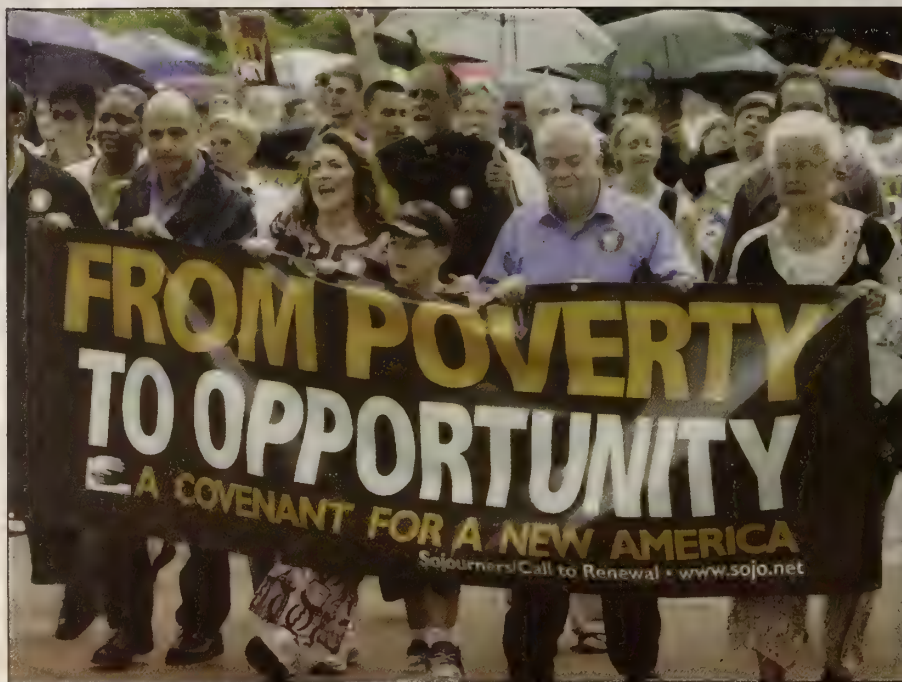
Among other things, the document aims to bring people from all religious and political backgrounds together so they can hold each other accountable for ending poverty. One goal is to develop a plan to cut child poverty in half over the next 10 years.

Among those endorsing the covenant was Sister Marge Clark, a Sister of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary who is a lobbyist with Network, a national Catholic social justice lobby whose mission is to bring about economic justice.

Sister Clark said she was proud to sign the covenant.

Jean Sammon, an organizer with Network, said the organization follows the Catholic social teaching principle of addressing the structures that affect poor people.

Sister Carole Shinnick, a School Sister of Notre Dame who is executive director of the Leadership Conference of



CNS PHOTO BY PAUL HARRING

Several hundred people, including representatives of faith-based groups, march in Washington June 27 to demand an end to poverty. People marched from the National City Christian Church to the U.S. Capitol where they called on Congress to make eliminating poverty a priority.

Women Religious, said her organization also endorsed the covenant because it is consistent with LCWR's positions on poverty.

"Since 1727 when the first (Catholic sisters) arrived in this country, we consistently stood with the marginalized and the poor, especially women and children, and this document that we are endorsing is consistent with that position," Sister Carole told Catholic News Service.

She also was a speaker at the event.

The protesters marched to Upper Senate Park at the U.S. Capitol from the National City Christian Church, chanting as they went: "In God's name, make poverty history," "Raise minimum wage," and "Make work work."

The message of religious and government leaders who spoke at the park was clear: "Make poverty history."

Rev. Jim Wallis, founder of Sojourners and author of "God's Politics:

Why the Right Gets It Wrong and the Left Doesn't Get It," said the poor are the new interest group in Washington.

"Poverty is God's special interest," Rev. Wallis said. "This place (Congress) will be judged on how they treat (the poor)."

Rev. Wallis urged the faith community to eliminate poverty.

"As long as they (political leaders) make bad decisions, we will have to tell them what the decisions ought to be," he said.

Rev. Wallis urged the audience to "be a special interest group on Capitol Hill."

U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, D-Texas, attended the rally. She said she believes that poverty and racism need to be ended in America.

"It is important for the faith community to announce ... that poverty is not a family value," Lee told CNS. "It is important for the U.S. Congress to wake up and address the need of people who are in poverty."

Lee called it outrageous that poverty around the world continues to increase.

Adjusted for inflation, the current minimum wage is the lowest it's been in the last 50 years, Lee added.

The Rev. David Beckmann agreed.

Rev. Beckmann, a Lutheran minister, is president of Bread for the World, a Christian anti-hunger lobby. He said his organization is glad to be endorsing the covenant.

"We people of faith are here to wake up our political leaders and say here is what God is calling us to tell them," he told the crowd.

Kevin Hunter, vice president of domestic programs at World Vision, mentioned three of the covenant's core points his organization welcomes and feels are important to endorse:

— The covenant unites faith communities on common ground.

— It promotes biblical justice.

— It calls supporters to use persuasion for ending poverty.

ONLY 5 SEATS LEFT! CALL TODAY!

**WALK WHERE JESUS WALKED ON A
DIOCESAN-SPONSORED PILGRIMAGE TO**



THE HOLY LAND

September 5 - 14

with Fr. James Hawker, Diocesan Vicar
of Education and Pastor, St. Luke Church

Deepen your understanding of our Catholic faith and watch the pages of the Bible come alive as you experience daily Mass at many of the historical sites of our faith.

Highlights include:

- Tiberias, Mt. Carmel, Sea of Galilee area
- Mt. Tabor, Cana, Nazareth - Jesus' boyhood area
- Capernaum, Mount of Beatitudes, River Jordan
- Jerusalem area: Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Via Dolorosa, Lord's Tomb at Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Mount Zion, Upper Room, Dormition Abbey, Wailing Wall
- Dead Sea (excavations and scrolls), Masada, Holocaust memorial
- Bethlehem's historic sites - PLUS much more!

* Price: \$2,599 from Charlotte includes airfare, most meals, first class hotels and all tours. Airport taxes/fees, tips and insurance are extra.

Call Cindi Feerick at 704/370-3332 for a brochure with complete details or Pentecost Tours 800/713-9800 for registration.



**Join our Oratorian Congregation to
SERVE GOD AS PRIEST OR BROTHER**

As priests and lay men, our community lives without
vows and serves God's people numerous ways, including:

Parishes Youth Camps Nursing
Retreats Campus Ministry Hospital Chaplains

Find out more about serving God with us:

Fr. Ed McDevitt, CO The Oratory
P O Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586

AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles
Licensed & Insured
FREE ESTIMATES
www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185

Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic
Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Charlotte 704-334-6421

Pineville 704-544-1412

Mint Hill 704-545-4864

Derita 704-596-3291



Struck by the sea

INDONESIAN CATHOLICS
WORK TO HELP VICTIMS OF
JULY 17 TSUNAMI

BY CATHOLIC NEWS
SERVICE

JAKARTA, Indonesia —
As the death toll from a
mid-July earthquake and
tsunami increased, Indonesian
Catholics worked to provide
aid to the victims.

Sacred Heart of Jesus
Church in Tasikmalaya has
a mission station in
Pangandaran, a resort town in
the worst-hit area of West Java
province.

See SEA, page 12

Days of destruction

Church leaders pray for
peace, dialogue as Mideast
violence escalates

BY JUDITH SUDILOVSKY
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

JERUSALEM — Catholic
leaders prayed for peace and
dialogue as Mideast violence
escalated, and churches and
local government buildings
opened their doors to the
displaced.

Father Michael McGarry,
rector of the Tantur

See MIDEAST, page 13

A continuing mission



PHOTOS BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Above: Bishop Peter J. Jugis celebrates a bilingual Mass for the 40th anniversary of St. Frances of Rome Church in Sparta July 9. Below: Church members enjoy food and fun after the Mass.

'Caring for God's Creation' Program offers cultural perspectives on topical issues

BY JOANITA M.
NELLENBACH
CORRESPONDENT

CULLOWHEE — Caring
for God's creation doesn't
always happen.

To learn more about
"Caring for God's Creation,"
some 20 people from parishes
throughout the Smoky
Mountain Vicariate gathered in
Western Carolina University's
(WCU) Catholic Center
June 17.

The program, sponsored
by the Smoky Mountain
Vicariate, sought "to bring
together adults from diverse
cultures to learn about other
cultures and to reflect on
Catholic social teaching on
caring for God's creation."

"The Bible says that man
will have dominion over the

See CARING, page 10



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Freeman Owle, Cherokee elder
in residence at Western
Carolina University, plays a
drum as he sings "Amazing
Grace" and "What a Friend We
Have in Jesus" during the
"Caring for God's Creation" at
Western Carolina University in
Cullowhee June 17.

Many gather for Sparta church's 40th anniversary

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

SPARTA — From humble
beginnings to a thriving
community, the mission
church of St. Frances of Rome
has come a long way in its
40-year history.

Hundreds crowded inside
and outside of the small Sparta
church as Bishop Peter J. Jugis
celebrated a bilingual Mass
commemorating its 40th
anniversary June 9.

"There has been
tremendous growth in faith and
in numbers over the last 40
years," said Bishop Jugis
during his homily.

"But there are greater
challenges ahead. We are not
here just to celebrate the last 40
years, but to continue the
church's mission," he said.

Recalling his homily at the
Eucharistic Conference in
Asheville June 24, Bishop Jugis
said the Catholic Church is on a
journey through history, and
the Eucharist is "our
nourishment for that journey."

"In the 40 years here,
Mass has been celebrated as
food for our journey with the
Lord Jesus nourishing us," said
the bishop.

See SPARTA, page 7



In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

THE GIFT OF LIFE



CNS PHOTO BY SHIRLEY HENDERSON, GULF PINE CATHOLIC

Father Ken Ramon-Landry, pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Hattiesburg, Miss., and parishioner Patricia Sanchez are pictured in the parish office June 29, just a week before the priest donated a kidney to Sanchez. By talking about the transplant operation, the pair hopes to raise awareness of the need for kidney donors.

Priest donates kidney to parishioner

HATTIESBURG, Miss. (CNS) — The scenario could give a Hallmark card commercial a run for its money: A parish priest donates a kidney to a parishioner who is his friend's wife and the mother of four.

"This is the gift of life for me," said Patricia Sanchez, who July 6 received a kidney from her pastor at Sacred Heart Church, Father Ken Ramon-Landry.

"Neither of us wants notoriety," Father Ramon-Landry said. "Both of us think it is a worthy cause to raise awareness to the fact that within some of our bodies we carry life for others — even us men — by offering a kidney, a lung.

"Perhaps this is why God gave us two to see if we would share and take seriously what his Son did for us ... laying down our lives freely," he said.

Father Ramon-Landry and Sanchez are continuing education instructors in the Diocese of Biloxi, but the priest also works with Sanchez's husband, Rafael, in diocesan Hispanic ministry.

Pat Sanchez, 60, a Scripture scholar and writer of homilies and Scripture commentaries, was first diagnosed with kidney disease 12 years ago.

The damage leads to kidney failure, which requires dialysis or a transplant.

Rafael Sanchez confided to the priest about his wife's deteriorating health and that there were no prospects of a kidney donor.

"Well, I have two kidneys; she can have one of mine," Father Ramon-Landry told him.

Both Pat Sanchez and Father Ramon-Landry have B-positive blood type.

While she qualified for a transplant, he began a donor screening process. Both had to undergo a battery of medical, physical and psychological tests.

"We were so compatible, the lab personnel suspected that we were siblings," the priest said.

Some parishioners asked why he would risk surgery.

"I guess what kind of inspired me to donate is that, if my mother or my sister needed a kidney, I would want someone to step up," he said.

And if something did happen to the priest's remaining kidney, he "would go to the top of the recipient list," Pat Sanchez said.

Sanchez has endured peritoneal dialysis daily since April 2005. At one time she was taking 14 medications daily. Now she is down to only seven prescriptions a day.

"My family is grateful to Father Ken," Pat Sanchez said.

Both Father Ramon-Landry and Sanchez said they were struck by the way everything evolved and fell into place.

"God clears the way, if it is meant to be," the priest said.

All children owed health care, says CHA head on behalf of campaign

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Concern for children's health "goes beyond the bounds of religious belief or political persuasion," said the president and CEO of the Catholic Health Association.

Sister Carol Keehan, a Daughter of Charity and former CEO of Providence Hospital in Washington, spoke at the July 11 launch of a new campaign on behalf of the nation's 9 million uninsured children.

Sister Keehan said she had seen firsthand "how being uninsured directly affects individuals and families. The principles on which our country was founded compel us to care enough about people and communities to assure that everyone — but especially children — have health care.

"As a nation of compassionate and caring people, this should be an obvious choice," she said.

CHA was one of more than three dozen groups, including other Catholic organizations, joining in the new Cam-

paign for Children's Health Care, aimed at making expanded health coverage for children a national priority.

"Evidence and common sense tell us that healthy children are better learners," said Antonia Cortese, executive vice president of the American Federation of Teachers.

"Children with untreated health conditions have more trouble concentrating in class and have higher absenteeism than children with access to good health care," she said.

The new campaign is built around an online petition asking Congress and President George W. Bush "to begin work immediately on legislation that will provide comprehensive, affordable, high-quality health coverage for all children."

The petition is to be presented to Bush and members of Congress during a Washington lobby day in February, when Congress is expected to be considering reauthorization of the State Children's Health Insurance Program.

Diocesan planner

ASHEVILLE VICARIATE

ASHEVILLE — The *St. Martin de Porres Dominican Laity Chapter* meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the rectory building at the Basilica of St. Lawrence, 97 Haywood St. Inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Beverly Reid at (423) 638-4744 or bebereid@adelphia.net.

HENDERSONVILLE — The *St. Francis of the Hills Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order* meets the fourth Sunday of each month, 2:30-4:30 p.m., at Immaculate Conception Church, 208 7th Ave. West. Visitors and inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Joanita Nellenbach, SFO, (828) 627-9209 or jnell@dnnet.net.

BOONE VICARIATE

SPARTA — St. Frances of Rome Church, Hendrix and Highlands Rds., sponsors the *Oratory of Divine Love Prayer Group* in the parish house the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 1 p.m. Call (336) 372-8846 for more information.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — A *Rosary and Benediction* will follow the 5:30 p.m. Mass at St. Patrick Cathedral, 1621 Dilworth Rd. East, Aug. 5. The rosary will be offered for an end to abortion and all the culture of death.

CHARLOTTE — The *Vietnamese Cursillo* invites all Cursillistas to an ultreya, Mass and picnic Aug. 20 at Reedy Creek Park. The

day's events will begin at 10 a.m. and end with Mass at 4 p.m. RSVP by Aug. 13 to Nam Le at (704) 549-1525.

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church will host a *Christian Coffeehouse* Aug. 26, 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Roof with a View in the Cedar Hill Building, 800 W. Hill St. in uptown Charlotte. Single and married adults are invited for an evening of contemporary Christian music, food and fellowship. For more information, call Kathy Bartlett at (704) 400-2213.

CHARLOTTE — The *Young Adult Faith Reflection* group meets at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd., the first and third Mondays of each month. The group will read "The Faith Explained," 3rd edition, by Leo J. Trese and a chapter will be covered at every meeting. For more information, call Jordan at (704) 737-1964 or Ryan at (704) 377-1328.

HUNTERSVILLE — A *Mass to Honor Deceased Loved Ones* is celebrated the last Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. St. Mark Church, 14740 Stumptown Rd. For more information, call Pam Schneider at (704) 875-0201.

CHARLOTTE — A *Support Group for Caregivers of a Family Member with Memory Loss* meet the last Monday of each month, 10-11:30 a.m., at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, contact Suzanne Bach at (704) 376-4135.

CHARLOTTE — The *St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order* gathers the first Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. at Our Lady of Consolation Church, 2301 Statesville Ave. Those interested in learning more about the SFO and the Franciscan way of life are invited to attend. For more information, call Tom O'Loughlin at (704) 947-7235.

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

JULY 21, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 36

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Despite papal transition, Vatican shows \$12 million surplus for 2005

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Despite the \$8.9 million of extraordinary expenses related to the death of Pope John Paul II and the election of Pope Benedict XVI, the Vatican closed its 2005 budget with a surplus of more than \$12 million, officials said.

Cardinal Sergio Sebastiani, president of the Prefecture for the Economic Affairs of the Holy See, presented the 2005 consolidated budget figures at a July 12 press conference.

The cardinal did not provide figures for total Vatican income and total Vatican expenses at the press conference, but promised to provide the figures later.

Improved exchange rates and higher interest on Vatican investments helped give the Vatican its healthiest bottom line in eight years, the cardinal said. He said the Vatican's investment sector closed

with a profit of \$55 million compared to a profit of only \$7.7 million in 2004.

Listed under "other income and expenses" in the 2005 budget were the \$8.9 million in "costs sustained" during the papal transition.

Cardinal Sebastiani said a large part of the expense was the traditional extra pay given to Vatican employees on the occasion of a pope's death and again after the election of a new pope.

In addition, the expenses included extra security, employee overtime and temporary modifications of the Sistine Chapel for the conclave.

However, he said, because of the millions of extra visitors, the papal transition had a positive impact on the budgets of the Vatican bookstore and printing press, the Vatican stamp and coin office and the Vatican Museums.

HUNTERSVILLE — *New Creation Monastery* invites you to a day of silence and solitude in the presence of Almighty God. The monastery offers private spiritual retreats for lay people. Write to Father John Vianney Hoover at New Creation Monastery, 17009-D Northstar Dr., Huntersville, N.C., 28078, stating why you want to go on retreat and when. For more information, call (704) 609-9011.

HICKORY VICARIATE

NEWTON — *Fostering Justice Worldwide*, sponsored by the diocesan Office of Justice and Peace, will share Catholic Relief Services (CRS) stories. This free event will take place at St. Joseph Church, 720 West 13th St., St., Sept. 9, 1:30-5 p.m. The program will provide an overview of Catholic social teaching, CRS-related work in the Diocese of Charlotte, CRS work in Africa, presentations on effective advocacy and more. This event will be repeated in Stoneville Nov. 4. For specific details about the Saturday afternoon events please call the Office of Justice and Peace at (704) 370-3234 or (704) 370-3225, or e-mail justicepeace@charlottediocese.org.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

MOCKSVILLE — An outdoor *Christian Concert* will be held at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 862 Yadkinville Rd., July 29, 7-9 p.m. For more information, call the church office at (336) 751-2973.

SALISBURY — Catholic recording artist *Michael John Poirier* will perform a free concert Aug. 11 at 8 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church, 128 North Fulton St. For information on the musician or to listen to his music, visit www.riverofmercy.org. For more information about the concert, contact Dr. Martha Shuping at (336) 659-1342.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

MURPHY — A *Charismatic Prayer Group* meets Fridays at 3:30 p.m. in the Glenmary House of St. William Church, 765 Andrews Rd. join us for praise music, witness, teaching, prayers and laying on of hands for those in need. For more details, call Gery Dashner at (828) 494-2683.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

KERNERSVILLE — Catholic recording artist *Michael John Poirier* will perform a free concert Aug. 12 at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Cross Church, 616 S. Cherry St. For information on the musician or to listen to his music, visit www.riverofmercy.org. For more information about the concert, contact Dr. Martha Shuping at (336) 659-1342.

CLEMMONS — The *Knitting Ministry* of Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd., meets Monday evenings, 6:30-8 p.m., to pray, learn to knit, reflect on life's lessons and reach out to others in our community. Opportunities exist for the beginner to the experienced as we knit and purl Prayer Shawls, Premie Blankets or Squares for Survivors. Please contact Rosemary at (336) 766-2315 or Carmel (336) 766-0650 for more information.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following event:

Aug. 4 — 2:30 p.m.
Installation Mass of
Bishop Michael F. Burbidge of Raleigh
Center for the Performing Arts, Raleigh.

Vatican announces World Peace Day theme with focus on human dignity

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — As the theme for the 2007 World Peace Day, Pope Benedict XVI has chosen: "The Human Person: The Heart of Peace."

The theme reflects the pope's "conviction that respect for the dignity of the human person is an essential condition for peace in the human family," said a July 13 Vatican announcement.

World Peace Day is celebrated Jan. 1 each year. The pope's message for the celebration is released in early December and sent to heads of state around the world.

The Vatican statement on the pope's chosen theme said human dignity is being "threatened by aberrant ideologies, attacked by a distorted use of science and technology, (and) contradicted by widespread incongruent lifestyles."

Human dignity must be promoted and defended, it said, because human dignity "is the seal of God," who created men and women in his likeness; it is "the sign of the common destiny of humanity

(and) the foundation of love for God and for one's neighbor."

Peace is threatened when technology makes human life a commodity or "lifestyles that are disordered or contrary to human dignity" lead people to deny that the traditional family is the foundation of a strong society, it said.

"The church's mission is to announce 'The Gospel of Life,' the centrality of the human person in the universe and the love of God for humanity," it said, referring to Pope John Paul II's 1995 encyclical.

The church's mission includes proclaiming the dignity of each person, the obligation to work for the common good and the need for individual human actions to correspond to "the order impressed by God on the universe," the statement said.

Every offense against a person "is a threat to peace," it said. "Every threat to peace is an offense against the truth of the person and of God. The human person is the heart of peace."

Prayerfully opposed



CNS PHOTO BY JESSICA RINALDI, REUTERS

Franciscan nuns pray outside the Massachusetts State House in Boston July 12 in opposition to gay marriage. The same day lawmakers ended debate on proposed state constitutional amendments including one that would ban same-sex marriage. They are recessed now until Nov. 9, which puts off any decision on the gay marriage issue until after the general election.

At U.N. hearing Catholic migration group calls human rights central

UNITED NATIONS (CNS) — Human rights are key to resolving international migration problems, a Catholic official said July 12 at a U.N. General Assembly hearing on international migration and development.

"Rights are not the 'opposite' of practical. In fact rights solve problems," said John Bingham, head of advocacy of the International Catholic Migration Commission.

Bingham listed five human rights especially important to migration:

"The right to life; the right to work and to be paid a fair wage; the right to movement, including out of and back to one's own country; the right to stay in one's own country — closely related to the right to development; and ... the right to participate actively in decisions that affect one's life, family and community."

He said protection of rights reduces the need for migration, since lack of rights in their home country is often a factor that leads people to emigrate.

Aiding an 'angel of mercy'



COURTESY PHOTO

Grand Knight Lance Cancro of Knights of Columbus Council 8509 presents an \$1,835 check June 28 to Cheryl Gilreath, a parishioner of Holy Cross Church in Kernersville and a Columbiette who is hoping to enter the religious life.

Knights assist woman's call to religious life

KERNERSVILLE — Helping those in need is what parishioners of Holy Cross Church in Kernersville are all about.

To help fellow parishioner and Columbiette Cheryl Gilreath pursue her dream of helping others, the parish's Knights of Columbus, Council 8509, donated \$1,835 toward her training.

Only June 28, Grand Knight Lance Cancro presented a check to Gilreath, who is hoping to enter the religious life.

"One of our charter goals is to spiritually and financially support young people who are studying to become priests or nuns," said Cancro.

"Usually we support seminarians, but when we heard of Cheryl's plans, we were excited to step up and help," he said.

Gilreath's interest in the religious life grew while attending Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio.

Currently she is in Sabinov, Slovakia, as part of a mission trip to assist the poor in other countries. She was interested in assisting in the Sudan.

The Knights' donation is to help cover her travel costs, supplies and other expenses to assist Gilreath in her overseas

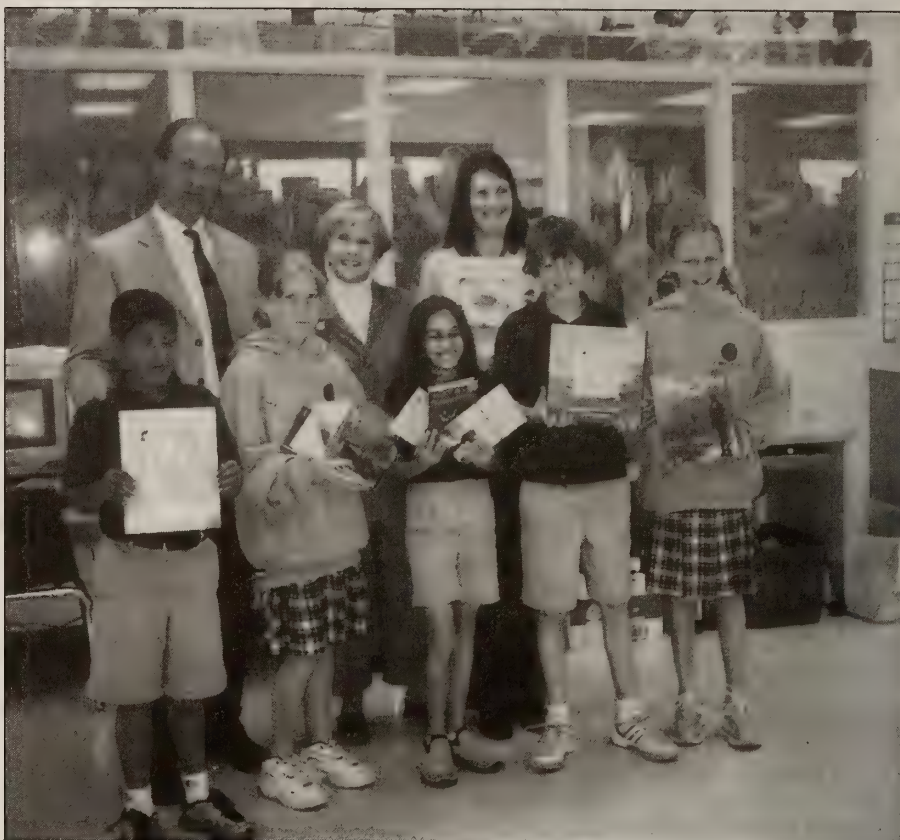
mission work.

According to Cancro, one of the religious orders Gilreath is considering is Missionaries of Charity, who were founded by Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta and work with the poor around the world.

Cancro described Gilreath as a "very special and blessed young woman."

"Besides acting as an angel of mercy, she is also an inspiration to us all to follow God's calling," he said.

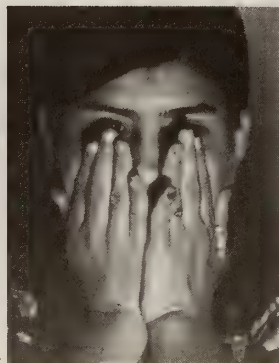
Expanding young minds



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Guilford County Division 1 present 12 books on Irish heritage and folklore to the library at St. Pius X School in Greensboro in March. The donated books were part of the LAOH's efforts to promote educational support for area elementary schools. Pictured are Principal Mark Akerman; Mary Giff, LAOH president; school librarian Christina Foley; and students (from left) Marcos Hernandez, Tera Thompson, Carol Lian, Reid D'Antonio and Alexandria Errington.

Human Trafficking



© Thomas Kelly

The Sisters of Mercy of North Carolina invite you to join us for a free daylong meeting on Human Trafficking on Aug. 4, 2006, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Featured speakers include:

Mary Ellen Dougherty, SSND, Office of Migration, USCCB

&

Ann Rodriguez, President of Immigration Rights Advocacy Center, Florida Coalition Against Human Trafficking

Seating is Limited. . .so Register Early!

To attend, clip & fill out coupon below, return it with a check or money order for \$10 to cover the cost of your lunch, and mail it to Jeanne-Margaret McNally, RSM, 101 Mercy Dr., Belmont, NC 28012 by July 28, 2006. Conference will be held in Curtin Hall, Mercy Administration Center, 101 Mercy Dr., Belmont, NC. For directions, call 704.829.5260.



Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State: _____ Zip code: _____
Phone: _____
eMail: _____

**Retirement isn't
what it used to be.
PLAN accordingly.**



Les Davaz
Financial Advisor
Member, St. Patrick's Church

100 N. Tryon St., Suite 3300
Charlotte, NC 28202

(704) 331-2233 or
(800) 438-0397

<http://fc.smithbarney.com/davaz>

citigroup
SMITHBARNEY

© 2006 Citigroup Global Markets Inc. Member SIPC. Smith Barney is a division and service mark of Citigroup Global Markets Inc. and its affiliates and is used and registered throughout the world. CITIGROUP and the Umbrella Device are trademarks and service marks of Citigroup Inc. or its affiliates and are used and registered throughout the world.

Learning to serve faithfully



COURTESY PHOTO

Youths and adults from the dioceses of Charlotte and Raleigh gather for a group photo in front of Rutland Chapel at Ridgecrest LifeWay Conference Center. The group was attending the annual Faithful Servant Institute.

Institute gathers N.C. youths for leadership education

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

RIDGECREST, N.C. — More than 50 youths and adults gathered recently near Asheville in the North Carolina mountains to learn and practice the skills of a Christian leader.

The 2006 Faithful Servant Institute was held at Ridgecrest LifeWay Conference Center June 18-23.

Faithful Servant is an annual effort cosponsored by the Raleigh and Charlotte diocesan offices for youth ministry.

This formation event places youths in the roles of leaders and adults in the roles of co-learners.

Participants came from parishes throughout the state, from Waynesville to New Bern and communities in between.

Presentations were comprised of specific skill sets as well as Catholic theology. Topics included Catholic identity, the call to Christian leadership, pastoral care, group dynamics, community, evangelization, the Eucharist and the potential of Christian leadership.

A PENNY SAVED

St. Matthew School students collect funds for classmate

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Students from St. Matthew School recently took a break from the pool and the playground to collect money for a fellow student in need.

About 30 students and adults spent July 14 distributing 50 large piggy banks to businesses at Ballantyne, Stonecrest and Matthews Festival shopping centers.

The money raised will help pay the medical expenses of Ross Minor, 8, who authorities say was shot in the head by his father, Mark Minor, June 14. Ross' brother, Ryan, 10, was also shot and died the next day. After shooting the boys, Mark Minor killed himself, police said.

Ross, who was left blind as a result of the shooting, has been released from

the hospital and is recovering at his grandparents' home.

The piggy bank collection kicked off a fundraiser in Ballantyne Village July 21-22. The fundraiser included a silent auction, autograph sessions by Panthers and Bobcats players, music and children's activities. Also, restaurants in the shopping center will donate a portion of their weekend proceeds.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

WANT TO HELP?

For more information, or to have a piggy bank placed at your business, call (704) 814-7014.

For first-time participant Lindsay Ruebens, the institute taught her the importance that leaders practice service to others, not just lead and expect others to follow.

But it was the workshop on the Eucharist that she found most meaningful.

"The workshop 'Holy Eucharist: Food, Medicine and Comfort' embodied the meaning of the institute," said Lindsay, a rising senior at Charlotte Catholic High School.

Each participant was assigned to a small group that discussed the topic,

utilized the skills and planned specific activities and prayer experiences.

"The week flew by, with strong bonds formed and difficult skills practiced," said Peg Ruble, assistant director for youth ministry in the Diocese of Charlotte.

The 2007 institute will be held in Smithfield at the Short Journey Center June 17-22.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels.

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065

Attention: Homeowners... Have a plumbing problem? Don't Panic!

"How To Get A Top Talent Plumber To Show Up On-Time So You Don't Waste Time"

You have a busy schedule and value your time. Most plumbing companies won't give you a real appointment time and keep you waiting all day for a plumber to show up. Now there's a new way to get your plumbing problem fixed, save money, and get a precise Appointment Window so you don't have to waste time waiting.

Three-Way Plumbing Services, Inc.

We're The Good Guys Your Friends Told You About®

(704) 535-4795 Charlotte

(704) 795-9349 Concord

Serving The Entire Charlotte Diocese Area

www.3wayplumbing.com

Proud member of St. James Church

ABBOTSWOOD SENIOR LIVING



For more than 17 years, Abbotswood at Irving Park has built a reputation on providing exemplary retirement living services to independent seniors. Residents enjoy the largest I and 2 bedroom floorplans in Irving Park, delicious meals, a full-time wellness director and month-to-month rental with NO BUY-IN FEES. Optional in-home health care services are available. Call today to schedule your personal tour.

(336) 282-8870

ABBOTSWOOD
at Irving Park



The only full service retirement living address in the heart of Irving Park
3504 Flint Street • Greensboro, NC 27405 • www.kiscoseniorliving.com

Divine images

Randell paints unique look at icons, Christian faith

BY CAROLE MCGROTTY
CORRESPONDENT

ASHEVILLE — Parishioners of the Basilica of St. Lawrence in Asheville recently gathered to view the work of icon painter Elizabeth Randell.

Formerly an art teacher and portrait painter, Randell studied the art of painting icons with icon artists in the United States and iconographers in St. Petersburg, Russia.

It began when a Russian Orthodox priest asked her to paint an icon, which turned out to be "a spiritual journey."

Icons were originally used to explain church teachings to the uneducated.

They are not art for art's sake, said Randell, but are meant to "enhance a worshipper's spiritual life through imitation of the person in the icon."

In this way, icons are similar to statues of Catholic saints, she said.

"They draw us in and up to God to worship him; a window to heaven," said Randell.

Icons also allow the faithful to "see" God.

"Church history says that God was the first to make an icon when he created man — Adam, in his own image," said Randell. "Jesus was the second image."

"Before the Incarnation, no one could draw God, who was invisible," she



PHOTO BY CAROLE MCGROTTY

Elizabeth Randell discusses her icon paintings at the Basilica of St. Lawrence in Asheville.

said. "Now, united in the image of man and God, he is circumscribable."

Marianist priests celebrate jubilees in North Carolina

CHARLOTTE — Two Marianist priests with ties to the Diocese of Charlotte are celebrating jubilees this year.

Marianist Father Richard Kuhn celebrates 60 years as a priest this month. Marianist Father George Onida celebrated 25 years as a priest in May.

Father Kuhn was ordained in July 1958. In addition to teaching at Charlotte Catholic High School, he also served as a teacher and chaplain at high schools in Florida, New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania.

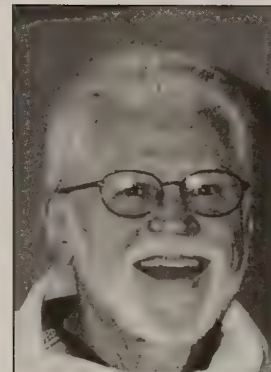
In 1985, he began ministering at retreat centers and currently resides at the Marianist community in Topsail Beach, N.C.

Father Onida was ordained in May 1986 and served as a pastor or assistant pastor in Puerto Rico, Peru and New York.

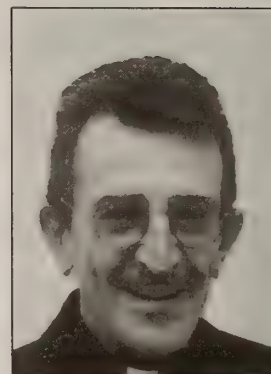
Father Onida, who now resides at the San Juan Diego Marianist community in Charlotte, is assisting with Hispanic ministry in the Diocese of Charlotte.

The Society of Mary (Marianists) is an international Catholic religious order of priests and brothers with more than 600 serving in the United States, India, Eastern Africa and Mexico.

In the United States, the Marianists sponsor three universities, 18 high schools, 12 parishes and several retreat centers. Blessed William Joseph Chaminade founded the Society of Mary in France in 1817. The order has been present in the United States since 1849.



Glenmary Father Richard Kuhn



Glenmary Father George Onida

Also residing in Charlotte are Marianist Brother Gerard Sullivan, who is retired, and Brother Tobias Ferrer, who is in formation.

GET READY!
FAST TRACK ORIENTATION
COME >> DISCOVER >> CONNECT.

FOR FALL 2006



BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE

If you haven't yet
applied for Fall 2006,
it's not too late!

>> Join us on Friday, July 28 from 1pm-6pm

Call 1.888.222.0110 or email
Admissions@bac.edu

www.BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

- TOUR THE COLLEGE
- REGISTER AND MAKE DEPOSIT
- APPLY ON THE SPOT
(application fee waived)
- GET THE MOST FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE
- HAVE YOUR TRANSCRIPTS ANALYZED
- REQUEST HOUSING AND ROOMMATE
- MEET YOUR FACULTY ADVISOR
- GET YOUR PARKING PERMIT
- GET AN INSTANT DECISION
(bring complete application information)
- RESERVE YOUR BOOKS FOR PICKUP
(register to win \$100 bookstore voucher)
- REQUEST A WORK STUDY POSITION
- GET YOUR STUDENT ID

FROM THE COVER

Many gather, rejoice for Sparta church's 40th anniversary

SPARTA, from page 1

As Catholics travel this journey, they are meant to "be blessings to others and share our Gospel values in the community," said Bishop Jugis.

"Our mission is to bring this area to Christ, and it begins right here at this altar," he said. "Here is where our faith grows ... and we are propelled out to share our faith and be a blessing to all those around us."

Father Joseph Dinh, who was appointed pastor in July, concelebrated the Mass, along with Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin; Msgr. Mauricio W. West, vice chancellor and vicar general of the Diocese of Charlotte; and a number of former pastors, several of whom served the mission church before the diocese was founded in January 1972.

"There were only four Catholics attending Mass here in 1961," said Msgr. Gerald Lewis, who served the church at various times in the 1960s.

"To come back now and see the overflow crowd is unbelievable," he said.

Before the early 1960s, Catholics in Alleghany County traveled to Elkin or to North Wilkesboro to attend Mass. It was in 1961 that priests from North Wilkesboro began traveling to Sparta, just four miles from the Virginia border,

to celebrate Mass.

Back then, Mass was celebrated in the Sparta Community Center, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall, the homes of area Catholics and in the cafeteria of a shoe factory.

Though small in number, the Catholic population was determined to spiritually reinforce its presence by building a church. In 1965, a grant from the Catholic Church Extension Society and the Darr family helped pave the way for construction to begin.

"The Darrs were tremendous parishioners and helped support the church in the early years," said Father Lewis. "Their generosity allowed us to grow into this wonderful community."

Bishop Vincent S. Waters of Raleigh dedicated St. Frances of Rome Church in May 1966 in memory of Frances Payne Darr, mother of Ed Darr, one of the original members.

The church continued to be staffed by priests from North Wilkesboro until 1976. During that year, St. Francis of Assisi Church in Jefferson assumed pastoral care of the Sparta church. Priests of the Glenmary Home Missioners also arrived to serve at the churches in Alleghany and Ashe counties.

In the mid-1980s, the St. Frances of Rome family began a fundraising drive to build a multipurpose education building. After again turning to the Catholic Church Extension Society for assistance, the Catholic community in Sparta oversaw



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Transitional Deacon Fred Werth, Bishop Peter J. Jugis, Deacon Jesus Tosco, Father Christopher Roux and others pray during the blessing of a Sacred Heart of Jesus statue at St. Frances of Rome Church in Sparta June 9, part of the church's 40th anniversary celebration.

the building's construction.

Then-Bishop John F. Donoghue of Charlotte blessed and dedicated the structure in October 1986 at a Mass attended by more than 200 Catholics, friends and clergy, including then-pastor Glenmary Father John Otterbacher.

Glenmary priests served the mission church until 1998, when diocesan priests assumed pastoral care. Fathers Ronald Marecki, Wilbur Thomas, Mark Lawlor and C. Morris Boyd were a few of the pastors to serve Sparta Catholics after the Glenmary priests.

Father Patrick Winslow served the church from July 2004 until July 2006.

Church member Betsy Dillon remembers those early Masses in homes and the shoe factory.

"We've grown so much. We now

have a large Hispanic community and a Spanish-language Mass," she said. "We've become an established church in the mountains."

"I'm extremely proud to see what it has become," said Father Lewis. "Bishop Waters and the Darrs had a vision that is being fulfilled. It's a tremendously wonderful feeling."

"It feels great to celebrate 40 years not just of the building, but the Catholic community here that has grown and shows the Catholic faith to people here in the mountains," said Father Dinh.

"A mustard seed was sown here that has grown into a large plant of God's love and faith," he said.

"Alleghany County will be a better place because the Catholic Church is here," said Bishop Jugis.

You're Invited!

to

Room At The Inn's
Twelfth Annual Banquet

"Life Giving Love"



Charlotte Convention Center
Thursday, October 26, 2006

Featured Speaker

Patrick Madrid

Catholic Apologist

www.surprisedbytruth.com

Come hear this acclaimed author, editor, TV host, radio host, speaker, husband, and father of eleven talk about the practical and spiritual implications of numerous interlocking social and moral issues. His thought-provoking presentation will address abortion, euthanasia, cloning, contraception and the worldwide reality of population implosion (the myth of over-population), and "global aging."

Registration/Reception: 5:30 pm

Seating for dinner: 6:40 pm

**** Reservations are FREE, but required.**

To make your reservation or to host a table of eight, contact Banquet Reservations at (704) 525-4673, ext. 10 or iroommattheinn@carolina.rr.com by October 12th.

Room At The Inn, Inc. is a pro-life Catholic maternity and after-care program in Charlotte, NC, providing an alternative to abortion for pregnant women. Please check our website www.rati.org for more information. Not affiliated with Room At The Inn of the Triad, Inc.

Teen's garden remembers deceased family, others

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

EDITOR

SPARTA — During the 40th anniversary of St. Frances of Rome Church in Sparta, Bishop Jugis blessed a Sacred Heart of Jesus statue in the church's Life Garden of Divine Mercy.

The statue was donated by Ruth Stevenson, one of the church's original members, in honor of the anniversary.

The beautifully landscaped garden was a project of Elizabeth Flattery, 18, who was inspired to create it after recently losing family members and friends to suicide.

"With (then-pastor) Father Patrick Winslow's inspiration, prayers and advice, she took it a step further and dedicated it to all babies lost to abortion and miscarriage," said Pat Flattery,

Elizabeth's mother.

Elizabeth Flattery raised more than \$1,500 to complete the project and, with advice by a landscape architect, performed all of the work — including moving dirt, dead trees and debris; creating and placing steps, rocks and benches, and planting flowers.

Some of her work was done at night by lantern light, as well as during a snowstorm.

Flattery, who will attend the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in the fall, was ranked fifth in her class at Alleghany High School. She was yearbook editor, student council officer, Beta Club officer and played volleyball, basketball and softball.

"She is a high achiever, highly motivated and works hard to accomplish her goals," said Pat Flattery.

Broadening minds and hearts



COURTESY PHOTO

Gaston Commissioners' School of Excellence students learn the value of "giving back" at Holy Angels in June. They helped to clean up PUSH Place, an outdoor facility for Holy Angels' residents.

Holy Angels welcomes Commissioners' School of Excellence

BELMONT — Classes let out for the summer in Gaston County in early June, but education continued for 62 rising 10th graders at Holy Angels in Belmont.

The students participated in the Gaston County Board of Commissioners' School of Excellence Program June 19-22.

The program, funded by the Gaston County commissioners and operated by the Gaston County school system in cooperation with local colleges, focuses on developing the students' problem-solving techniques and leadership skills.

Students are selected to attend the summertime program based on their academic achievements, leadership skills and extracurricular activities. Holy Angels was chosen as the location of the program's service project this year.

Bryan Denton, a teacher with the program, says the partnership has been very worthwhile.

"We wanted to restart our community service projects and thought that Holy Angels would be the perfect partner," said Bryan Denton, a teacher with the program.

"Our students have learned more about the ministry of Holy Angels and the services they provide, as well as the importance of giving back to the community," he said.

Founded in 1956 by the Sisters of Mercy, Holy Angels is a private, non-profit corporation providing residential services and programs for children and adults with varying degrees of mental retardation and physical disabilities.

Students participated in empathy training exercises geared toward teaching them about people with disabilities and what it might be like to have a disability.

Service projects included weeding PUSH Place, an outdoor location at Holy Angels for residents, family and staff. Students also cleaned out and re-organized art supply rooms at three intermediate care group homes and assisted with cleaning out additional storage areas.

"Our students learned the value of hard work and how much of a difference, even the simplest of tasks can make," said Denton. "This was a wonderful experience for Commissioners' School that we hope had a very positive impact for Holy Angels."

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on Holy Angels, visit www.holyangelsnc.org.

www.andersonfamilymed.com

Anderson Family Medicine

...Healthcare with a heart.

Dr. E. Kelly Anderson is available to help with all of your family's healthcare needs. A graduate of the Yale University School of Medicine and the residency program at Carolinas Medical Center - Union, Dr. Anderson is now accepting patients of all ages.

Dr. E. Kelly Anderson
Parishoner
Our Lady of
Consolation, Charlotte

HOURS:

Mon, Tue, Th, Fri. 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Wednesday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, (by appt.)

704-283-8888

An NFP-only practice

Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Charlotte 704-334-6421

Pineville 704-544-1412

Mint Hill 704-545-4864

Derita 704-596-3291

Girl Scout earns Gold Award for special-needs project

BELMONT — Holy Angels now has a new "Snoezelen room," thanks to one motivated Girl Scout.

Virginia Boyce, 17, chose Holy Angels as the focus of her project for her Gold Award, the highest award in Girl Scouts.

Her project, creating the Polking Snoezelen Room, was showcased during a May 11 reception organized by Boyce at Holy Angels. Invited guests included Holy Angels residents and staff, Boyce's family members and Girl Scout leaders.

Holy Angels made a lasting impression upon Boyce during her first visit several years ago. Working with Holy Angels staff, she began designing a snoezelen room.

The Snoezelen concept originated in Holland in the 1970s and uses primary senses in learning and relaxation activities. The room is filled with moving bright lights and equipment that stimulates hearing, touch and smell.

Holy Angels currently has two other Snoezelen rooms and has been a pioneer of the concept in the Southeast.

Boyce's project included writing a draft proposal with layout, design and fundraising goals for the new room. Working closely with staff members, Boyce attended planning meetings and assisted in selection of the various sensory materials.

After months of planning and more than 70 hours of hands-on work, the Polking Snoezelen Room was completed.

"Virginia is a highly creative and wonderful young lady whose hard work



COURTESY PHOTO

Girl Scout Virginia Boyce holds a plaque of gratitude from Holy Angels for her Gold Award project at the Belmont facility.

has resulted in a state-of-the-art educational and relaxation room that our residents will enjoy for years to come," said Regina Moody, president and CEO of Holy Angels.

"We were so pleased to have been selected as her Gold Award focus project," said Moody.

The Snoezelen room was named in honor of longtime Holy Angels supporter and board member Paul Polking.

Boyce, a Belmont South Point High School graduate who will major in English at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., held a 5.0 grade point average and was president of the Beta Club.

In addition to her Gold Award, she also received the President's Volunteer Service Award and an Albert G. Myers Scholarship to Georgetown.



Let stairs be our problem... not yours!

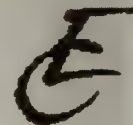
Ask about our Stairway lifts.

- Easily attached to steps (not walls)
- Folds out of the way
- Fits most stairways (straight & curved)
- Very affordable (rent or buy)
- We install

Chair & Equipment Rentals & Sales, Inc.

800 Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC • (800) 333-8431

Member of St. Thomas Aquinas



Please pray for the following priests who died during the month of August

Rev. Msgr. Felix R. Kalaher 1998

Rev. Henry J. Becker 1992

Rev. John F. Parsons 1993

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus



COURTESY PHOTO

Representatives from the Diocese of Charlotte join more than 2,000 Hispanic young adults, bishops, diocesan coordinators and parish leaders from across the country as they gather June 8 at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana for the first National Encuentro for Hispanic Youth and Young Adult Ministry. The goal of the June 8-11 gathering was to call Hispanic young adults to more active participation in the life and mission of the Catholic Church.

Gathering the masses

Hispanic youths discuss future at inaugural meeting

BY CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NOTRE DAME, Ind. — Some 2,000 Hispanic youths, young adults and diocesan and parish leaders gathered for the June 8-11 National Encuentro for Hispanic Youth and Young Adult Ministry at the University of Notre Dame.

The “encuentro,” Spanish for “gathering,” focused on their needs, aspirations and contributions relative to the church. It was the first national meeting of its kind and its theme was “Weaving Together the Future.”

Thirty representatives from the Diocese of Charlotte traveled to Indiana for the gathering.

The goal was to develop a common vision and pastoral principles, which will be presented to the U.S. bishops. Some 20 bishops attended the events.

The bilingual event was organized by the National Catholic Network de Pastoral Juvenil Hispana (of Hispanic Youth Ministry). It was co-sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Hispanic Affairs, the USCCB Subcommittee on Youth and Young Adults and the University of Notre Dame.

Leading the way

In his June 10 keynote talk, Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez Maradiaga of Tegucigalpa, Honduras stressed the contributions of Hispanics to U.S. society and challenged young Hispanics to respond to the plight of newly arriving immigrants.

“How interesting that at a time when the doors to free trade are being opened the international borders are being closed to immigrants,” said Cardinal Rodriguez. “We can’t allow ourselves to forget that in the face of every immigrant there is a history.”

It is a history complicated by the humiliation and family disintegration suffered by those who choose to migrate to the United States, he said in Spanish.

Young Hispanic Catholics have one of the best chances to build the United States and the church because they are open to new ways of doing things, to new cultures and to dialogue, he said.

They “have a unique capacity to make new relationships,” he said, challenging his listeners to begin by forging relationships with new Hispanic immigrants.

The Hispanic immigrant arriving

today needs a partner who will walk with him on the journey of his new life, the cardinal said.

“Love them with the love of God. Look at them with the eyes of God the Father, the one who respects life. Accompany them with humility, putting yourself at the service of others,” he said.

“What I liked the most is to see so many young people respond to the challenge (and) to see their many talents, and their willingness to go on this mission,” said Paola Sebastian, a parishioner at St. Joseph Church in Asheboro.

“What impacted me the most was the trust and responsibility that Cardinal Rodriguez placed in us, and seeing all those needs, which can be addressed if we trust in God,” said Guillermo Razo of Lexington.

The new disciples

San Antonio Archbishop Jose H. Gomez, in a June 8 talk, said that Hispanic youths must become “a new generation of disciples.”

“We realize that many young people are losing faith. ... We must be apostles to the people around us,” the archbishop said.

“God loves us, and he has asked us to proclaim his Gospel. And I think we can,” said Sebastian.

Archbishop Gomez described the contentious national debate over immigration as a “complicated issue” but one that calls Hispanics to be leaders who raise their voices for justice.

Auxiliary Bishop Jaime Soto of Orange, Calif., told the youths that they have important roles to play in the increasingly multicultural U.S. church.

Hispanics’ culture and ethnic makeup “should make us better appreciate the possibility to live in communion” and to help shape “the new mix cultures and people” in the United States, he said.

“At the same time, we must recognize that there are certain barriers and walls that we have raised against other members of the church,” Bishop Soto said.

“Even many of our Catholic brothers and sisters often forget the need to welcome the stranger. We have to remind them that we are all children of God. We need to fight for laws that respect the dignity of human beings,” Bishop Soto said.

Contributing to this story were Staff Writer Karen A. Evans and Jodi Magallanes of Catholic News Service.

LOOKING FOR SOME GREAT SUMMER READING?

FIND IT HERE!

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri
10:00am-4:00 pm

Tuesday
10:00am-6:00 pm

Saturday
10:00am-1:00 pm

We have books for all ages, religious and inspirational artwork, statues, rosaries, jewelry, medals, crosses, crucifixes, prayer and greeting cards, music, audio books on CD's, DVD's, sacramental and general gift items and so much more!

Bring this ad and receive a free gift when you purchase \$20 or more in our store!

Limited time offer while supplies last



The Catholic Shoppe
AT BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

Located in St. Leo's Hall • 704.461.5100 • CatholicShoppe@bac.edu
Shop securely online at BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu



St. Thomas Aquinas Academy
Asheville, North Carolina
www.stthomasaquinasacademy.org

(828) 687-7714

Accepting applications for ninth, tenth and eleventh grades.

Member, National Association of Private, Catholic and Independent Schools
St. Thomas Aquinas Academy is a private school, independent of the Charlotte Diocesan school system.



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Judy Ross of St. Mary Church in Sylva washes her hands during the Mass's penitential rite as Gloria Schweizer, campus minister at Western Carolina University, holds the towel during the "Caring for God's Creation" program June 17.

Program explores 'Caring for God's Creation'

CARING, from page 1

earth," speaker Freeman Owle said. "What kind of dominion have we taken: mountain tops sliding away, trees dying."

Owle, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and elder in residence at WCU, told Cherokee legends to show how "balance is very important to the Cherokee."

One legend related how the animals captured fire: Some of the larger animals tried to get fire from the other side of the world. They failed.

But the tiny water spider made a clay pot, put it on her back, swam to the fire and gathered the coals into the pot, which she carried to the animals.

This story shows how "we keep the balance," Owle said. "Not only the big people in the village can do things, little people can too."

Humans have lost balance by not properly caring for God's creation, he said.

In the early days, when everything was unspoiled, he said, "Cherokee would

go into the river each morning, splash water over themselves, and pray, 'Father who art in heaven, grant us peace and take away anything that keeps me from being closer to you.'

"Can you imagine wading into the Tuckasegee River when it was clean, making that prayer and coming out at the start of your day?" Owle asked.

For the Cherokee, a terrible unbalance happened when thousands of them were forced to walk the Trail of Tears from places like North Carolina and Georgia to Oklahoma. More than 4,000 died on the trek.

"They say 15,000 people walked the Trail of Tears," Owle said, "but I maintain there were 15,001 because they took their Bibles. Jesus was with them. They knew the balance would be achieved again."

It's important to take time to achieve balance, to "slow down" and "see the gifts God has given us: nature's beauty, children, grandchildren."

"Go to Brevard or Highlands," Owle added. "Go down to the waterfalls, take off your shoes. If you're worried about what other people will think, push it

away. You're not too old to have some childlikeness.

"Sit quietly, 15 minutes, think about the water, think about God. You will have rested," he said.

Caring for God's creation also involves caring for those who have been displaced because of war and economic conditions.

Speaker Eduardo Bernal, Hispanic ministry coordinator for the Smoky Mountain Vicariate, spoke about trying to escape El Salvador's civil war to join his mother and sister in the United States.

He tried twice to emigrate in 1989. The first time, he was arrested and held for three days with 70 other men in one room with no bathroom, then deported.

He tried again and nearly drowned swimming the Rio Grande. He spent a month in jail with 800 other men. This time, because of the civil war in El Salvador, he wasn't deported, but made it to Flushing, N.Y., where he was reunited with his mother, whom he hadn't seen in seven years.

Bernal is now working to become a U.S. citizen, but the process is difficult.

"To get a visa to come from El Salvador, you have to have half a million dollars in the bank and own your own business," he said. "So they make sure nobody comes here except for tourism."

Bernal minced no words about caring for Hispanic immigrants, most of whom are Catholics.

"We are a Christian community, a Catholic community; jails are not the answer," he said. "We, as Catholics, should be the first advocates. When we come here, the first thing we do is look for a church to thank God we made it."

Bernal said people should welcome the newcomers, regardless of whether or not they speak English.

"If you have neighbors, try to meet them. Bake some cookies and go to meet them," he said.

Language isn't a barrier for Patricia Paton, a parishioner at Immaculate Conception Church in Hendersonville, and Judy Ross of St. Mary Church in Sylva.

Paton, who speaks little Spanish, often

attends Immaculate Conception Church's weekly Spanish-language Mass. She said that Franciscan Father John Salvas, parochial vicar at the church, tells her it's a "wonderful witness."

"They have so enriched my life," said Ross of the Cuban children to whom she taught music for years without ever learning more than a few basic Spanish words.

"We have much more in common with others than differences. If we recognize that, it's easier to approach people," said speaker Terri Jarina, program director for parish social ministry for Catholic Social Service's Office of Justice and Peace in the Diocese of Charlotte.

The office, along with a grant from the Diocesan Foundation, helped co-sponsor the program. Jarina's presentation was on Catholic social teaching.

"We are one human family, whether we live here in Cullowhee or in Charlotte or somewhere else," said Jarina.

Four principles of Catholic social teaching are: life and dignity of the human person; call to family and community; human rights and responsibilities; and dignity of work and the rights of workers.

Jarina chose to focus on the other three: options for the poor; solidarity; and caring for God's creation.

"We have really become a society of 'now'; (indiscriminately) using resources — if it doesn't work, toss it; not taking the time to recycle," she said.

Temperance is needed: prudence, justice, avoiding excessive use of resources.

"In a consumerism society, it's about having things," Jarina said. "That disparity is something we have to constantly address. Your choices in the store have an effect on many, many people and will affect us for many years to come."

And, she said, "Caring for the poor and exploited must be our goal. Can we love the Creator without celebrating and caring for the creation?"

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail jnell@dnet.net.

Mark your calendar now for the
Second
Diocese of Charlotte
Eucharistic Congress —
Charlotte Convention Center

OCTOBER 6 & 7

Visit the Web site
www.GoEucharist.com
often for the latest updated
information about programs and
speakers, as well as opportunities
to volunteer.



Diocese of Charlotte
EUCARISTIC CONGRESS
2006

ONLY 3 SEATS LEFT! CALL TODAY!

WALK WHERE JESUS WALKED ON A
DIOCESAN-SPONSORED PILGRIMAGE TO

THE HOLY LAND

September 5-14

with Fr. James Hawker, Diocesan Vicar
of Education and Pastor, St. Luke Church



Deepen your understanding of our Catholic faith and watch the pages of the Bible come alive as you experience daily Mass at many of the historical sites of our faith.

Highlights include:

- Tiberias, Mt. Carmel, Sea of Galilee area
- Mt. Tabor, Cana, Nazareth — Jesus' boyhood area
- Capernaum, Mount of Beatitudes, River Jordan
- Jerusalem area: Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Via Dolorosa, Lord's Tomb at Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Mount Zion, Upper Room, Dormition Abbey, Wailing Wall
- Dead Sea (excavations and scrolls), Masada, Holocaust memorial
- Bethlehem's historic sites — PLUS much more!

* Price: \$2,599 from Charlotte includes airfare, most meals, first class hotels and all tours. Airport taxes, fees, tips and insurance are extra.

Call Cindi Feerick at 704/370-3332 for a brochure with complete details or Pentecost Tours 800/713-9800 for registration.

ADVERTISEMENT

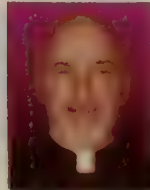


YOU'RE INVITED TO ATTEND EWTN'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY FAMILY CELEBRATION

THE GRAND FINALE • BIRMINGHAM JEFFERSON CIVIC CENTER
BIRMINGHAM, AL • AUGUST 12 & 13, 2006



Fr. Andrew Apostoli



Fr. John Corapi



Dr. Scott Hahn

EWTN announces the grand finale of our Silver Jubilee in Birmingham, Alabama. Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate with Mother Angelica and the EWTN Family. The event will feature talks by Fr. Andrew Apostoli, Fr. John Corapi, Dr. Scott Hahn and Bob and Penny Lord.

It's a weekend you will never forget, and best of all it's FREE. Make plans now to attend the EWTN Family Celebration in Birmingham, Alabama, August 12th and 13th at the Birmingham Jefferson Civic Center.

The event is FREE! No tickets required!

Check EWTN's website at www.ewtn25.com for more details or call 1-877-398-6725 Monday-Friday from 10:00AM-6:30PM. (ET)

SATURDAY'S HIGHLIGHTS • AUGUST 12, 2006

- 9:30am Address by Fr. Andrew Apostoli, CFR Host of the EWTN series, *The Word was Made Flesh*
- 11:00am Mass with the Franciscan Missionaries of the Eternal Word
- 2:00pm Address by Bob and Penny Lord, Hosts of the EWTN series *Super Saints*
- 3:30pm Address by Dr. Scott Hahn, Host of the EWTN series *The Lamb's Supper*
- 5:30pm 25th Anniversary Live Show with special guest Mother Angelica and EWTN Hosts

SUNDAY'S HIGHLIGHTS • AUGUST 13, 2006

- 9:15am Address by Fr. John Corapi, SOLT, Host of the EWTN series *The Catechism of the Catholic Church*
- 11:00am Solemn Mass of Thanksgiving



Mark your calendar and plan to attend!

Indonesian Catholics help tsunami victims

SEA, from page 1

Father Andreas Sudarman, pastor of Sacred Heart Church, said his assistant pastor and four laypeople would travel to the mission area to assess the needs of the victims and open an aid center to distribute goods such as medicine, food and blankets that parishioners in Tasikmalaya have contributed.

"Meanwhile, we are collecting other things from this parish as well as from Bandung Diocese and Jakarta Archdiocese to be sent together with a bigger team after the first team reports its observations," Father Sudarman added.

The Indonesian bishops' crisis center also was sending aid.

A magnitude-7.7 earthquake triggered a tsunami on the southern coast of Java Island July 17, killing at least 550 people, displacing 54,000 and leaving hundreds missing, the Indonesian Health Ministry said July 18.

In Pangandaran, about 165 miles southwest of Jakarta, the tsunami damaged about 500 hotels, restaurants and houses, including Sea Star Home, owned by the Oblates of Mary Immaculate.

"The waves did not kill any Catholics there, but they caused a woman working at Sea Star Home to fracture a leg, and two of her children were also injured," Father Sudarman told UCA News.

Vera Venny Soemarwi, secretary of the bishops' crisis center, told UCA News June 18 that the center's coordinator, Jesuit Father Ignatius Ismartono, traveled to the affected areas just after the quake and tsunami hit.

"Besides visiting the location, he will open a communication network and ask Bandung and Purwokerto dioceses for permission to open aid stations," Soemarwi said.

She added that her center had prepared funds to buy blankets, food, medicine and other items to be distributed.

A day after the tsunami, many refugees in Pangandaran Village Hall still had nothing to eat, she said.

Ambrossius Darso, a 55-year-old parishioner of the church in Kroya, reported that four families took refuge in his house.

"When I was cultivating my field, one kilometer (.62 miles) from the coast," he said, "I saw the water higher than the dome of the mosque. It came after me, and I had to run as fast as I could to reach my house, two kilometers from the coast."

Sister Adriana Tentrem Sujatmi, a Precious Blood of Christ nun, told UCA News that many people of Karangmangu village were still panic-stricken and were staying at her convent in Kroya.

"Just after the quake and tsunami, I allowed about 30 people to stay in our parish kindergarten and we distributed mats, drinks and instant noodles to them," the nun said.



CNS PHOTO BY DADANG TRI, REUTERS

Children stand in the ruins of a house destroyed when a tsunami hit in Pangandaran, Indonesia. The tsunami was triggered by a strong undersea earthquake off the coast of Java Island July 17. The surge killed at least 550 people and displaced thousands from their homes.

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



INTRODUCING...

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES WEST -

St. Barnabas in Arden -

open after all Masses of 2nd and 4th weekends each month

Visit our others satellite stores, too:

St. Charles Borromeo in Morganton

St. Gabriel in Charlotte

St. Therese in Mooreville

Come in and check out our GREAT SUMMER READING selections!!

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

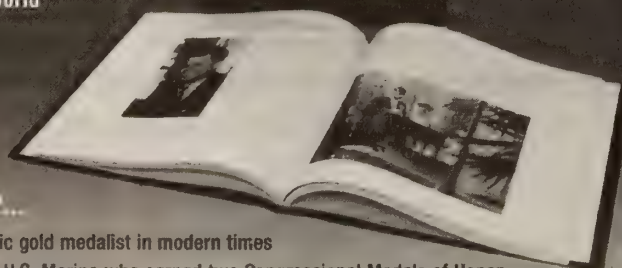
An inspirational book for every Catholic household...

BY THEIR WORKS

PROFILES OF MEN OF FAITH WHO MADE A DIFFERENCE

By New York Times best selling author Stephen Singular with an introduction by Carl A. Anderson

Featuring profiles of Knights of Columbus whose faith in action changed their world



Read about...

- The first Olympic gold medalist in modern times
- The 125-pound U.S. Marine who earned two Congressional Medals of Honor
- The man of "charity and tolerance" whose son would become President
- The man who adopted 26 children and who was foster father to 50 more
- The Special Olympics Athlete who became an ambassador for the games

Other Knights profiled include: Joyce Kilmer, Vince Lombardi, Babe Ruth, John F. Kennedy, Sargent Shriver and Ray Flynn

Available now in popular bookstores
and from online booksellers

Published by Collins (142 pp, hardcover), ISBN-10:0-06-116145-4, \$39.95

Live Your Faith

Be affirmed in your present ministry.
Upgrade your certification as a catechist and religion teacher. Fulfill the prerequisite for the Permanent Diaconate.
Grow in your faith.

If you have these desires, the Diocesan Office of Lay Ministry offers a two-year program designed to help you understand more fully your baptismal call to minister to your family, to others in the Church, and to those in your daily life.

LAY MINISTRY
TRAINING PROGRAM

For more information call

Frank Villaronga,
704-370-3274 or E-mail
favillaronga@charlottediocese.org

IN THE NEWS

Church leaders pray for peace in Mideast

MIDEAST, from page 1

Ecumenical Institute for Theological Studies in Jerusalem, said he did not know why the radical Shiite militia Hezbollah kidnapped two Israeli soldiers and was firing rockets on Israel, but he said the force of Israel's retaliation was "not appropriate."

"I think Israel has to react. They can't tolerate the taking of soldiers, the Katyushas," said Father McGarry, referring to the rockets Hezbollah has been firing into Israel.

"They have to do something in response, but killing civilians is not appropriate," he said.

Lebanese officials said the number of civilian deaths had passed 200 by early July 18, while Israeli officials reported 12 civilian deaths since the cross-border attacks began July 12.

Vacationing in the Alps July 16, Pope Benedict XVI spoke of his "serious concern" for the escalating violence and said that "neither terrorist acts nor reprisals can be justified, especially when there are tragic consequences for the civilian population."

The United States considers Hezbollah, backed by Syria and Iran, a terrorist organization. However, the Lebanese government regards Hezbollah as a legitimate resistance movement fighting Israeli occupation of Lebanese territories.

Israel withdrew from South Lebanon in May 2000, but it did not relinquish the disputed "Shebaa Farms" border area, where the borders of Israel, Lebanon and Syria converge, so Hezbollah kept up the resistance.

In Beirut, Lebanon, July 14, the

Middle East Council of Churches urged regional powers to pressure all sides to stop the violence and start dialogue.

The council "raises high its voice, calling on the international community, especially on the (U.N.) Security Council and international powers, for an immediate intervention to cease fire," it said in a statement.

Lebanese Cardinal Nasrallah P. Sfeir, patriarch of the Maronite Catholic Church, was visiting the United States as the attacks began.

Speaking July 16 at a Mass at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Lebanon in Brooklyn, N.Y., he said, "We (Lebanese) have had enough. We need the help and support of all our friends in the world, especially the United States. We are determined to work together through dialogue for peace and justice in the region."

On July 18 he was scheduled to meet with Vice President Dick Cheney and U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice at the White House to discuss the situation in Lebanon.

Fleeing the bombs

Israel blockaded Lebanese ports, repeatedly bombed the Beirut airport and hit cities it considered Hezbollah strongholds. It also bombed major roads and bridges.

At a church rectory in Sidon, Lebanon, a man who asked not to be identified said all Catholic churches were opening their doors to people who needed refuge, but that church officials did not know how long they could hold out.

Rosie Akl, an American married to a Lebanese, e-mailed from Lebanon to let her American family and friends know that her family members were safe but the situation was "extremely serious and critical."

She spoke of long lines for food and



CNS PHOTO BY RONEN ZVULUN, REUTERS

Israeli soldiers pray July 17 near a mobile artillery unit firing into southern Lebanon from its position near the town of Kiryat Shmona, Israel.

groceries and said the Lebanese were moving en masse from the south and from parts of Beirut up into the mountains to seek some semblance of safety.

"The Lebanese have nowhere to go," she wrote. "Soon there will be no fuel. The damage to the roads will prevent food supplies being delivered."

"The Lebanese army is a joke and everyone knows it," she said. "After the (1989) Taif accord," which ended Lebanon's civil war, "they were not allowed to rearm. They have no warplanes."

"The Israelis have the latest F-16s. They have nuclear warheads. They have military satellite capabilities. Lebanon has nothing. What does the Lebanese army have? A few U.S.-built helicopters from the Vietnam era," she said.

Confusion and carnage

Hezbollah sent rockets into Israel, particularly targeting the port city of Haifa July 16 and 17. The attacks sent residents of northern Israel streaming along roads heading south.

On July 17, Hezbollah rockets also hit areas around Nazareth.

Eisam Abu Nasser, a Catholic lawyer from Nazareth, said residents had their eyes glued to the TV and ears glued to the radio.

"There is war and destruction everywhere, and there are innocent civilians (on both sides). The religion and nationality of the person isn't important. We worry about humans," he said.

The Melkite Catholic village of Mi'ilya in Upper Galilee was under a state of emergency. Regional council head Fathi Assaf said the village shelters were ready in case they were needed, and people were told to stay in their homes.

In Washington, Bishop William S. Skylstad of Spokane, Wash., president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, wrote Latin-rite Patriarch Michel Sabbah of Jerusalem to express concern about escalating Holy Land violence.

"The cycle of violence must be broken in order to open up the path to justice and peace in the Holy Land," Bishop Skylstad said.

Contributing to this story were Cindy Wooden at the Vatican and Doreen Abi Raad in New Jersey.

Providing help. Creating hope. Changing lives.

Catholic Social Services — The Diocese of Charlotte

Executive Director: Elizabeth Thurbee (704) 370-3227

Associate Director: Gerard Carter (704) 370-3250

Refugee Office: Cira Ponce (704) 370-6930

Family Life: Gerard Carter (704) 370-3228

Justice and Peace: Joe Purello (704) 370-3225

OEO/CSS Murphy Satellite Office (828) 835-3535

Charlotte Region: 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203

Area Director: Geri King (704) 370-6155

Western Region: 50 Orange Street, Asheville, NC 28801

Area Director: Debra Braese (828) 255-0146

Piedmont-Triad: 621 W. Second St., Winston-Salem, NC 27108

Area Director: Gerard Carter (Interim) (336) 727-0705

Greensboro Satellite Office (336) 274-5577

Latino Family Center (336) 884-5858



For information on specific programs, please call your local office.

1123 South Church Street, Charlotte NC 28203

www.cssnc.org



The Catholic Conference Center
www.catholicconference.org

1551 Trinity Lane, Hickory, NC 28602
(828) 327-7441 or Toll-free (888) 536-7441
info@catholicconference.org

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Documentary on St. Francis Xavier has New York premiere

Filmmakers' 'labor of love' finally complete

BY JULIE BOURBON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — St. Francis Xavier never made it to mainland China. But then again, neither did the two Jesuits who recently finished a film about him.

St. Francis Xavier considered himself a failure for not reaching China. The missionary, who preached in several places in Asia, died on an island off the coast of China before he could fulfill his desire to preach there, too.

The filmmakers, Jeff Johnson and Jeremy Zipple, traveled from Europe to India to Macau on a whirlwind labor of love to complete the film for the 2006 jubilee year of the Society of Jesus.

The Jesuits declared the year to remember three of the order's original members.

Jubilee celebrations mark the 450th anniversary of the death of St. Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Jesuits, and the 500th anniversary of the births of two of his closest companions, St. Francis Xavier and Blessed Peter Faber.

The documentary, "Xavier," premiered this spring at Jesuit-run Fordham University in New York with more than 300 people in attendance.

"His letters provided the best information on Asia since Marco Polo," said Johnson, who wrote the script. "There's something about him that lends itself to an exciting film."

Johnson and co-creator Zipple are regents of the Jesuits' New Orleans province. Regency is a stage in the formation process to become a Jesuit priest.

The two said they never even considered St. Ignatius or Blessed Peter Faber as possible subjects; they knew they had their man all along and followed his footsteps, from the place of his birth almost to the place of his death.

"While there is some good historical scholarship on Xavier, there are not a lot of background stories," said Johnson, an amateur historian who teaches English at Jesuit High School in Tampa, Fla.

"We're trying to tell them," he said.

The film is not intended just for a Jesuit audience, although a DVD of the film will be distributed to each Jesuit high school, college and university before the fall semester begins.

Johnson hopes that PBS or cable's History Channel would be interested in picking the film up for distribution, allowing a wider audience to come to know the peripatetic saint.

Placing St. Francis Xavier in historical context required much research, interviewing and travel. The crew followed an intense shooting schedule that was condensed into about

five weeks of rigorous travel, "which was insane," said Zipple, laughing at the memory.

"I don't recommend it," he said.

The production entailed moving enormous amounts of equipment literally around the world. It was their cameras that kept them out of China.

Once authorities realized how much equipment they were bringing with them, they were prohibited from entering the mainland as well as the island of Sancian, where St. Francis Xavier died in 1552. The island is now a large naval base.

Instead, they shot in and around the Macau region, where St. Francis Xavier landed.

"In a way it was a pilgrimage, too," Zipple said.

That pilgrimage brought them full circle, from Navarre, Spain, the saint's birthplace, to the Far East.

Although they shared St. Francis Xavier's disappointment at not getting into China, it turned out to be a blessing for these Jesuits, in part because it brought them into contact with so many members of the worldwide Society of Jesus.

It was "a grace-filled part of the experience," said Zipple, to hear their subject's story from Jesuits around the world.

For him, it all added up to a deeper knowledge of and love for St. Francis Xavier.

"I came to understand him in a personal, intimate way. I really felt his presence in a profound way. It really changed our experience of the film," he said.

NEW COVENANT BOOKSTORE

- Books
- Cards
- Videos
- Jewelry
-and more!

336-760-1673

304 Upton St.,
Winston-Salem, NC
www.newcovenantbookstore.com

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: JULY 30, 2006

July 30, Seventeenth

Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) 2 Kings 4:42-44
Psalms 145:10-11, 15-16, 17-18
- 2) Ephesians 4:1-6
- 3) Gospel: John 6:1-15

God supplies all that we need

BY SHARON K. PERKINS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

For the past five years, my extended family — consisting of my parents, four adult siblings, spouses and eight grandchildren ranging from 12 to 22 — have rented a house and gathered for several days in early July to enjoy water, sun and each other's relaxed company.

Of course, part of the fun is preparing and eating our favorite foods in massive quantities.

This obviously implies grocery shopping on a large scale, so each year during our preliminary stocking up on brisket, vegetables, staples and beverages of various kinds, the question arises, "Have we bought enough food?"

(With five teenage boys thrown into the mix, it's a legitimate question!)

Yet, despite the angst over sufficient quantity, we always wind up carting home leftovers.

You would think we would have learned by now that there is always enough for everyone and that we're never far from a store if we do run out of something important. Nevertheless, there is something about human nature that fears lack and expends a considerable amount of energy ensuring that it doesn't happen.

Perhaps it takes the form of acquiring more than is really needed or selfishly protecting one's possessions against the possibility of someone else depleting or damaging them.

Sometimes it's simply the fear that "there won't be enough left over for me if I share what I have."

Any way you look at it, these grasping and egocentric attitudes reveal a lack of trust in God's ability to provide all that we truly need.

Both the first reading and the Gospel teach the opposite: that fear of lack is always rooted in self-centeredness, that God is generous in ways we can't imagine and that God wants to lead us to that same generosity of spirit.

This is the sort of attitude that St. Paul speaks of as "preserving the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace." When one recognizes that God, with hands wide open, is the source of all that we need, we need not fear lack. There's always more than enough.

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 23-29

Sunday (Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Jeremiah 23:1-6, Ephesians 2:13-18, Mark 6:30-34; Monday (St. Sharbel Makhluf), Micah 6:1-4, 6-8, Matthew 12:38-42; Tuesday (St. James), 2 Corinthians 4:7-15, Matthew 20:20-28; Wednesday (Sts. Joachim and Anne), Jeremiah 1:1, 4-10, Matthew 13:1-9; Thursday, Jeremiah 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13, Matthew 13:10-17; Friday, Jeremiah 3:14-17, Jeremiah 31:10-13, Matthew 13:18-23; Saturday (St. Martha), Jeremiah 7:1-11, John 11:19-27.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 30-AUG. 5

Sunday (Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time), 2 Kings 4:42-44, Ephesians 4:1-6, John 6:1-15; Monday (St. Ignatius Loyola), Jeremiah 13:1-11, Deuteronomy 32:18-21, Matthew 13:31-35; Tuesday (St. Alphonsus Liguori), Jeremiah 14:17-22, Matthew 13:36-43; Wednesday (St. Eusebius, St. Peter Julian Eymard), Jeremiah 15:10, 16-21, Matthew 13:44-46; Thursday, Jeremiah 18:1-6, Matthew 13:47-53; Friday (St. John Mary Vianney), Jeremiah 26:1-9, Matthew 13:54-58; Saturday (Dedication of St. Mary Major), Jeremiah 26:11-16, 24, Matthew 14:1-12.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF AUG. 6-12

Sunday (Transfiguration of the Lord), Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14, 2 Peter 1:16-19, Mark 9:2-10; Monday (St. Cajetan, St. Sixtus II and Companions), Jeremiah 28:1-17, Matthew 14:13-21; Tuesday (St. Dominic), Jeremiah 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22, Matthew 14:22-36; Wednesday (St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross), Jeremiah 31:1-7, Jeremiah 31:10-13, Matthew 15:21-28; Thursday (St. Lawrence), 2 Corinthians 9:6-10, John 12:24-26; Friday (St. Clare), Nahum 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7, Deuteronomy 32:35-36, 39, 41, Matthew 16:24-28; Saturday, Habakkuk 1:12-2:4, Matthew 17:14-20.

Groce
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

Asheville & Arden
The Catholic Funeral Directors
828-252-3151

The Groces join
in welcoming
Fr. Dean Cesa
as Pastor of



St. Barnabas in Arden.



Active, fun, and inspiring:

The perfect retirement picture!

NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN HIGH POINT: A New Beginning For You! Pennybyrn at Maryfield will offer a carefree lifestyle filled with energy and excitement. No more yard work or chores... just good friends, a perfect location, and every convenience you can imagine, including on-site short or long-term care.

Soon, this extraordinary lifestyle will be a reality—A New Beginning for you—so act now. Picture yourself at Pennybyrn at Maryfield!

Call (336) 886-4103 or toll-free (866) 627-9343.



PENNYBYRN
at MARYFIELD
A Continuing Care Retirement Community

1315 Greensboro Road, High Point, NC 27260

www.pennybyrnatmaryfield.com

Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor Servants
of the Mother of God



NPCNHConst1

'Monster House' worth a visit



CNS PHOTO BY COLUMBIA

Animated characters Chowder (left) and DJ are pictured in "Monster House," a macabre computer-animated fairy tale about a trio of suburban kids who set out to investigate the haunted happenings of an eerie old house that comes to life to terrorize their neighborhood. The film, which is full of wildly imaginative visuals, is a smart and scary thrill ride that, though darker in tone than most children's fare and therefore inappropriate for very young tykes, is more fun than fright.

Some frightening images and sequences, minor crude and suggestive humor and innuendo, theft, and mildly crude language. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

EWTN anniversary celebration in Philadelphia draws 4,000

PHILADELPHIA (CNS) — Father Richard John Neuhaus, a speaker at a Philadelphia celebration for the 25th anniversary of the Eternal Word Television Network, called the event a "remarkable occasion" marking a milestone for "a most improbable adventure."

The priest, who is editor of the monthly magazine *First Things*, called the founding of EWTN by Mother Angelica "a high adventure," and said the nun made herself "a vessel of what God can do beyond our imagination."

The June 24-25 celebration drew more than 4,000 people from the Philadelphia region and from around the

country to the Liacouras Center at Temple University.

EWTN was started in the garage of a Birmingham, Ala., monastery 25 years ago by Mother Angelica, a Poor Clare of Perpetual Adoration. It is now seen in 125 million homes and 144 countries, and its radio and Internet service reaches at least 200 million more.

The network, which was built solely from donations, carries programming 24 hours a day and has extensive live coverage of Catholic events worldwide.

EWTN has held anniversary events in five cities over the past year to mark its silver anniversary. One final celebration is planned in Birmingham.

In his address Father Neuhaus talked about what it means to be a Catholic in a world full of scandals, dissension and leadership problems.

In the face of all that, he held out to the crowd the invitation of Pope John Paul II: "Settle for nothing less than moral and spiritual greatness."

"EWTN bespeaks the joy of the high adventure of being fully Catholic — not of being a 'good enough' Catholic, but rather understanding that what it really means to be Catholic is an audacious invitation to adventure," he said.

Mother Angelica, who "personifies what Father Neuhaus called "the holiness of feistiness," was not at the celebration, but she continues to do well, living a life of quiet contemplation in the cloister.

In September 2001, Mother Angelica, now 83, suffered a stroke and in December of that year suffered a second stroke, which partially paralyzed the right side of her body.

Now she spends most of her time praying and resting quietly in her room.



**Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center**

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212

704-568-0023

www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma

Owner/Director

Privately, Locally Owned

Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

Senate passage of embryonic stem-cell expansion called 'a disservice'

BY NANCY FRAZIER O'BRIEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — The Senate's July 18 vote to expand federal funding of embryonic stem-cell research does "a disservice to human life and to the cause of medical progress," said the head of the U.S. bishops' pro-life office.

"No technical achievement is 'progress' if it takes us backward in respect for human life," said Gail Quinn of the Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, following the 63-37 vote on the Stem-Cell Research Enhancement Act.

Quinn expressed confidence, however, that President George W. Bush would follow through with a promise to veto the legislation, approved last year by the House of Representatives, and that he would sign two other bills on stem-cell research "that respect the claims of both science and ethics."

The two bills — the Fetus Farming Prohibition Act of 2006, prohibiting "the solicitation or acceptance of tissue gestated for research purposes," and the Alternative Pluripotent Stem-Cell Therapies Enhancement Act, which would increase federal funding of research into ways to derive pluripotent stem cells without destroying embryos — each passed unanimously in the Senate July 18.

The Stem-Cell Research Enhancement Act, which would permit federally funded embryonic stem-cell research using embryos discarded after in vitro fertilization attempts, takes the focus away from "effective and morally acceptable treatments using adult and umbilical-cord stem cells, which have already begun to treat patients with dozens of illnesses," she said.

"Because it takes resources away

from these effective avenues, the drive for embryonic stem-cell research actually threatens to harm patients themselves," Quinn added.

Before the votes, Cardinal William H. Keeler of Baltimore had called on the Senate to reject expanded funding of embryonic stem-cell research and approve the two other bills.

The cardinal, who chairs the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities, said the expansion of federal funding for embryonic stem-cell research "violates a decades-long policy against forcing taxpayers to support the destruction of early human life."

He also criticized the argument that embryos would be discarded by clinics anyway as "morally deficient."

"The fact that others may do harm to these nascent lives gives Congress no right to join in the killing, much less to make everyone else complicit in it through their tax dollars," he wrote.

But when morally acceptable alternatives might be available, "Congress has a responsibility to explore how such research may be advanced," the cardinal said.

White House spokesman Tony Snow said at a July 18 press briefing before the votes that Bush feels "honor-bound to veto" the Stem-Cell Research Enhancement Act, as he has long promised to do.

"The president is not opposed to stem-cell research; he's all for it," the spokesman said. "But there is one kind of research, and that is that which involves the destruction of human life, that he does not think is appropriate for the federal government to finance."

"He's been absolutely clear about that; there is no shading in it," said Snow.

Congress was not expected to be able to muster enough votes to override a Bush veto on stem cells.

'Tomb of martyrs'

Former abortion clinic becomes a Catholic chapel

BUFFALO, N.Y. (CNS) — The site of a former abortion clinic in Williamsville, a Buffalo suburb, has been turned into the chapel of a Catholic radio station, according to a report in the July edition of Western New York Catholic, the Buffalo diocesan monthly newspaper.

The paper said Bishop Edward U. Kmiec of Buffalo blessed and dedicated the Chapel of the Holy Innocents June 1 at the Station of the Cross, a four-station Catholic radio network based in Williamsville.

Jim Wright, co-founder of Holy Family Communications, which owns the network, said he only recently learned from the previous owner of the building that the 330 square-foot chapel was being constructed in the space

where abortions were once performed.

"In the tradition of the early church, pagan temples were turned into holy spaces," Bishop Kmiec said. "We have done the same thing here today."

Joanne Wright, another co-founder of Holy Family Communications, called the new chapel "the tomb of martyrs."

For that reason, the chapel was dedicated in memory of all babies who have been aborted.

The chapel is used for private reflection by radio station employees. It is also wired to allow for live broadcasts of the Mass on radio.

The Station of the Cross network includes WLOF-FM radio in Buffalo, WHIC-AM in Rochester, and WQOR-AM and WITK-AM in the Scranton-Wilkes Barre area in Pennsylvania.

DIRECTOR OF DIOCESAN HOUSING CORPORATION

The Catholic Diocese of Charlotte Housing Corporation is seeking a full-time director to provide vision and leadership to a developing housing ministry. A complete job description for this position is posted at www.cdchousingcorp.org. Position includes competitive salary and an extensive benefits package. EOE.

To be considered for this position, submit a resume and salary history postmarked by August 25, 2006 to:

Gerard A. Carter, CDCHC
1123 South Church Street
Charlotte, NC 28203-4003

or email gacarter@charlottediocese.org.



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER

Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic School has an opening for a full-time 5TH grade teacher for the 2006-2007 academic year. Must be North Carolina certified. Please fax or email cover letter, resume, copy of license, references and required salary range to (336)884-1849 or nachter@ihmchurch.org.

Or mail directly to:
IHM School, Attn: Principal
605 Barbee Avenue
High Point, NC 27262

Deadline is July 28th.

Classifieds

FOR RENT

LAKE LURE VACATION HOME: New! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, all amenities. 3 minutes to Rocky Broad River, Lake Lure beach; fishing, boating, hiking, swimming. Reasonable! 828-299-3714.

CONDO: Oceanfront on Pleasure Island. 2 BD/2 BA. Minutes from Wilmington. Rent by day or week. 4 BDs also available. Call 703.450.8480 or write wfkelle@aol.com for availability.

SERVICES

COUNSELING SERVICES: Individuals. Couples. Family. Lucille Moses, BSN, M.Ed. Licensed Professional Counselor. 1801 East 5th Street, 108-B, Charlotte. 704-366-6507 or 704-942-4334.

Classified ads bring results! Over 135,000 readers! Over 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

Join us for a pilgrimage to Guadalupe

with Fr. Fidel Melo, Pastor, Our Lady of Grace
October 24-29, 2006



Price (double occupancy) \$1575 Includes:
Roundtrip airfare from Greensboro
3 nights in Mexico City
2 nights in Puebla
5 lunches and 3 dinners
Sightseeing in air-conditioned coach
English-speaking guide
Mass daily

For information: New Covenant Pilgrimages
Patti Dameron (336) 413-8127

DIOCESAN TRIBUNAL AUDITOR / ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Tribunal is hiring a full-time Auditor/Administrative Assistant — someone who is self-directed, with a good command of English and writing skills, and proficiency in Word. Work-study of Church marriage Tribunal auditing procedures will be required. A paralegal certificate from a teaching institute, and Spanish-speaking is a plus. Please send resume to smrichardson@charlottediocese.org by July 31, 2006.



Student 'walks the talk' against abortion

BY KATHRYNNE SKONICKI
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ROMEDEVILLE, Ill. — Jamie Racki, a junior at Benedictine University in Lisle, celebrated her 21st birthday July 5.

Instead of celebrating, she continued her 11-week journey of professing her pro-life beliefs by walking across the country.

"I couldn't think of a reason good enough not to do it," she said about participating in the 2006 northern walk of Crossroads, a pro-life initiative started in 1994 by Steve Sanborn, then a student at Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio.

On May 20, Racki started the walk in Seattle. During her July 15 interview, she was in Illinois, traveling along U.S. Route 14 from Mount Prospect to Des Plaines.

She planned to continue her trek through Aug. 11.

Each summer, college-age walkers spread the pro-life message as they pray at abortion clinics in cities and towns along their route, attend daily Mass, recite the rosary and pray for a change in culture to bring an end to abortion.

Martha Nolan, national director of Crossroads, said the "physically and spiritually challenging" endeavor is attractive to young adults.

Originally there was one walk with about a dozen participants but interest grew so much that a few years ago organizers decided to put together

three walks.

This year a total of 36 young people are participating.

The northern walk starts in Seattle and goes through Billings, Mont., Minneapolis and Cleveland among other places. The central walk begins in San Francisco and some of the cities on the route are Salt Lake City, Kansas City, Kan., and Indianapolis.

The southern walk skirts the bottom of the country, originating in Los Angeles, and stops include Phoenix, Dallas and Atlanta.

All three walks were scheduled to merge Aug. 12 in Washington for a rally outside the U.S. Capitol.

"We know our prayers and sacrifices in blisters and aches from walking make a difference in our culture. ... We might not get national media exposure, but we've seen thousands of people face to face," Nolan said.

In addition to rallying thousands of people to get behind the pro-life cause, the walkers say they have also inspired women to change their minds about undergoing an abortion.

Racki, who has participated in national events such as the March for Life and local life chains, said, "I always wanted to do something big, and I didn't think what I was doing was enough."

Parishioners of Our Lady of Peace and Notre Dame churches in Clarendon Hills, as well as a handful of students and faculty at Benedictine University,



CNS PHOTO BY MICHAEL HOYT

College students and a priest, who spent the summer traversing the country with a pro-life message, pray for an end to abortion at the Supreme Court in Washington in August 2002. Each year, Crossroads walkers begin in different states and converge thousands of miles later in Washington.

eliminated Racki's only roadblock to joining Crossroads — finances.

She had planned on earning money for the next semester of college during the summer months and couldn't afford to sacrifice her potential earnings.

After she shared her ambitions with members of the two faith communities during weekend Masses, they donated close to \$6,000 to Racki to pay for airfare and supplies and to supplement her lost income.

Racki said her experience has taught her a lot about the generosity and

hospitality of Catholics, but she was also learning more about her own faith, the Bible and church teaching.

"It's a good way to spread the Gospel," she said.

Benedictine Brother Richard Poro, assistant campus minister at the Lisle university, said Racki's Crossroads participation exemplifies her determination to fight abortion.

"It certainly takes a special person to do something like that," he said, adding that he hoped her experience will encourage other students to fight for life.

Apply to the Abbey for fall 2006!

Scholarships, financial aid, and housing are still available.

It's not too late to inquire and apply online at:
BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

For more information call 1.888.222.0110 or email: admissions@bac.edu



BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

It was lost and now it's found

St. Anthony can help us discover many things

"St. Anthony, St. Anthony, turn around, something is lost and can't be found."

I remember when every Catholic old enough to lose his car keys knew this prayer by heart. These days, however, it seems most of us Catholics have forgotten about one of the greatest treasures of the Catholic faith: the communion of saints.

The saints were men and women like us who were faithful to God and received his grace to live out the Gospel in their state of life. Since we Catholics are sometimes criticized for "worshipping Mary and the saints," we have neglected our celestial friends from misunderstandings done in the name of ecumenism.

Saints are excellent ecumenical examples of how to be a Christian.

If devotion to the saints is not an integral part of your spirituality, or you just want to find meaningful lost items, consider establishing a friendship with St. Anthony of Padua as a good start. He listens.

My own friendship with St. Anthony started almost 10 years ago, when on a business trip I lost a chain that held a silver crucifix and two medals that were dear to me. A devout Catholic friend of mine and "client" of the saint told me to "pray to good old St. Anthony and he will find it for you."

At the time, I didn't know much about St. Anthony. My friend gave me the Franciscan saint's holy card with his "unfailing" prayer.

I said the prayer with deadpan enthusiasm, and put it away with no further thought.

Three weeks later, while on a business trip to the same city, I decided to stay at the same hotel and, after checking in, called housekeeping to ask about my chain. One of the housekeepers had found it hanging on the bathroom door and returned it to her supervisor.

That's the day St. Anthony became my friend.

Since then I discovered why St. Anthony has his much-publicized reputation as a lost-object finder.

He had lost a book of Psalms, his most prized and only possession. He prayed fervently to God to return his book. A disgruntled novice had left the

Guest Column

RICO DE SILVA
GUEST COLUMNIST



Franciscans a few days prior and had taken the book from St. Anthony, but was moved to return it soon after.

The saint understands grieving the loss of an object because he has been there himself. Besides lost objects, St. Anthony is the patron saint of expectant mothers, the poor and hungry, mail delivery and several other categories.

St. Anthony performed many miracles while he lived on earth. Great crowds of people were drawn to him because he was an eloquent preacher.

When he was exhumed 336 years after his death, his body had decayed, but his "holy tongue" was found incorrupt. His tongue is mounted in a reliquary at the Basilica of St. Anthony in Padua, where hundreds of people venerate it daily.

However, his reputation as a miracle worker, especially in the lost and found department, has dwindled tremendously, particularly in our country.

He was proclaimed a saint in 1232, less than a year after his death. June 13 is the feast of St. Anthony of Padua, priest and doctor of the church, one of the most famous and invoked saints in the history of Catholicism.

Somebody mentioned to me once that we don't choose our devotions to the saints, but that God appoints certain saints to intercede for us. If this is true, by the time we have a devotion to a certain saint, he or she has already been praying for us long before.

In the case of St. Anthony, or any saint for that matter, remember that God is the one who performs the miracles; saints are just the conduits. If we lose sight of that, our saintly devotions would be nothing more than superstitious idolatry.

I'm convinced that God chooses to manifest himself in our lives sometimes in small and large miracles. I believe he does this for the same reason he performed miracles in the person of Jesus Christ; to let us know that he listens and he is with us always.

Now, if I could only find my keys. "St. Anthony, St. Anthony"

Rico De Silva is a parishioner of St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte.

All God's people

Miracle of life is evident in those around us

I had five hours at my disposal in Chicago recently before boarding my plane back to Washington. I could think of no better place to do this than Millennium Park, which is bordered by Chicago's magnificent Michigan Avenue and awesome Lake Michigan.

An open bench a few feet from a young woman playing an accordion afforded me the perfect place to view Chicago's life at its best. The tune she was playing bounced with joy, like an Italian tarantella. You just wanted to dance to it!

Around me, husbands were negotiating with wives, wives with husbands, and children with parents on what to see next. At times, all seemed in harmony, and then there were moments when an all-out battle was about to happen.

As one stroller after another passed, so did infants with pacifiers in their mouths, and smiling, laughing babies, and some who had "crashed" and were wailing.

People of all sizes, shapes and ages mingled as one. Some spoke English, of course, but I heard many other languages as well.

Taxis, public buses and tourist buses added a colorful backdrop to the sea of humanity swarming around the carnival atmosphere of Millennium Park.

Added to this was some of the most artistic architecture along Michigan Avenue. I felt I was in a land of wonderment.

A well-dressed man occupied the bench next to me. As he sat and watched the hustle and bustle, he seemed lost in thought. My Italian grandfather would say he had "pensiero," meaning something heavy weighing on the mind.

Perhaps the many youthful people floating by reminded him of his youth, or perhaps they were a reminder of his

The Human Side

FATHER
EUGENE HEMRICK
CNS COLUMNIST



own family.

As I sat there enjoying the fresh breeze off Lake Michigan and feeling dazzled by the many artfully designed flower gardens, my thoughts turned to heaven. Will heaven have the peace and beauty I was drinking in?

Suddenly I remembered a passage I had read by Trappist Father Thomas Merton, the spiritual writer. He, too, found himself people-watching — in New York.

Suddenly it occurred to him that all these people were God's people. When God first thought of them in eternity, they were created. No matter their size, shape, nationality, age or appearance, they all belonged to God.

When I first read this, I didn't find it too exciting. But as I sat in Millennium Park its impact finally hit me. What a magnificent way to look at people!

When you see them as God's people, you take a second look to find what might be that something extra special that reflects God.

Perhaps it's a beautiful smile or a peaceful countenance. Perhaps it's that an infirm person is carrying his or her cross majestically. Perhaps it is that they are caring parents or grandparents.

Ralph Waldo Emerson once said that the beauty of Christ is that he saw our life as a miracle. To see in those around us as this miracle is truly a miracle — a wonder that is wonderful!

Different perspective on World Cup prayers

I need to reply to the negative feedback regarding the infant Jesus statue dressed in a Mexican national soccer team's uniform ("Mexican Catholics pray for a World Cup," June 23).

There are big World Cup fans in my family; we see the soccer games as high entertainment. For the players the game is a livelihood, and for many cultures it is an expression of nationalism and patriotism. These things are meaningful and important to them, and everything in life is a matter for prayer to, conversation with and guidance from our Lord.

While the outcome of the Cup is not significant in my daily existence, it is not necessarily offending God for someone else to consider it a matter for prayer. I think God is concerned about our hearts and what our intentions are.

God is moved by every care of his children's hearts, no matter how trivial they might be in the grand scheme of things. That is part of what makes our faith so priceless.

Letter to the Editor

Maybe it would be more honoring to our Lord if we regarded the benign desires of our brothers and sisters over the World Cup with respect and gracious delicacy for the sake of our love for them in Christ, rather than sacrilege. We should assume the best of them — that their hearts are turned toward God to meet their needs and that their trust and hope are ultimately grounded in him for all things, even soccer.

If some people are dressing the infant Jesus like a soccer player and asking God to help them do their best to win, then who should rightly forbid it or take offense?

— Jo Flemings
Charlotte

Prayer made joyful

Three basics for freshening prayer, experiencing God's joy

My goal here is to help you freshen your prayer with joy. By simplifying your prayer life you will be better able to laugh at your distractions and overcome spiritual dryness.

Prayer can be a pure joy, once you learn the basics.

Some of the ideas that follow have been taken from Abbot John Chapman, a British Benedictine, who died in 1931. He was a biblical scholar and popular preacher. St. Francis of Assisi also influenced my thinking on prayer.

First let's discuss "pure prayer."

Abbot Chapman taught that pure prayer is not necessarily found in our lofty thoughts or our majestic words. Nor is it found in the intensity of our feelings.

In fact, he says that when it comes to prayer you should never force feelings of any kind.

Abbot Chapman insisted that "pure prayer is found in the will, in the will to give yourself to God." Since the will has only one function, to say "yes or no," you can decide to say yes.

It isn't that difficult.

Even if you feel dry as a bone when you pray or have wild distractions, it is still possible to pray well. Simply say,

Spirituality for Today

FATHER JOHN CATOIR
CNS COLUMNIST



"Lord, I am here, and I give myself to you as best I can."

You can do this at the same time you're saying the rosary, or meditating, or engaging in contemplation, wordless prayer. What really counts is your intention and sincerity.

Next is the secret of sanctity and happiness.

Jesuit Father John Pierre de Caussade, author of the spiritual classic "Abandonment to Divine Providence," taught that "the secret of sanctity and happiness rests in one's fidelity to the will of God as it is manifested in the duty of the present moment."

The key is striving to live in the present moment instead of worrying about the mistakes of the past or

dangers ahead.

God lives in the present moment, not in the past or future. Do not let the past drag you down. Do not let your fear of the future upset you.

Laugh at these distractions. Simply give yourself to God as best you can, and enjoy your time with the Lord.

You may never be able to pray as well as you think you ought to pray, but that's OK. As long as you accept your limitations, you will be praying as best you can, and that's all the Lord asks. He accepts you just as you are.

Thirdly, there is the notion of joy.

St. Francis of Assisi used to say, "If you want to lead people to God, teach them how to be happy." This applies all the more when it comes to prayer.

After all, Jesus said, "I have told you all these things that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete." He set the standard of joy for all of us.

You don't have to wait until you get to heaven to share God's joy. Sanctifying grace gives you a share in his happiness right now.

St. Catherine of Siena said, "All the way to heaven is heaven." Learn how to freshen your prayer life with joy.

Pope says being a disciple means having a relationship with Christ

The Pope Speaks

POPE BENEDICT XVI



BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Being a disciple of Christ means having a personal relationship with him, being convinced of his love, and being an unshakable witness to faith in him, Pope Benedict XVI said.

At his July 5 general audience, Pope Benedict spoke about the example of discipleship given by St. John, the apostle referred to in the Gospels as "the disciple Jesus loved."

The pope focused on the apostle's close relationship with Jesus and his declaration of faith before the Sanhedrin after Jesus' resurrection.

"This frankness in confessing one's faith remains an example and an admonition for all of us to be ready always to declare decisively our unshakable adhesion to Christ," the pope said.

Jesus' relationship with John, he said, offers "an important lesson for our lives: The Lord wants to make each of us a disciple who lives a personal friendship with him."

It was not enough for the apostles to accompany Jesus as he traveled and to listen to his words; rather, they had to live with him and live like him, the pope said.

"That is possible only in the context of a relationship of great familiarity, pervaded by the warmth of total trust," he said. "That is what happens between friends."

The audience with an estimated 20,000 people in St. Peter's Square was the only general audience Pope Benedict had scheduled for July.

He was to travel July 8-9 to Valencia, Spain, for the Fifth World Meeting of Families, return to the Vatican for two days, then head to the northern Italian Alps for a July 11-28 vacation.

The general audiences are scheduled to begin again Aug. 2, probably with the pope traveling from Castel Gandolfo to the Vatican by helicopter.

At the end of the July 5 audience, the pope reminded visitors in the square that July is traditionally dedicated to meditating on the blood of Christ shed for the salvation of humanity.

"In the world innocent human blood continually is being shed," he said. "In human hearts, instead of Gospel love, hatred frequently dwells; instead of care for others, there is disrespect and exploitation."

Pope Benedict asked people to pray that humanity would experience the power of "the blood of Christ shed on the cross for our salvation."

Making a difference from the margins

Rising to challenges is call for all Catholics

It takes about 20 hours and 10,000 miles to fly from North Carolina to Singapore, a thriving city-state in Southeast Asia. But despite the great span between us, Catholics in both places are closely connected in at least one important way: we are very much in the minority as believers.

In North Carolina, Catholics account for just 4 percent of the state's total population. In Singapore, where Buddhists and Muslims make up the majority of the country's 4.4 million people, the percentage of Catholics is precisely the same.

So, too, are some of the questions we face — particularly, how do we heed the Catholic Church's call to evangelize our cultures when we find ourselves operating on the margins?

During a recent business trip to Singapore, I turned to the historic Cathedral of the Good Shepherd for some clues.

Opened in 1846 during a period of British colonization, the cathedral is the oldest Catholic church in Singapore. It looks the part. Its plaster walls are chipped and discolored in too many places to count. Rusted fans hang from the ceiling.

It's perpetually hot and humid in Singapore, where every day feels like summer in North Carolina. So even at the 7 a.m. Mass, with the windows and doors flung open and the fans spinning full tilt, the church's interior is stifling, a

throwback to the age before air conditioning.

Still, beauty abounds here. It's apparent in the stained glass windows, the sparse wooden pews, the simple statue of the Virgin Mary holding vigil on a small patch of grass.

The cathedral itself holds vigil, too. High-rise hotels and office buildings surround it, steel and glass symbols of Singapore's transformation from a trading outpost to a global business hub.

Walking along the street, it's difficult to even see the cathedral until you're almost upon it. Still, it is very much there, standing muscularly in the midst of Goliaths, battle-scarred and unbowed.

The cathedral is simply too small, however, to stand out in any photographs of Singapore's shimmering skyline. Likewise, the church communities there and in North Carolina, though growing steadily, do not seem destined for great things by earthly standards.

They will probably not bring down an empire, as Catholics in Poland did by challenging the Soviet Union. They will probably not produce the martyrs that churches in Latin America have.

Perhaps our communities have another calling instead — to make their mark on the world by doing smaller things and doing them well. And we have reason to take that role seriously: it was Jesus himself who reminded us that those who are faithful in little are also

Guest Column

STEPHEN MARTIN
GUEST COLUMNIST

faithful in much.

It is in rising to this challenge that smaller Catholic communities are most intimately linked and most able to influence the world around them.

My parish bulletin attests each week to the wonderful but quiet work being done there — Bible study sessions, meals for the elderly, help for the homeless. At the Church of the Good Shepherd, the bulletin told a similar story of youth programs, liturgical training and weekend retreats.

Across the weeks and years and generations, these modest deeds multiply in power, casting sparks of holiness through our neighborhoods and towns. They shine not spectacularly like a skyscraper in the night but with a softer glow that, like the Cathedral of the Good Shepherd, promises to endure long after the modern giants around it have gone dark.

Stephen Martin is a member of St. Pius X Church in Greensboro.

A NEW ABC FAMILY ORIGINAL MOVIE

Fallen



A PROPHECY.
A DESTINY.
A FALLEN ANGEL.

SUNDAY, JULY 23 AT 8/7C



Are angels among us? Go to abcfamily.com/fallen

TM & © ABC Family Worldwide, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Roman Catholic
Diocese of Charlotte



Established Jan. 12, 1972
by Pope Paul VI

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

Labor of love

Parish Habitat project
builds home, hope

|PAGE 5

AUGUST 4, 2006

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 15 No 37

Spreading the word

Catholics
& the
Media

DAVID
HAINS
GUEST COLUMNIST



DIOCESE LAUNCHES PODCAST ON WEB SITE

Several months ago I wrote a column about Pope Benedict XVI's new iPod. The Holy Father was given one of the listening devices from Vatican Radio.

Putting together the column led me to some research about podcasting. Even though I already owned an iPod, I wasn't aware of its capabilities until I started reading about and then listening to podcasts. Before long I was hooked on this new form of communication.

As a result, and with the support of the diocesan chancery, this week we debut the program "docPod, the

See HAINS, page 13

Program sheds light on issues of human trafficking

A representative of the U.S. bishops' Migration and Refugee Services visited the Diocese of Charlotte today, Aug. 4, to address the global problem of human trafficking, which affects an estimated 700,000 to 2 million victims, primarily women and children.

FOR THE STORY, SEE PAGE 17

Kids in the crossfire



CNS PHOTO BY NORBERT SCHILLER

Sister Marie-Therese, director of St. Vincent Catholic School in Beirut, makes certain refugees staying at the school have what they need July 23. Sister Marie-Therese opened the doors of the school to hundreds of Shiite Muslims escaping the violence in southern Lebanon.

Pope repeats calls
for Mideast cease-
fire, cites deaths of
children

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Pope Benedict XVI renewed his appeal for an immediate cease-fire in the Middle East, saying nothing could justify the shedding of innocent blood, particularly the blood of so many children.

Three days after an Israeli air raid in Qana, Lebanon, led to the deaths of 56 civilians, including at least 37 children, Pope Benedict asked people attending his Aug. 2 general audience at the Vatican to continue "to pray for the dear and martyred region of the Middle East."

"Our eyes are filled with the chilling images of people's bodies — especially children's — torn apart. I am thinking particularly of Qana in Lebanon," he said.

See WAR, page 6

Looking back, looking forward Hayesville parish celebrates 50 years of faith and growth

BY JOANITA M.
NELLENBACH
CORRESPONDENT

HAYESVILLE — Way back in the old days — the mid-1950s — non-Catholics often outnumbered Catholics at Mass in Hayesville.

"We had about five Catholics and about 50 non-Catholics who came to

Mass — in Latin," Glenmary Father Joseph Dean said. "They liked the doctrine about the Eucharist."

During Mass July 28, Father Dean reminisced in his homily and at the reception afterward about the first events in Immaculate Heart of Mary

See ANNIVERSARY, page 12



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Joining in that old-time tent revival music are Pat McClure (left), Carol Maloof, Glenmary Fathers Robert Bond and Joseph Dean and Ellen McCray Bailey at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church July 28.

Faithfully retired

CSS directors, multicultural
worker leave legacies

| PAGES 8-9

Culture Watch

Catholic radio grows;
singer insults pope

| PAGES 14-15

Perspectives

Eucharistic Congress memoirs;
finding self-esteem

| PAGES 18-19

#BXNPDVQ.....3-DIGIT 275
#420836#
NC COLLECTION
UNC
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

CARE ON WHEELS



CNS PHOTO BY JOHN BOHUSLAW, CATHOLIC TRANSCRIPT

Archbishop Henry J. Mansell of Hartford, Conn., blesses the Malta House of Care Inc. July 12 outside St. Peter Church in downtown Hartford. The free, mobile health care clinic has begun offering health care one day a week outside the church. Archbishop Mansell has committed \$100,000 a year for three years to support the project.

Mobile clinic gives free health care outside Catholic church

HARTFORD, Conn. (CNS) — A free, mobile health care clinic has begun offering health care one day a week outside a Catholic church in downtown Hartford to help care for the poor and uninsured in one of America's poorest cities.

Hartford Archbishop Henry J. Mansell, who has committed \$100,000 a year for three years in support of the project, dedicated the clinic on July 13. It is one of the initiatives that the 2006 Archbishop's Annual Appeal is supporting.

The primary care clinic, called the Malta House of Care, will put an emphasis on prenatal, gynecological and pediatric care, according to J.P. van Rooy, a member of the Knights of Malta who is spearheading the project.

"The Malta House of Care will provide services regardless of clients' race, religious creed or membership in local churches," said Archbishop Mansell.

Van Rooy said all medications are being provided free of charge to patients, adding that they likely will be provided by local hospitals, pharmaceutical companies and foundations, which already are offering in-kind support to the project.

Services and pharmaceuticals will be offered on a first-come, first served basis.

St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford, which donated the vehicle, has also pledged its support. The mobile clinic bears a St. Francis logo and the eight-pointed cross of the Knights of Malta.

Patients in need of emergency care will be sent to local hospitals.

The initial clinical staff will consist of volunteer health care professionals from the area, including active and retired staff from St. Francis Hospital.

Van Rooy said the Knights of Malta have a strong interest in helping to improve the health of the people of Hartford.

Statistics show that Hartford, which has a population of about 120,000, is ranked as the eighth-poorest city in the United States. More than 10 percent of the population reportedly is uninsured.

Van Rooy said the Knights of Malta envision a staff of at least one physician, several nurses and administrative personnel.

John Schuster has been appointed as executive director of the newly formed Malta House of Care, which will operate the mobile health clinic. Plans call eventually for a building in which to house central operations supplemented by the mobile health clinic.

Schuster said that as the program grows, the van will spend one day at a time at different parish sites in Hartford to determine how many people will come.

He said, "We will adjust the van's future movements to where services are needed." He added that clinicians and others needed to staff the clinic will be volunteers.

Early Christian manuscript discovery excites Irish museum specialists

DUBLIN, Ireland (CNS) — The discovery of an early Christian manuscript in an Irish bog has been called the "Irish equivalent to the Dead Sea Scrolls" by specialists from the National Museum of Ireland.

Fragments of an ancient church manuscript were found July 20 when an alert bulldozer driver spotted an unusual object in the earth of Ireland's southern Midlands.

The find appears to be a Psalter dating from the early Middle Ages.

"It is impossible to say how the manuscript ended up in the bog. It may have been lost in transit or dumped after a raid, possibly more than 1,000 to 1,200 years ago," museum specialists said July 26.

So far only one page of the vellum is legible, identified as Psalm 83, which refers to God's lamentation when the people of Israel are at war.

Pat Wallace, museum director, called the ancient manuscript's survival and discovery "almost miraculous," saying it was an extremely fragile object.

"It is not so much the fragments themselves, but what they represent, that is of such staggering importance," Wallace said.

"In my wildest hopes, I could only have dreamed of a discovery as fragile and rare as this. It testifies to the incredible richness of the early Christian civilization of this island and to the greatness of ancient Ireland," he said.

When the book has been restored and preserved by the museum's laboratory, it will go on display in the National Museum in Dublin, alongside the Ardagh chalice and the Derrynaflan paten.

Excavations at the discovery site are under way to see if more fragments of the manuscript can be found or if it was buried near other valuable objects.

Diocesan planner

BOONE VICARIATE

SPRUCE PINE — A *Rosary of Intercession for Priests* is recited each Friday at St. Lucien Church, 695 Summit St., before the 9 a.m. Mass. Prayers are offered for bishops, priests and deacons, and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. For more information, call the church office at (828) 765-2224.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — A *Rosary and Benediction* will follow the 5:30 p.m. Mass at St. Patrick Cathedral, 1621 Dilworth Rd. East, Aug. 5. The rosary will be offered for an end to abortion and all the culture of death.

CHARLOTTE — The *Vietnamese Cursillo* invites all Cursillistas to an ultreya, Mass and picnic Aug. 20 at Reedy Creek Park. The day's events will begin at 10 a.m. and end with Mass at 4 p.m. RSVP by Aug. 13 to Nam Le at (704) 549-1525.

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church will host a *Christian Coffeehouse* Aug. 26, 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Roof with a View in the Cedar Hill Building, 800 W. Hill St. in uptown Charlotte. Single and married adults are invited for an evening of contemporary Christian music, food and fellowship. For more information, call Kathy Bartlett at (704) 400-2213.

CHARLOTTE — The *Society of Mary and Martha* meets the third Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd. For more information, call Peggy Pohlheber at (704) 588-7311.

CHARLOTTE — The *Young Widowed Group* meets at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month in the Fellowship Hall of St. Gabriel

Church, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, contact facilitator Sister Therese Galligan at (704) 362-5047, ext. 216.

CHARLOTTE — The *50+ Club* of St. John Neumann Church, 8451 Idlewild Rd., meets the second Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. with a program and lunch in the parish hall. For reservations and more information, call Elaine at (704) 847-2835.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

HIGH POINT — Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 4145 Johnson St., will begin the third series of the *Hope of Seeing Everyone Again* program. HOSEA is a program to invite Catholics who have distanced themselves from the Catholic Church, for whatever reason, to return. This small group will meet beginning Sept. 5, 7-9 p.m. and will meet weekly for six weeks to discuss various issues and concerns and to receive pastoral referrals and guidance. For more information, contact Larry Kwan at (336) 688-1220.

GUILFORD COUNTY — The *Ancient Order of Hibernians* Guilford County Division, the oldest and largest order of Irish Catholic men, is looking for more Irish Catholic men to join them for meetings, educational seminars and social events. Contact Michael Slane at (336) 665-9264 for time and location.

HICKORY VICARIATE

NEWTON — *Fostering Justice Worldwide*, sponsored by the diocesan Office of Justice and Peace, will share Catholic Relief Services (CRS) stories. This free event will take place at St. Joseph Church, 720 West 13th St., St., Sept. 9, 1:30-5 p.m. The program will provide an overview of Catholic social teaching, CRS-related work in the Diocese of Charlotte, CRS work in Africa, presentations on effective advocacy and more. This event will be repeated in Stoneville Nov. 4. For specific details about the Saturday afternoon

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

AUGUST 4, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 37

The *Catholic News & Herald*, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The *Catholic News & Herald* reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The *Catholic News & Herald*, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Vatican official: Kneeling expresses meeting Jesus in the Eucharist

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Kneeling during the consecration at Mass is the most appropriate way to express the fact that in the Eucharist one meets Jesus, who was bowed down by the weight of human sin, said an article by a Vatican official.

"The Lord lowered himself to the point of death on the cross in order to encounter sinful man, freeing him from sin," said the article in "Notitiae," the bulletin of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments.

"If the Eucharist represents the sacramental memorial of the death and resurrection of the Lord, it seems appropriate that those for whom the Lord bowed himself down would bow down before this supreme mystery of love," wrote Msgr. Stephan Hunzeler, a congregation official from Germany.

The late-July article said that Christ's self-emptying "reaches its climax when the Lord Jesus Christ takes

on himself, as the lamb of God, all the sins of the world."

When people kneel during the consecration, it said, they not only are assuming a position of humility, but are bowing down to meet Jesus where Jesus has bowed down to meet them.

"Kneeling during the consecration of the Eucharist, therefore, becomes one of the most eloquent moments of meeting Christ the Lord," the article said.

The 2002 General Instruction of the Roman Missal, which provides guidelines for the Mass, said the faithful "should kneel at the consecration, except when prevented on occasion by reasons of health, lack of space, the large number of people present or some other good reason. Those who do not kneel ought to make a profound bow when the priest genuflects after the consecration."

The U.S. bishops' adaptation of that section of the instruction reads: "(The

faithful) should kneel beginning after the singing or recitation of the Sanctus until after the amen of the eucharistic prayer, except when prevented on occasion by reasons of health, lack of space, the large number of people present, or some other

good reason. Those who do not kneel ought to make a profound bow when the priest genuflects after the consecration. The faithful kneel after the Agnus Dei unless the diocesan bishop determines otherwise."

Cardinal says commission to review alleged apparitions at Medjugorje

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Cardinal Vinko Puljic of Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, announced a commission would be formed to review the alleged Marian apparitions at Medjugorje and pastoral provisions for the thousands of pilgrims who visit the town each year.

"The commission members have not been named yet," Cardinal Puljic told Catholic News Service in a July 24 telephone interview. "I am awaiting suggestions from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith" on theologians to appoint.

"But this commission will be under the (Bosnian) bishops' conference" as is the usual practice with alleged apparitions, he said.

The cardinal said he did not expect the commission to be established until sometime in September because of the summer holidays.

He said the primary task of the commission would be to review a 1991 report from the region's bishops that concluded, "It cannot be affirmed that these matters concern supernatural apparitions or revelations."

In addition, he said, the commission

would be asked to review pastoral provisions that forbid official diocesan and parish pilgrimages to Medjugorje, while at the same time allowing priests to accompany groups of Catholics in order to provide the sacraments and spiritual guidance.

When asked if the new commission was the idea of the doctrinal congregation or of the bishops' conference, Cardinal Puljic said, "I would rather not answer that question."

Cardinal Puljic announced the future formation of the commission during the bishops' July 12-14 meeting in Banja Luka.

On June 25, thousands of pilgrims converged on Medjugorje to mark the 25th anniversary of the first alleged apparition to six young people.

The Vatican continues to monitor events at Medjugorje, where the apparitions apparently continue, but it has not taken a formal position other than to support the bishops' ban on official pilgrimages.

Officials from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith were not available July 24 for comment.

events please call the Office of Justice and Peace at (704) 370-3234 or (704) 370-3225, or e-mail justicepeace@charlottediocese.org.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

SALISBURY — Catholic recording artist *Michael John Poirier* will perform a free concert Aug. 11 at 8 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church, 128 North Fulton St. For information on the musician or to listen to his music, visit www.riverofmercy.org. For more information, contact Dr. Martha Shuping at (336) 659-1342.

MOORESVILLE — A *Support Group for Parents Who Have Lost a Child of any Age* meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at St. Therese Church, 217 Brawley School Rd. We draw strength from others' experience of loss and grief. For more information, call Joy at (704) 664-3992.

MOORESVILLE — Seniors ages 55 and up are invited to St. Therese Church, 217 Brawley School Rd., the second Saturday of each month following the 5:30 p.m. Mass for *Senior Games Night*, featuring games and a potluck dinner. Call Barbara Daigler at (704) 662-9752 for details.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

WAYNESVILLE — The *Catholic Women's Circle* of St. John the Evangelist Church, 234 Church St., meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the church hall. For more information, call the church office at (828) 456-6707.

FRANKLIN — The *Women's Guild* of St. Francis of Assisi Church, 299 Maple St., meets the second Monday of each month at 1 p.m. in the Family Life Center. The meetings feature guest speakers and special events periodically. For more information, call Claire Barnable at (828) 369-1565.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

WINSTON-SALEM — The Spirit of Assisi hosts a

Wednesday Lunch & Speaker Series each Wednesday, 12:30-1:15 p.m., at the Fatima Chapel, 211 W. Third St. Conventual Franciscan Father Conall McHugh will speak on "Meditating with the Bible" at the Sept. 6 program. Laura Graban will speak on "Reconciliation: the Sacrament of Healing" at the Sept. 13 program. For more information and to RSVP, call Sister Kathy Ganiel at (336) 624-1971 or e-mail kganiel@triad.rr.com.

KERNERSVILLE — Catholic recording artist *Michael John Poirier* will perform a free concert Aug. 12 at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Cross Church, 616 S. Cherry St. For information on the musician or to listen to his music, visit www.riverofmercy.org. For more information, contact Dr. Martha Shuping at (336) 659-1342.

CLEMMONS — A *Charismatic Prayer Group* meets Mondays at 7:15 p.m. in the eucharistic chapel of Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd. Join us for praise music, witness, teaching, prayers and petition. For more details, call Jim Passero at (336) 998-7503.

WINSTON-SALEM — St. Benedict the Moor Church, 1625 East 12th St., hosts a 12:15 p.m. prayer service, *Veni Sanctus Spiritus*, the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. All are welcome to reflect on God and refresh the spirit in the middle of a day. For more information call Sister Larretta Rivera-Williams at (336) 725-9200.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Efficient operator



CNS PHOTO BY DANIELE COLARIETI, CATHOLIC PRESS PHOTO

The flag of the Philippines sits on her desk as a nun handles a call at the Vatican July 22. The Vatican's switchboard operators receive about 2,000 calls a day. All are answered by nuns who come from different places around the globe and speak a variety of languages.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Aug. 8 — 6 p.m.
Gathering for Seminarians and Priests
Bishop Jugis' residence, Charlotte

Aug. 11 — 9 a.m.-7 p.m.
Priesthood Vocational Discernment Day
St. Joseph Church, Newton

Aug. 13 — 12:30 p.m. Mass
Knights of the Holy Sepulchre Scroll Mass
St. Patrick Cathedral, Charlotte

Aug. 15 — 11 a.m.
40th Anniversary Celebration
Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Cherokee

CORRECTION

In the July 21 issue, Marianist Fathers Richard Kuhn and George Onida were incorrectly referred to as Glenmary priests in photo captions. The Catholic News & Herald regrets the error.

Helping make 'Room at the Inn'

Volunteers sort donations, assist program's efforts

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — At Room at the Inn, expectant mothers have a welcoming place to stay.

And thanks to the generosity of strangers and the efforts of young Catholic volunteers, those mothers have clothes for themselves and their babies.

A dozen members of Compass organized donated clothes and other items at Room at the Inn's Outreach Center in Charlotte July 22.

"It was a huge help. Unless we have someone to go through the donations, they just sit there," said Jennifer Gareis, an intern with Room at the Inn.

"We need to get the clothes and other items out into our store because there is a constant need for them," she said.

Room at the Inn is a Catholic maternity home that offers pregnancy assistance for unmarried pregnant women and their babies, both born and unborn. The outreach center features a store, Fay's Family Boutique, which provides free clothing, shoes and other accessories for new and expectant mothers and their babies.

"We want the mothers to feel welcome and leave with a sense of dignity ... and maybe have some fun while shopping," said Gareis.

Compass, a Charlotte-area group of Catholics in their 20s to 40s, organizes social, community service and faith formation events monthly. The group has previously volunteered at Room at the Inn.

"We wanted to help Room at the Inn reach more women, because we have a strong desire to spread the word that this is the true choice — to have your baby — and that there is help out there if you need it," said Jennifer Schumacher, chair of Compass' community service committee.

At Room at the Inn, the Compass volunteers sorted donated clothing, performed yard work around the facility and assembled "Shower in a Bag" packages — baby shower items such as blankets, bibs, clothes and toys for new and expectant mothers.

"For some expectant mothers, it may be the only time they have a baby shower," said Gareis. "It's also a way to welcome the babies and their mothers, and to help introduce them to the program."

Help from the community is vital, according to Cindy Brown, Room at the Inn's executive director.

"Volunteer help is vital to the success and ability of our program to

reach women," said Brown. "We have a small staff but a big response from the community with donations, so volunteers are key to help manage and organize the distribution of items."

More than just a place to live, Room at the Inn offers a Christ-centered rehabilitation program based on education, personal responsibility and spiritual direction punctuated with mental-health and adoption counseling services.

Transportation to medical and social appointments, work and school is provided, as is training in parenting, nutrition, budgeting, chastity and job skills. Mothers often work to pay off past creditors and to restore credit ratings.

Since opening its doors in December 1994, Room at the Inn has served more than 300 women and their children through its residency program.

The outreach center opened three years ago to assist mothers who had delivered their babies. Eight women and eight babies were helped the first year.

The next year, the center was opened to all mothers in need. Fifty individuals were served the second year.

"More than 400 women were served this last fiscal year," said Gareis.

Room At The Inn recently received a \$50,000 two-year grant from the Sisters of Mercy of North Carolina Foundation, Inc. to provide support for its Pre-Natal Counseling and Extended After-Care and Outreach Program. This newly established, non-residential program has served more than 200 pregnant mothers and 350 newborns/infants/toddlers in the last two years.

As a response to research showing that 37 percent of all pregnant college-age women have abortions, Room at the Inn is launching a program to provide the organization's professional services to pregnant students on area college campuses.

"For many, they have to choose between continuing their education or having their babies," said Gareis. "We don't want them to have to choose."

As such, Room at the Inn announced last fall that it will open a new maternity home on property owned by Belmont Abbey in Belmont. The plan is to help expectant mothers give birth to their babies while continuing their education, either at Belmont Abbey College or another local college.

While the project is not a part of Belmont Abbey College, it will offer its students with volunteer and internship opportunities.

"We're excited because we'll be able



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Volunteers from the Catholic group Compass sort donated clothing items at Room at the Inn's outreach center in Charlotte July 22.

to serve more pregnant women and their babies," said Brown. "The women who are at the highest risk to have abortions ... will see that they do have a choice and the resources to stay in school and have their babies."

Room at the Inn is in the process of conducting a planning study to accurately assess the potential for success of a capital campaign to fund the proposed new facility, according to Brown.

In the meantime, volunteers help sort the donated items and help provide assistance and dignity to expecting mothers.

"It was a positive experience for all involved," said Schumacher. "We'd love to go back, and probably will."

Contact Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail kemurray@charlottediocese.org.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on Compass, visit www.compass-catholic.com. For more about Room at the Inn, visit www.rati.org, or call (704) 704-525-4673.

www.andersonfamilymed.com

Anderson Family Medicine

...Healthcare with a heart.

Dr. E. Kelly Anderson is available to help with all of your family's healthcare needs. A graduate of the Yale University School of Medicine and the residency program at Carolinas Medical Center - Union, Dr. Anderson is now accepting patients of all ages.

Dr. E. Kelly Anderson
Parishoner
Our Lady of
Consolation, Charlotte

HOURS:

Mon, Tue, Th, Fri. 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Wednesday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, (by appt.)

704-283-8888

An NFP-only practice



Join our Oratorian Congregation to SERVE GOD AS PRIEST OR BROTHER

As priests and lay men, our community lives without vows and serves God's people numerous ways, including:

Parishes Youth Camps Nursing
Retreats Campus Ministry Hospital Chaplains

Find out more about serving God with us:

Fr. Ed McDavitt, CO The Oratory
P O Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586

Join us for a pilgrimage to Guadalupe

with Fr. Fidel Melo, Pastor, Our Lady of Grace
October 24-29, 2006



Price (double occupancy) \$1575 includes:
Roundtrip airfare from Greensboro
3 nights in Mexico City
2 nights in Puebla
5 lunches and 3 dinners
Sightseeing in air-conditioned coach
English-speaking guide
Mass daily

For information: New Covenant Pilgrimages
Patti Dameron (336) 413-8127

AROUND THE DIOCESE

A labor of love and faith

Parish's Habitat project builds home, hope

BY SUSAN DEGUZMAN
CORRESPONDENT

WINSTON-SALEM — A 26-year-old mother of two has a new home, thanks to parishioners of St. Leo the Great Church in Winston-Salem.

Under the supervision of the Habitat for Humanity of Forsyth County, approximately 200 volunteers erected walls, installed shingles, painted rooms and planted shrubs to make the family's dream come true.

"There was a lot of enthusiasm for the project," said Beth Hoeing, who coordinated the volunteers.

"St. Leo's got involved in a house many years ago and I have been waiting all these years to do it again," said Dave Harless, who helped with the construction.

The recent undertaking began more than a year ago, according to Bill Green, who helped initiate the project along with fellow parishioners Grover and Rene Myers.

They approached Father Thomas Kessler, pastor, with the idea for the parish to take on a Habitat house of its own. With Father Kessler's blessing, a steering committee was formed to get the project off the ground.

Habitat for Humanity is an ecumenical Christian ministry that operates worldwide to provide affordable housing to low-income, working families living in substandard conditions. The Forsyth County chapter had completed construction of its 200th home when St. Leo the Great Church began its project.

The stipulation for taking on a Habitat house is that the sponsoring group raises \$50,000, which covers the cost of the hard materials. In November 2005, Father



COURTESY PHOTO BY BILL GREEN

Parishioners from St. Leo the Great Church in Winston-Salem, including Patsy Hudson (standing), help construct a Habitat for Humanity house in April.

Kessler approached the parish to determine the level of interest, both financially and physically, to undertake the project.

"The project was initiated, supported and executed in a very enthusiastic manner by our parishioners," he said.

"In response to a simple pulpit announcement at all the Masses one weekend, 22 individuals or families offered to donate \$2,500 each to raise the \$50,000 needed. When it came to volunteers to actually do

the labor, once again the response was more than necessary," he said.

Father Johnathan (Hanic, parochial vicar) and I were inspired by our parishioners' zeal to put their faith into action by performing yet another corporal work of mercy — to shelter the homeless," said Father Kessler.

Building the house

Construction began April 1 with a four-day work blitz. Approximately 20 people showed up each day, along with members of the parish Bible study group and Boy Scout troop, who prepared and served lunch and snacks to the workers.

The Habitat crew, who worked onsite with the volunteers, was impressed with the amount accomplished in such a short time.

Construction continued in the weeks following, Tuesdays through Saturdays, with eight to 10 people showing up each day, and tapering off slightly as the house was close to completion.

There was never any difficulty

getting volunteers, according to Hoeing.

"We got ahead of schedule; the volunteers who signed up showed up and worked really hard," she said. "The Habitat crew was also very enabling."

Habitat for Humanity carefully scrutinizes its applicants. Qualifications for prospective homeowners are that they have a consistent history of employment and currently live in substandard housing.

The homeowner pays \$68,000 for the home and is provided a 20-year, interest-free mortgage. They must complete extensive "homeowner" education, which includes courses in personal finance and home maintenance.

Another criterion is that owners must be able to provide a certain number of "sweat equity hours" in the construction of their homes and that of other Habitat homes.

A 'faith-based initiative'

The new homeowner, her 7-year-old son and 5-year-old daughter were grateful to the parishioners of St. Leo the Great Church. She is happy that her children now have a safe neighborhood in which to play, that her family will have a chance to develop friendships with the neighbors.

Parishioner Bill Green worked alongside the mother on several occasions, including the first day she saw the house.

"She was not prepared to talk and completely broke down with emotion, feeling so joyful and appreciative," said Green. "She said, 'I can't thank all of you enough for giving me this opportunity.'"

The labor was beneficial to the parishioners, as well.

"You do outreach to help other people, but in doing so, you find out how much your own parish community benefits from it. The sense of satisfaction ... that we get from working together ... is amazing," said Green.

"You learn the technical skills of building a house, but you also learn a lot about how to work with other people," said Harless. "You get a very good feeling from this. I would do it again in a heartbeat."

Not only did the project help give a home to a family, but it drew "attention to the issues out there in the community," said Green. "So many people live in substandard and overcrowded housing."

Approximately 50 people, including many of the key volunteers, attended the Habitat house's dedication by Father Kessler in late June.

"Verse 1 of Psalm 127 says, 'Unless the Lord builds the house, their labor in vain who build it,' he said. "St. Leo's Habitat for Humanity house was certainly a faith-based initiative."

Attention: Homeowners...Have a plumbing problem? Don't Panic!...

"How To Get A Top Talent Plumber To Show Up On-Time So You Don't Waste Time"

You have a busy schedule and value your time. Most plumbing companies won't give you a real appointment time and keep you waiting all day for a plumber to show up. Now there's a new way to get your plumbing problem fixed, save money, and get a precise Appointment Window so you don't have to waste time waiting.

Three-Way Plumbing Services, Inc.

We're The Good Guys Your Friends Told You About®

(704) 535-4795 Charlotte

(704) 795-9349 Concord

Serving The Entire Charlotte Diocese Area

www.3wayplumbing.com

Proud member of St. James Church

Beach Dreaming?

Ocean Isle • Sunset • Holden • Oak Island

Looking at beach property for a second home or investment? I will represent you (not the developer or seller) at no charge to you.*



Jerry Jones, Broker

Mike Farmer Real Estate, Inc.
704-502-2738

St. Patrick Cathedral Parishioner

*some restrictions apply



Let stairs be our problem... not yours!

Ask about our Stairway lifts.

- Easily attached to steps (not walls)
- Folds out of the way
- Fits most stairways (straight & curved)
- Very affordable (rent or buy)
- We install

Chair & Equipment Rentals & Sales, Inc.

800 Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC • (800) 333-8431

Member of St. Thomas Aquinas



FROM THE COVER

Pope repeats calls for Mideast cease-fire, cites children's deaths

WAR, from page 1

"I want to repeat that nothing can justify the spilling of innocent blood, no matter which side does it," the pope said.

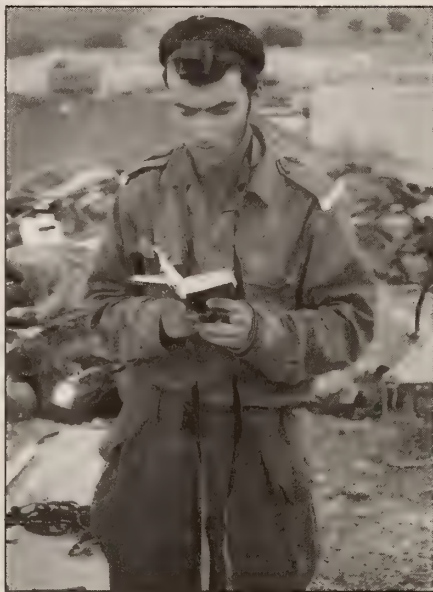
"With a heart filled with affliction," he said, "once again I renew a pressing appeal for an immediate cessation of all hostilities and all violence."

Pope Benedict again asked the international community "and those most directly involved in this tragedy" to move quickly to create the conditions needed for a "definite political solution of the crisis," a solution "able to give a more serene and secure future to the generations to come."

The pope's appeal came the morning after Israel began a major ground incursion into southern Lebanon in what was seen as an attempt to severely weaken and root out Hezbollah guerrillas from the border region before a cease-fire is called.

Pope Benedict's appeal at the general audience echoed an appeal he made July 30 before reciting the midday Angelus prayer with visitors at Castel Gandolfo, site of his summer residence south of Rome.

"In the name of God, I address all those responsible for this spiral of violence so that immediately on all sides the weapons would be laid down," the



CNS PHOTO BY CARLOS BARRIA, REUTERS

An Israeli soldier with a mobile artillery unit prays in an area south of the Lebanese border July 27. The unit was supporting Israel's attack on Hezbollah in Lebanon.

pope said July 30.

The July 30 appeal came several hours after the Israeli air raid on Qana.

Appealing for peace

In a front-page editorial Aug. 2, the Vatican newspaper said that rather than

avoiding photographs of the "dirt- and blood-covered corpses" of the children, people should look at them and allow themselves to be horrified and outraged.

Ignoring the reality of such violence will make it more difficult to stop the killing, said the newspaper, L'Osservatore Romano.

"As the pope implored, there is a need to stop immediately this senseless spiral of violence, breaking the chains of vengeance and reprisals before our humanity itself dies," L'Osservatore said.

Israel, which maintained Hezbollah guerrillas were using civilians as human shields, promised an investigation into the incident at Qana and later declared a 48-hour suspension of aerial bombings.

However fighting resumed hours later.

Asking those gathered in the courtyard of his summer residence to increase their prayers for peace, Pope Benedict said the situation in Lebanon, Israel and the Palestinian territories was becoming more and more "serious and tragic" with "hundreds of dead, many injured, an enormous mass of homeless and displaced (and) houses, cities and infrastructure destroyed."

As of Aug. 2, since fighting began in mid-July, 532 Lebanese had been killed, including 461 civilians, 25 Lebanese soldiers and at least 46 Hezbollah guerrillas.

Hezbollah rocket attacks had killed 54 Israelis — 36 soldiers and 18 civilians.

At the same time, he said, "in the hearts of many people, hatred and the desire for vengeance seem to grow."

"These facts clearly demonstrate that you cannot reestablish justice, create a new order and build an authentic peace by turning to the instrument of violence," the pope said.

"More than ever we see how prophetic and, at the same time, realistic is the church's voice when, in the face of wars and conflict of every kind, it indicates the path of truth, justice, love and freedom," Pope Benedict said.

"This is the path humanity must follow today in order to achieve the desired good of peace," he said.

Reaching out

Pope Benedict asked the leaders of governments around the world to do everything possible to achieve a cease-fire and "begin building, through dialogue, a lasting and stable coexistence among all the peoples of the Middle East."

The pope also appealed for continued donations for humanitarian aid for the suffering and displaced.

"But, most of all, may there continue to rise from every heart a confident prayer to the good and merciful God so that he would give his peace to that region and the whole world," the pope said.

Formally encouraging the Israeli government to take concrete steps toward a long-term cease-fire, Archbishop Giovanni Lajolo, Vatican foreign minister, had a telephone conversation July 30 with Tzipi Livni, Israel's foreign minister, reported Vatican Radio.

The Vatican did not release further details of the conversation.

Spanish Colonial Art

from the Lilly and Francis Robicsek Collection

June 3 - September 10, 2006

Mint Museum of Art
2730 Randolph Road, Charlotte

704/337-2000 www.mintmuseum.org

The Mint Museums are supported, in part, with a Basic Operating Grant from the Arts & Science Council



The Mint Museums
Experience Art

IN THE NEWS

Running from the reign of fire

Nazareth's streets empty as tourists retreat to safer southern Israel

BY JUDITH SUDILOVSKY
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NAZARETH, Israel — Things were just starting to look up for the city of Nazareth: Tourist buses crammed the streets and new restaurants and coffee-houses opened their doors to gladly receive the influx of visitors.

But when the Hezbollah-Israeli violence broke out in mid-July, the tourists packed their bags and made a hasty retreat to southern Israel, where they could avoid rocket attacks and life was still fairly normal.

At Nazareth's darkened, cavernous Basilica of the Annunciation July 25, two cleaning ladies rhythmically washed the floors while Eva Waisser, 60, and her family — Jews from Mexico — were the lone visitors.

"We are in Israel visiting friends and family and are visiting different sites. There are robberies and kidnappings all over the world," said Waisser, noting that Nazareth was as far north in Israel as they were willing to go.

In two weeks of violence between Israel and the militant Islamic group Hezbollah, based in Lebanon, two rockets fell on Nazareth, killing two children July 19.

However, the Franciscan superior of the basilica, Father Ricardo Bustos, said he did not think it would happen again, and he had not taken any special

precautions to protect the basilica.

"There is no need to alarm anyone," Father Bustos said. Hezbollah's leader, Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, "said there was a miscalculation. It was only that one time."

At the Franciscan-run Casa Nova pilgrim hostel next door to the Nazareth basilica, a man who identified himself only as Sami sat chatting with a friend at the front desk. Their voices echoed through the empty room.

"This month all the groups completely canceled. In August we usually have 90 percent occupancy, and now 70 percent of the groups have canceled and 30 percent have not confirmed. We hope it will be better in September," said Sami.

"We only need peace. Without peace, we can't do anything. There is enough land for everybody," he said.

The only traffic on Nazareth streets was local residents, and shop owners sat dejectedly in their darkened stores. By midafternoon, everyone closed up shop and went home.

Hurling bombs and blame

"This is a very difficult situation. People didn't think this would happen," said Shadi Boutrous, 42, as he watched news of more Katyusha rocket hits in Haifa, Israel.

"There is no work, and people are starting to have problems with the banks," he said.



CNS PHOTO BY DEBBIE HILL

The Casa Nova pilgrims' hostel across the street from the Basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth, Israel, is devoid of tourists as the fighting between Hezbollah and Israel continued July 25. Tourism had picked up in Israel prior to the start of the conflict.

Boutrous, who is Catholic, said his wife works in elderly care in Haifa, and they are constantly on the phone to one another. When she has time off, he said, he goes up to Haifa to be with her.

For more than two weeks, Haifa was the main target of Hezbollah missiles, which "are very scary," Boutrous said.

"I am not religious, but I do believe that God gave us religion to love one another, not to kill each other," he said.

Launching Katyushas is not an exact science, and missiles have fallen in other nearby Arab villages as well, killing at least two people, including a 15-year-old Muslim girl who died July 25 when a Katyusha landed on her house next to a mosque in the village of Maghar.

Still, many Muslims in Israel find it difficult to openly criticize Hezbollah.

Amal Esa, 20, a Muslim, initially said both sides are to blame and differences should be settled through talks, but as the discussion progressed he commented: "Hezbollah are not terrorists. They are fighting for their religion. Lebanon doesn't do it, so Hezbollah has to."

Joseph Pavlo, 35, his friend and

business partner in the new Casanova Restaurant they opened in May, gave him a sidelong glance. The two invested half a million dollars in the restaurant, and all 48 groups they were set to serve from July 22 to the end of the month had canceled.

"With this war they have pushed us back 10 years. You can't change history. This will be this way forever," Pavlo, a Greek Orthodox, said angrily.

"If Nasrallah goes, there will be another person in his place," he said.

Hope and prayers

Despite the Hezbollah-launched missiles and warning sirens, Christians in villages throughout the north have tried to continue with their regular lives since the July 12 start of the violence. As they attend Mass on Sundays, amid their prayers and the tolling of the church bells they hear the sound of Israeli artillery and Katyusha rockets in the distance.

"We pray to God to stop this war," said Wakim Abu Faris, 73, a Catholic.

Katyushas landed on his property in the village of Gush Halav and killed six of his goats. Luckily, he said, he had taken his family to visit his wife's family in another village at the time.


"They have to solve the problem in another way. Not like this with all the people killed and property destroyed," said Abu Faris.

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels. 

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065

NEW COVENANT BOOKSTORE

- Books
- Cards
- Videos
- Jewelry
-and more!

336-760-1673

304 Upton St.,
Winston-Salem, NC
www.newcovenantbookstore.com

Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Charlotte 704-334-6421

Pineville 704-544-1412

Mint Hill 704-545-4864

Derita 704-596-3291

CSS office director retires after 13 years

WINSTON-SALEM — David Harold, a longtime advocate for peace and justice, has retired as director of Catholic Social Services' Piedmont Triad Regional Office.

After 13 years of service, Harold was honored at a farewell party held at Our Lady of Mercy School in Winston-Salem July 17.

"David is known in the community as a strong advocate of peace and a tireless worker for justice," said Elizabeth Thurbee, executive director of Catholic Social Services in the Diocese of Charlotte.

Harold, who received a master of divinity degree from Yale Divinity School in Connecticut, helped to position the Piedmont Triad Regional Office as an important service agency in the Triad area, said Thurbee.

During Harold's tenure, the office established Youth Empowerment Support Services (YESS), which provides services to young people to help prevent sexual activity before marriage; Casa Guadalupe, which offers comprehensive services to Triad-area Hispanics; the Latino Family Center in High Point, which offers services to Hispanic families in High Point; and a counseling office in Greensboro, which provides faith-based counseling services.

Harold used his education and training



COURTESY PHOTO

Elizabeth Thurbee, CSS executive director, pays tribute to David Harold, who retired as director of CSS's Piedmont Triad Regional Office in July.

to hold training events for the N.C. Area Health Education Centers Program in the fields of psychotherapy, crisis intervention, personality disorders, neurolinguistic programming and case management.

He is also a practitioner of Tai Chi Chuan, a soft style martial art.

"David has added a richness and diversity to the programs offered in the Piedmont-Triad area. We will miss him," said Thurbee.

Director retires after 15 years at Host Homes

New award named in Stevenson's honor

WINSTON-SALEM — After 15 years as director of Catholic Social Service's Host Homes, Mable Stevenson has retired from the program she helped double in size.

During her farewell party June 17, Stevenson learned her efforts to promote respect for diversity would be fostered with an award named the Mable Stevenson Culture of Respect Award.

The Southeast Network of Youth and Family Services, a non-profit membership organization of youth service agencies in eight southeastern states, will give the award annually in her honor to a person or agency in the network that strives to foster a culture of respect.

Stevenson will present the first award this fall at the network's annual conference.

Host Homes is an outreach program of Catholic Social Services in the Diocese of Charlotte. It works to restore and maintain healthy family relationships and promotes the well-being and safety of children and youths.

In addition to serving as Host Homes' director, Stevenson served on the network's board as president and area representative, and chaired its Cultural Respect Committee.

"Mable has left her mark through dedication and achievement," said David Harold, Catholic Social Services' director of its Piedmont Triad Regional Office.

"CSS is very grateful for her untiring service to youths and families here in Forsyth County," said Harold, who also retired in July.

Host Homes services include individual and family counseling, temporary shelter to youths facing family crises, a mentoring program and a hotline.



COURTESY PHOTO

Mable Stevenson (left) is honored by Sherry Allen, executive director of Southeastern Network for Youth and Family Services, in Winston-Salem June 17.



**Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center**

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

Serving the community

CSS office to expand services in Greensboro

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

GREENSBORO — Residents of Greensboro and surrounding areas will soon have easier access to affordable counseling services, thanks to Catholic Social Services in the Diocese of Charlotte.

Two part-time counselors and a social worker/office manager have been hired to staff the Greensboro Satellite Office of the Piedmont Triad Regional Office of Catholic Social Services. Previously, CSS services at the satellite office included outreach by the Casa Guadalupe program, which provides Hispanic and immigration services.

"This office will greatly expand Catholic Social Services' presence in Greensboro," said Gerry Carter, interim office director of the Piedmont Triad Regional Office.

The new office is due in large part to the generosity of the late Aurelia Guffey, who left a generous bequest to Catholic Social Services.

Guffey's bequest provided the majority of the funding for the new outreach, Carter said.

The Greensboro Satellite Office will work closely with parishes to offer individual, family and marriage counseling. Other services will include parenting classes, marriage enrichment and other services.

Providing counseling services will be Carol Wolf and Daniel Rhodes.

Wolf holds a bachelor's degree in history from Duchesne College in Omaha and a master's degree in theology from the University of San Francisco. She earned her master's degree in counseling after moving to Greensboro and has been in private practice since 1987.

Wolf also worked for 16 years as a school counselor in the Guilford County school system. She is a licensed professional counselor in North Carolina, as well as a nationally certified counselor.

Rhodes received his master's in social work from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1996 and his clinical license in 1999. He has been practicing clinical social work for the

past 10 years, primarily in crisis and emergency services, as well as with therapeutic foster care.

Rhodes is currently working on his doctorate in cultural studies at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Darlene Stanley, office manager and social worker for the Greensboro Satellite Office, received a bachelor's degree in sociology/psychology with a minor in religion from Greensboro College. Currently she is pursuing a master's in counseling at Webster University and will seek her professional counselor licensure.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

NEED ASSISTANCE?

The Greensboro Satellite Office of the Piedmont Triad Office of Catholic Social Services, located near Our Lady of Grace Church on West Market Street, will begin accepting appointments in the coming weeks. To schedule an appointment, call (336) 274-5577.

**THE GOOD NEWS IS, YOU
HAVE THOUSANDS OF
INVESTMENT OPTIONS.
THE BAD NEWS IS...**

- You have thousands of investment options, and you don't know how to pick the best ones for your situation.
- You have thousands of investments options, and you don't have time to research even a fraction of them.

Call to learn more about:



PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

Les Davaz
Financial Advisor
Member, St. Patrick's Church

100 N. Tryon St., Suite 3300
Charlotte, NC 28202

(704) 331-2233 or

(800) 438-0397

<http://fc.smithbarney.com/davaz>

citigroup
SMITHBARNEY

* Minimum balance \$25,000 Equity, \$100,000 Fixed Income. © 2006 Citigroup Global Markets Inc. Member SIPC. Smith Barney is a division and service mark of Citigroup Global Markets Inc. and its affiliates and is used and registered throughout the world. CITIGROUP and the Umbrella Device are trademarks and service marks of Citigroup Inc. or its affiliates and are used and registered throughout the world.

Create a winning event



**Having your meeting
or conference at the
center makes you a
winner every time!**

*We can help you turn an ordinary
conference, meeting, retreat, or banquet
into a special event! You plan the event,
we'll provide the environment!*

1551 Trinity Lane, Hickory, NC
(828) 327-7441 or toll-free at
(888) 536-7441
info@catholicconference.org
www.catholicconference.org

**The Catholic
Conference
Center**

Multicultural worker retires, leaving legacy

Efforts will 'continue to bless,' says priest

BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH
CORRESPONDENT

WHITTIER, N.C. — "If you live (in a community), it's important to be involved," Mary Herr said. "Don't just be deadwood."

Herr, 65, retired June 30 as regional faith formation consultant and Native American multicultural worker for the Diocese of Charlotte's Smoky Mountain Vicariate.

"From one perspective, Mary's retirement brings to a close many, many years of service to a wide range of people in far western North Carolina," said Father George Kloster, vicar of the Smoky Mountain Vicariate and pastor of St. William Church in Murphy and Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hayesville.

"While it is easy to identify the many positions she has held, church-related as well as with other agencies, there is no way to calculate the depth and breadth of the lives she has touched," Father Kloster said.

Herr grew up in a Catholic family on a farm near Staunton, Ill. In 1967, she signed on with VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America).

"It was one of those turning points in my life," she said. "I was 27. I'd been doing a lot of things I had wanted to do and felt like it was time to give back."

VISTA sent her to Virginia and West

Virginia. She did community organizing, learning about and addressing people's needs, and providing training in such skills as how to approach legislators.

Next she got involved with FOCIS (Federation of Communities in Service), which brought health and legal services and other programs to communities throughout Appalachia. She was FOCIS president in 1975.

Herr's FOCIS involvement garnered her recognition in the book "Mountain Sisters: From Convent to Community in Appalachia."

The book states that "during this time, Mary, who had a natural interest in 'legal stuff' became increasingly aware of a lack of legal resources."

"That was when all those people were trying to get their black-lung benefits and miners' pensions, so we got Greg O'Connor, a lawyer, to come to Clairfield one day a week," Herr is quoted in "Mountain Sisters."

"So we got together and eventually I applied for a Ford Leadership Development Grant to get training as a paralegal and open the legal services in that area Greg O'Connor would come up one day a week and I would be there the other times."

Other communities began to seek



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Jan Valder Offerman (left) of St. Peter Church in Charlotte compare notes with Mary Herr during the Bishop Begley Conference in October 2005. Herr recently retired as regional faith formation consultant and Native American multicultural worker for the diocese's Smoky Mountain Vicariate.

Herr's paralegal expertise. Through a grant from CORA (Commission on Religion in Appalachia), she went to communities in Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia and Cherokee, N.C., to train paralegals.

"When the CORA grant ended, Mary coordinated and taught most of the courses for a program through the University of Tennessee and Manpower to give unemployed people paralegal training," says "Mountain Sisters."

"I moved (to Cherokee) in 1978 when the legal services program (on the Qualla Boundary, the Cherokee Indian reservation) offered me a job as a community educator and paralegal supervisor," she said. "I guess my interest went back to knowing I had some Cherokee ancestry and wanting to know more about that."

Federal government cutbacks in social services programs ended that position in 1981.

"Every time something ended something else came along, so I figured God must want me to stay here," Herr said.

She continued her community-educator work as a staff member of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church on the Boundary from 1981 to 1991, then spent a year as pastoral assistant at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church and at St. Joseph Church in Bryson City.

According to "Mountain Sisters," in 1993 alone "Mary helped more than 300 people obtain over \$98,000 in retroactive disability benefits."

Her paralegal experience allowed her to become the Qualla Boundary's first Guardian ad litem, a children's advocate. While doing that, she also volunteered in administration, RCIA and adult faith formation at St. Joseph Church.

Through a grant from Glenmary Home Missioners, Herr assumed the position of Native American multicultural worker while assisting with administrative work at Our Lady of Guadalupe and St. Joseph churches.

The Glenmary grant ended, but through a grant from the Office of Black and Indian Missions in Washington, D.C., Herr continued as a part-time Native American multicultural worker, with Father Kloster as her supervisor.

In 2000, she added another part-time position as regional faith formation consultant for the Smoky Mountain Vicariate.

"This lady is a no-nonsense-approach lady," Dr. Cris Villapando, director of diocesan faith formation programs, said. "She will do whatever it takes — evening sessions, weekends, whatever — to get the job done."

Herr's greatest joy, she said, has been teaching people: "It's a good feeling to be able to share my skills and see others put them into practice. Doing the catechist recognition process has caused me to learn more about my own faith."

She has also tried to help people learn more about Native American culture. She and Father Kloster developed the "Catholics and Cherokees" conference held for three years in the Smoky Mountain Vicariate to help the two groups learn more about each other.

"In a quiet, determined, unassuming way Mary has been a messenger of healing and hope," Father Kloster said. "She has wonderful gifts, both of vision of what needs to be done and how to develop the process needed to accomplish the vision. One of our priests has referred to her as a 'star' and surely she is."

Herr received the Governor's Award for Volunteer Service in 1991, the Spirit Award 2000 for Volunteer Service from Catholic Social Services Office of Justice and Peace, and twice has been nominated for the Nancy Reynolds Award for Personal Service.

Herr plan is to stay involved, but first she's traveling. Then she'll return to become more involved at St. Joseph Church as a lector, taking Communion to the sick and working in other parish ministries.

On the Qualla Boundary, she'll continue to work with organizations of which she was a founding member.

"The good news is that from another perspective Mary's presence will still be felt in the mountains," Father Kloster said. "She may have 'retired' from her official positions, but it is not in her personality to walk away and leave the people, projects and programs that she has loved so dearly and deeply. She will continue to bless us, and we are grateful."

You're Invited!
to

Room At The Inn's
Twelfth Annual Banquet

"Life Giving Love"



Charlotte Convention Center
Thursday, October 26, 2006

Featured Speaker

Patrick Madrid

Catholic Apologist

www.surprisedbytruth.com

Come hear this acclaimed author, editor, TV host, radio host, speaker, husband, and father of eleven talk about the practical and spiritual implications of numerous interlocking social and moral issues. His thought-provoking presentation will address abortion, euthanasia, cloning, contraception and the worldwide reality of population implosion (the myth of over-population), and "global aging."

Registration/Reception: 5:30 pm

Seating for dinner: 6:40 pm

**** Reservations are FREE, but required.**

To make your reservation or to host a table of eight, contact Banquet Reservations at (704) 525-4673, ext. 10 or iroommatheinn@carolina.rr.com by October 12th.

Room At The Inn, Inc. is a pro-life Catholic maternity and after-care program in Charlotte, NC, providing an alternative to abortion for pregnant women. Please check our website www.rati.org for more information. Not affiliated with Room At The Inn of the Triad, Inc.

Helping hearts

Catholic Heart Workcamp offers teens camaraderie, chance to help

CHARLOTTE — Teens from the Diocese of Charlotte and beyond recently put their hearts into helping others.

The Catholic Heart Workcamp program provides teens with a chance to clean up communities in a weeklong camp centered on faith-powered mission work.

The campers carry out service projects, giving them eye-opening experiences and showing adults there are good teens doing good things in the world.

Participants from the Diocese of Charlotte included a group from St. Aloysius Church in Hickory, who attended a camp in Louisville, Ky., and a group from St. Paul the Apostle Church in Greensboro, who attended a camp in Pittsburgh, Pa., in July.

Meanwhile, St. Paul the Apostle Church and Charlotte Catholic High School hosted camps comprised of hundreds of teens from other states.

"It was wonderful to see so many young Catholics taking time out of their summer vacations to do God's work," said Timothy Mainhart, a parishioner of St. Paul the Apostle Church who attended the Pittsburgh camp.

"We saw God in the many faces of the people we went to serve and in each

other," he said.

"Our youths experienced what it was like to be working side by side with more than 300 Catholics, recognizing Jesus in everyone they met along the way," said Jen Stickle, youth ministry director at St. Aloysius Church.

Nine teens and six adults from St. Aloysius Church spent a week in July with teens from other states making home improvements, doing landscaping and building handicap-accessible ramps and decks around Louisville.

Many of those whom the youths helped said they felt blessed by the work done to their homes.

"We are grateful for the opportunity to serve. We know that we also are blessed by this experience," said Stickle.

The Orlando, Fla.-based Catholic Heart Workcamp was founded in 1993. The first camp in Orlando drew 100 participants. Today, there are hundreds of parishes and thousands of teens involved in the camps held from June to August each year.

Not only do the teenagers sacrifice a week of their summer to help others, but they pay for the experience. The fee goes toward their food and housing.

The campers are responsible for making transportation arrangements to get to the host location, and many drive across the country with their church youth groups.

A group of campers staying at Charlotte Catholic visited Holy Angels, a nonprofit corporation in Belmont providing programs and services to children and adults with mental retardation.

The teens washed Holy Angels' vehicles, cleared and organized storage areas, and cleaned and polished residents' wheelchairs July 3-7. Teens also assisted with various service projects at Holy Angels' Cherubs Café and Candy Bouquet in downtown Belmont.

"We truly look forward to this program every year," said Regina



COURTESY PHOTO

Moody, Holy Angels president and CEO.

"They bring a wonderful energy and reminder to everyone about what volunteerism and service are all about," she said.

The camps aren't all work for the teenagers. The evenings showcase skits put on by the campers as well as prayer, reflection, videos, talks given by the staff and worship music. There is a different theme each night, as well as a free day during the week to explore the host city.

This year many of the camps for 10th- through 12th-graders were

Teens and adults from St. Aloysius Church in Hickory are pictured during their Catholic Heart Workcamp mission trip to Louisville, Ky., July 10-15.

organized with the theme "Take It to the Next Level." These camps offer more spiritual components: adoration, reconciliation, the rosary and Mass.

Contributing to this article was Katie Lewis of the Tennessee Register.



COURTESY PHOTO

Catholic Heart Workcamp participants smile for the camera while stacking boxes inside Holy Angels' storage area in July.

Live Your Faith

Be affirmed in your present ministry.
Upgrade your certification as a catechist and religion teacher. Fulfill the prerequisite for the Permanent Diaconate.
Grow in your faith.

If you have these desires, the Diocesan Office of Lay Ministry offers a two-year program designed to help you understand more fully your baptismal call to minister to your family, to others in the Church, and to those in your daily life.

LAY MINISTRY
TRAINING PROGRAM

For more information call
Frank Villaronga,
704-370-3274 or E-mail
favillaronga@charlottediocese.org

LOOKING FOR SOME GREAT SUMMER READING?

FIND IT HERE!

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri
10:00am-4:00 pm

Tuesday
10:00am-6:00 pm

Saturday
10:00am-1:00 pm

We have books for all ages, religious and inspirational artwork, statues, rosaries, jewelry, medals, crosses, crucifixes, prayer and greeting cards, music, audio books on CD's, DVD's, sacramental and general gift items and so much more!

Bring this ad and receive a free gift when you purchase \$20 or more in our store!

Limited time offer while supplies last



The Catholic Shoppe
AT BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

Located in St. Leo's Hall • 704.461.5100 • CatholicShoppe@bac.edu
Shop securely online at BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

Fun and 'Fiesta'



COURTESY PHOTO

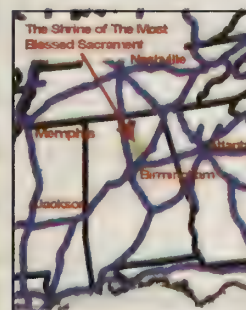
Children in pre-school through fifth-grade take part in "Sing and Play Ole," a song-and-dance routine that offers an overview of the day's events during the Vacation Bible School at St. Ann Church in Charlotte June 26-30.

Approximately 50 children participated in this year's Vacation Bible School, themed "Fiesta" and organized by adult and teen volunteers.

The children worked in small "crews" to learn Bible stories and complete tasks in fun and interesting ways. A service project involved children making blankets for the needy in Charlotte.

Our Lady of America †Procession and Benediction† Pray for Peace & Purity

The Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament
Our Lady of the Angels Monastery
Hanceville, Alabama
1:00 PM Saturday, August 5th, 2006
Feast of the Dedication of
The Basilica of Saint Mary Major



Detail Map on Website



Homilist: Fr. Peter
Damian Mary Fehlner,
Franciscan Friars of The
Immaculate

For more information visit:
www.OurLadyOfAmerica.com/OLAM1.php
Telephone Eugenie Breaux (205) 795-5717
The Contemplative Sisters
Our Lady of America Center
PO Box 445, Fostoria, Ohio 44830

Copyright © 2006 • Our Lady of America Center • Fostoria OH • All Rights Reserved



YOUR CLOSET. ONLY BETTER.

Custom storage solutions for every room in your house.

- Closets, offices, garages, entertainment centers etc.
- Handcrafted designs that fit your needs and style
- Professionally trained designers and installers

25% OFF With This Ad
FREE INSTALLATION

We Will Beat Any Competitor's Offer!

Call for a FREE design consultation

704.676.5000



www.closetfactory.com

CNH 11

Hayesville parish celebrates 50 years of faith

ANNIVERSARY, from page 1

Church's 50th-anniversary celebration.

Father George Kloster, pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church and of St. William Church in Murphy, celebrated the Mass, with Father Dean and retired Glenmary Father Robert Bond concelebrating.

Current and former parishioners packed the church for the Mass, and the reception in the parish hall.

"I just find it one of the warmest, most active parishes I've ever been in," said Pat Ryan, who began attending as a seasonal resident in the 1990s before moving permanently to the area in 2001.

Parishioners were invited to write their names and thoughts on leaves that were then glued to a picture of a tree in the parish hall. The leaves, along with photos, a DVD about the parish and other mementos, will be placed in a time capsule in early 2007, to be opened on the church's 100th anniversary in 2056.

Father Bond was pastor of Holy Redeemer Church in Andrews and Prince of Peace Church in Robbinsville until he retired several years ago. The last Glenmary priest to actively serve in the Smoky Mountain Vicariate, he now lives in Burnsville.

Father Dean, 85, still serves as a substitute pastor in Mount Pleasant, Texas; and Oklahoma.

Coming back to Immaculate Heart of Mary Church was a "wonderful experience," he said. "I was so glad to see all the parishioners and the improvements (to the church)."

Pitching the tent

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church can trace its roots to 1914, when Msgr. Louis Bour was appointed pastor of an Asheville parish serving all of western North Carolina.

Then the Glenmary Home Missioners began coming to the area for tent revivals.

"One of the means that Glenmary used in the early days was to set up a tent in a field and invite people in to hear us sing and preach," Father Bond said. "They would never come into a Catholic

"I just find it one of the warmest, most active parishes I've ever been in."

— Pat Ryan, parishioner

church, but they'd come into a tent."

At the July 28 reception, Fathers Bond and Dean and a few parishioners passed out song sheets and invited everyone packed into the parish hall to join them for a taste of tent-revival singing.

In 1954, Father Dean became the first resident Catholic priest in Cherokee, Clay and Graham counties.

He started out by visiting people in their homes and recalls chatting with James Lance, a Methodist deacon, on the front porch of his house in Lance Cove.

The first Mass in the Hayesville area was in a tobacco barn. Lance offered his home for Mass and invited family and friends to the services. So, it could be said that the first lay evangelist for Catholicism in Hayesville was a Methodist.

Lance and some of his family and neighbors eventually became Catholic.

"When he saw the Eucharist, he saw it was the real thing," Father Dean said.

Revisiting the past

As part of the anniversary celebration, parishioners planned to visit the Lance house and the former motel (now the Sister Loretto John Meehan Center) in Hayesville, where Mass was also celebrated when it was a convent for Glenmary sisters.

Glenmary priests staffed many of the parishes in far western North Carolina, turning them over to the diocese when they became self-sufficient.

Father Kloster spoke of "how deeply grateful (Immaculate Heart of Mary) is to the Glenmarys. From Waynesville on, these parishes were served by Glenmarys. We owe them a huge, huge debt."

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail jnell@dnnet.net.



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Helen Berguin puts a leaf on the tree in Immaculate Heart of Mary Church's parish hall July 28. The leaves will be gathered and placed in a time capsule along with other commemorative items and buried, to be opened in 50 years.

ABBOTSWOOD SENIOR LIVING



For more than 17 years, Abbotswood at Irving Park has built a reputation on providing exemplary retirement living services to independent seniors. Residents enjoy the largest I and 2 bedroom floorplans in Irving Park, delicious meals, a full-time wellness director and month-to-month rental with NO BUY-IN FEES. Optional in-home health care services are available. Call today to schedule your personal tour.

(336) 282-8870

ABBOTSWOOD
at Irving Park



The only full service retirement living address in the heart of Irving Park
3504 Flint Street • Greensboro, NC 27405 • www.kiscoseniorliving.com



Coming to St. Matthew Church
Friday, September 29th, 7 p.m.

The uproariously funny off-Broadway
production of...

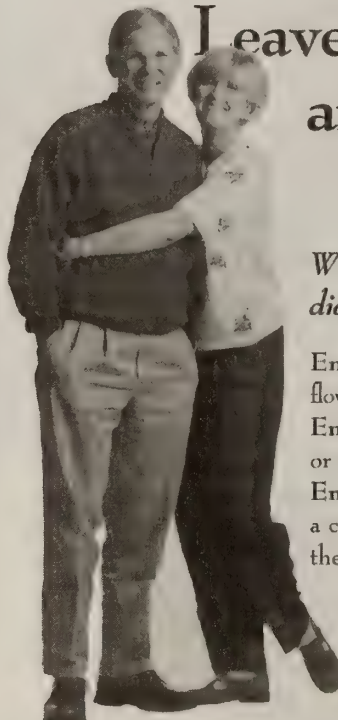
Late Nite Catechism

Ticket prices \$35, 1st tier; \$30, 2nd tier; best available at time of purchase

For more information and/or to purchase tickets online go to:
www.kofc-stmatthew.org or call 704-341-2060.

St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., Charlotte, NC.
Production sponsored by the St. Matthew Knights of Columbus.

I leave a Legacy Through an Endowment



When you establish an endowment with the diocesan foundation, you...

Enable Perpetual Support. Every year, your "legacy" flows with financial aid to the ministry you choose.
Ensure a Strong Future. Allow a parish, school, agency or the diocese to look ahead and plan with confidence.
Enact a Lasting Legacy. Provide your loved ones with a continuing reminder of your values – your faith and the mission of the church.

The Foundation
of the
Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte

To receive the free booklet "Better Estate Planning" contact Judy Smith, Director of Planned Giving,
704-370-3320; 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203. jmsmith@charlottediocese.org.



REVIVAL

"REVIVAL OF THE SPIRIT 2006"

Theme: "Who Invited the Devil?"

with Rev. R. Tony Ricard, M.Th., M.Div. — Revivalist

Fr. Tony says, "The concept is to focus on how Satan invites himself into our lives (when we leave the doors open for him to get in). It is up to us to realize how he gets in ... and more importantly, how we can get the 'hell' out of our lives."



- Catholic Revivalist and Youth Speaker
- Blessed Preacher and Gifted Teacher
- Priest of the Archdiocese of New Orleans
- Pastor of Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish
- Director of Knight Time Ministries
- Administrator, Campus Minister and Teacher for The MAX Satellite School of New Orleans

Sponsored by

African American Affairs Ministry of the Diocese of Charlotte

To be held at: Our Lady of Consolation Church
2301 Statesville Ave., Charlotte, NC

**Friday, August 25 through
Sunday, August 27**

The Revival is an opportunity to publicly worship our God in the spirit of the Black church while at the same time breaking down traditional misconceptions of Catholicism held by our Protestant brothers and sisters. Come and bring your family, friends and neighbors!



ALL ARE WELCOME! WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Friday, Aug. 25 and Saturday, Aug. 26

**7 pm — Gospel Concert
8 pm — Preaching by Fr. Tony Ricard**

Sunday, Aug. 27

11 am — Closing Worship

Celebrant
Fr. Jude Duffy, OFM Cap.
Pastor, Our Lady of Consolation Church

Homilist
Fr. Tony Ricard

Local gospel choirs and musicians — including the Perpetual Hope Gospel Choir of Our Lady of Consolation Church — will enhance your spiritual experience throughout the weekend!

For more information, please call 704-370-3267.
Someone will return your call.



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

David Hains, director of communications, and Bishop Peter J. Jugis record the first podcast for the diocesan Web site at the Pastoral Center in Charlotte July 28.

Diocese of Charlotte debuts podcast on Web site

HAINS, from page 1

Diocese of Charlotte Podcast."

You may be asking, "What is a podcast?", "Does it cost anything?", "Why is the diocese investing in a podcast?" and "What does 'docPod' mean?"

That last question is the easiest: "docPod" has nothing to do with doctors; "doc" stands for Diocese of Charlotte.

"What is a podcast?" To put it simply, it is an audio program, similar to a radio show that is available on the Internet.

Podcasting has a big advantage over radio and other forms of broadcasting because the programs are available when you want them. You don't have to be in front of a radio at a specific time to listen to your podcast. You can also pause, fast forward or rewind a podcast.

And podcasts give listeners the ability to subscribe to a program. Once you sign up, new editions are automatically downloaded to your iPod when you plug it in to a computer to recharge the battery.

The diocese created "docPod" in order to spread the Good News of our faith to believers and seekers. Podcasting is perhaps the least expensive communications media since smoke signals.

The diocese invested in a high quality microphone and a piece of equipment to translate the spoken word into a digital signal, and that's about it. Editing software, the program listing in iTunes and other directories, even the music on "docPod," are all free.

"Does it cost anything?" No, there is no charge for "docPod." If you don't own an iPod, you can listen to the program on any computer by visiting the Diocese of Charlotte's Web site at www.charlottediocese.org.

You can subscribe to the program by downloading the iTunes software, which also is free.

Since it is free, the next question is, "Where can I get it?" Most of the millions of people who download podcasts do so through the iTunes software program. The "docPod" Web page has one-click links to iTunes.

But if you don't want the iTunes program, you can listen to the program at the diocesan Web site. Click on the "docPod" icon that can be found on the Web site's home page.

The first episode of "docPod" features an interview with Bishop Peter J. Jugis, who will be a regular speaker on the program; music; a Scripture reading; an interview with Lori Fox, director of counseling services for Catholic Social Services; and a look at the news affecting Catholics from The Catholic News & Herald Staff Writer Karen Evans.

Future programs will focus on upcoming events, such as the Eucharistic Congress. We'll also explore the way our church is an instrument of the Lord's will through the ministries that address issues of social justice and education.

There is always something interesting happening in the Catholic faith. Hopefully, every episode of "docPod" will give you something to think about.

We are part of an ancient church with traditions that stretch back over centuries. Podcasting represents a new way for us to deliver an old, but still vibrant, message.

And who knows — the pope uses an iPod; maybe he will be a subscriber to "docPod."

WANT TO CONTRIBUTE?

Do you have an idea, suggestion or feedback for "docPod"? Contact David Hains, director of communications, at dwhains@charlottediocese.org.

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Tuning in faith

Catholic radio growing in size, scope and audience

BY MARK PATTISON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Twenty-five years ago, a pop group called the Buggles had a hit on a new cable channel, MTV, called "Video Killed the Radio Star."

Since then, numerous obituaries have been written for radio. It seems, though, that Catholic broadcasters have ignored those obituaries.

Catholic radio comes in virtually every size and shape, as does any other radio format. And the number of these stations is on the upswing. While dwarfed by the thousands of U.S. stations that identify themselves as Christian, the number is estimated at anywhere between 83 and 120.

There is one expanding network of Catholic stations. There is a global shortwave service that later decided to turn its gaze toward the States, offering its programming to anyone free, no strings attached.

There are producers of syndicated programming. There are a growing number of low-power radio stations striving to fill the spiritual needs of Catholics in remote areas. Podcasts are in vogue.

Early this fall, there will be a new channel on a satellite radio service devoted to the Catholic Church. The next step is high-definition radio, giving stations the technology to broadcast multiple channels simultaneously to listeners with the latest generation of radio receivers.

Relevant Radio owns 16 stations — nine in its home state of Wisconsin — and has affiliation agreements with 19 others, billing itself as the "largest Catholic talk radio network in the United States."

Even though Relevant is noncommercial, it still has to pay today's prices for precious radio-dial real estate. Thanks to generous contributors, sponsors and pledge drives, it can.

"Catholics are the principal focus, but we appeal to other denominations as well — but we don't hide the fact that we're Catholic," said CEO Dick Lyle.

While the Eternal Word Television Network is known as a cable television channel, one less-noticed aspect is its growing radio service.

According to EWTN radio marketing director John Pepe, it started as a shortwave service in 1992 to reach the far corners of the globe. Four years later, the network decided to offer the service's programming free of charge to any and all takers.

The first one to accept was KBVM, a Catholic FM station in Portland, Ore.

"There's no bartering, there's no spots," Pepe said, citing two common radio industry terms that allow program suppliers to sell commercials on their shows rather than receive cash from a radio station for the right to air those shows.

"It's a great opportunity to talk about divine providence," he added.

Rather than merely simulcast EWTN's cable offerings, the radio service, following a programming

overhaul this winter, is heavy on call-in shows, although the daily Mass is still simulcast — and repeated.

Pepe estimates there are "in excess of 80" stations carrying EWTN's radio feed 18 or more hours a day.

One that carries EWTN radio across the clock is Sirius Satellite Radio, the subscription radio service.

Early this fall, once the technical adjustments are all in place, Sirius will also carry the Catholic Channel, programmed by the Archdiocese of New York.

"We'll be emphasizing on our channel a lot of live two-way talk ... to make it sound, in terms of format, like the best of popular radio," Joseph Zwilling, New York archdiocesan communications director, said.

"We will be completely Catholic in terms of content in what our hosts say on the air," with an eye on "the issues that are in the news," he said.

"We do hope to market the channel through the Catholic press, through the (Sirius) Web site. We hope that when people learn about the Catholic Channel on Sirius, they'll buy the radios and give us a listen," Zwilling said.

Listeners need a satellite radio receiver to get Sirius.

"Where appropriate," he added, "Sirius will promote the Catholic Church on some of the (program breaks)."

Catholic radio, by and large, doesn't sell commercial time. If you don't sell commercials, you don't need to subscribe to ratings services that demonstrate who's listening to your programming as a method to convince advertisers to buy time.

KLUX-FM in Corpus Christi, Texas, doesn't sell ads, but it subscribes to a ratings service, which says KLUX is second in the Corpus Christi market for adults ages 35 and up, and sixth for listeners ages 12 and up.

"We follow the model of Our Lord, who walked among the sinners and the tax collectors," said KLUX general manager Marty Wind. "Four times an hour, we have someone teaching about the Catholic Church, or the bishop teaching, or the Angelus, or a prayer from a priest."

The U.S. bishops' Catholic Communication Campaign's "Catholic Radio Weekly" airs on about 70 stations, both Catholic and secular.

It begins its sixth season this fall and carries regular features on the Vatican, film and popular culture, reports from Catholic Relief Services field representatives, a forum on life issues, chats with Catholic authors and a Catholic Church Extension Society "Hidden Hero of the Month" on the home missions.

The CCC funds four other weekly radio programs, each reaching 30-70 stations, with plans for the shows to be downloadable via podcasts and MP3 players.

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: AUG. 13, 2006

Aug. 13, Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) 1 Kings 19:4-8
Psalm 34:2-9
- 2) Ephesians 4:30-5:2
- 3) Gospel: John 6:41-51

The Bread of Life sustains us

BY BEVERLY CORZINE
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

One February morning snow and ice began to make Fort Worth commuters think twice before heading out. Nevertheless, this was the day our pastoral staff had chosen months ago for a day of recollection at the Catholic Renewal Center.

As part-time Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults director and full-time high school teacher, I had looked forward to the rare opportunity to join my colleagues in this day of prayer or, as someone had characterized it, a minivacation with the Lord.

We had asked our friend Dan Luby to design a day with the Eucharist as its central theme. As we embarked on our journey

in the relaxed warmth of a comfortable room, the world outside grew quiet while the temperature plummeted.

During some individual quiet time, I made a trip to the kitchen for a cup of coffee. I found Dan with shirt sleeves rolled up, kneading a substantial ball of dough.

I whispered, "Are you really making yeast bread for us?"

He nodded his head with the understanding that this secret would eventually have its own way of announcing itself.

As the day progressed, the smell of rising dough and then the glorious smell of baking bread permeated the air. Once the secret of the bread was out, a new spirit of joy filled the room. The discussion topic of Jesus as the Bread of Life took on a new dimension.

Later we gathered in the chapel, where our celebration of the Eucharist and the smell of baking bread rose together in thanksgiving. When we returned to our meeting room, loaves of warm bread, butter and jam greeted us.

Like giggling children, we feasted on authentic homemade bread, dripping with butter and jelly.

When Jesus describes himself as the Bread of Life in today's Gospel, his listeners understand the importance of bread in their meager diets because in their world there was no life without bread.

Looking back through the cross, we recognize there is no life without the Bread of Life to sustain us.

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF AUG. 6-12

Sunday (Transfiguration of the Lord), Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14, 2 Peter 1:16-19, Mark 9:2-10; **Monday** (St. Cajetan, St. Sixtus II and Companions), Jeremiah 28:1-17, Matthew 14:13-21; **Tuesday** (St. Dominic), Jeremiah 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22, Matthew 14:22-36; **Wednesday** (St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross), Jeremiah 31:1-7, Jeremiah 31:10-13, Matthew 15:21-28; **Thursday** (St. Lawrence), 2 Corinthians 9:6-10, John 12:24-26; **Friday** (St. Clare), Nahum 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7, Deuteronomy 32:35-36, 39, 41, Matthew 16:24-28; **Saturday**, Habakkuk 1:12-2:4, Matthew 17:14-20.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF AUG. 13-19

Sunday (Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time), 1 Kings 19:4-8, Ephesians 4:30-5:2, John 6:41-51; **Monday** (St. Maximilian Kolbe), Ezekiel 1:2-5, 24-28, Matthew 17:22-27; **Tuesday** (Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary), Revelation 11:19; 12:1-6, 10, 1 Corinthians 15:20-27, Luke 1:39-56; **Wednesday** (St. Stephen of Hungary), Ezekiel 9:1-7; 10:18-22, Matthew 18:15-20; **Thursday**, Ezekiel 12:1-2, Matthew 18:21-19:1; **Friday** (St. Jane de Chantal), Ezekiel 16:1-15, 60, 63, Isaiah 12:2-6, Matthew 19:3-12; **Saturday** (St. John Eudes), Ezekiel 18:1-10, 13, 30-32, Matthew 19:13-15.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF AUG. 20-26

Sunday (Twentieth Sunday in ordinary Time), Proverbs 9:1-6, Ephesians 5:15-20, John 6:51-58; **Monday** (St. Pius X), Ezekiel 24:15-24, Deuteronomy 32:18-21, Matthew 19:16-22; **Tuesday** (Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary), Ezekiel 28:1-10, Deuteronomy 32:26-28, 30, 35-36, Matthew 19:23-30; **Wednesday** (St. Rose of Lima), Ezekiel 34: 1-11, Matthew 20:1-16; **Thursday** (St. Bartholomew), Revelation 21:9-14, John 1:45-51; **Friday** (St. Louis, St. Joseph Calasanz), Ezekiel 37:1-14, Matthew 22:34-40; **Saturday**, Ezekiel 43:1-7, Matthew 23:1-12.

Groce
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

Asheville & Arden
The Catholic Funeral Directors

The Groces congratulate St. Joan of Arc Parish on their new facility.
For information on how you can help, call the parish office: 828-252-3151.



Retired. Not retiring.

Sara and Marge each have their own idea of wellness.

Sara likes tai chi. Marge prefers crossword puzzles and an occasional massage. Both love sharing dreams, memories and laughs. Living here will make them feel good.

Because here, wellness is a way of life.



PENNYBYRN
at MARYFIELD
A Continuing Care Retirement Community

www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com

(336) 886-4103 or (866) 627-9343

1315 Greensboro Rd, High Point, NC 27260

Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor
Servants of the Mother of God




NP/CNH Well#1

'Ballad' hits too many bumps



CNS PHOTO BY COLUMBIA

Will Ferrell stars in "Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby." Despite Ferrell's goofiness and scenes filmed around Charlotte, the script is full of juvenile jokes that turn vulgar, irreverent, or just unfunny. Recurring crude sexual language, a running gag involving a gay character, some irreverent humor and profanity, drug references, comic violence. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is L — limited adult audience. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13.

Ignatius stops sale of Charlotte Church works after singer's TV pilot

BY SIMON CALDWELL
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

LONDON — The U.S. publishing company Ignatius Press has refused to sell any works by singer Charlotte Church after she called German-born Pope Benedict XVI a Nazi and mocked the Catholic Church.

The directors of Ignatius Press said they were offended when the Welsh singer mocked the church in the pilot of a proposed eight-part television chat show.

Church, dubbed the "Voice of an Angel" before she turned her talents to popular music, also dressed up as a nun and pretended to hallucinate while eating "communion" wafers imprinted with smiling faces signifying the drug Ecstasy.

She smashed open a statue of the Virgin Mary to reveal a can of hard cider inside, said she worshipped "St. Fortified Wine," and stuck chewing gum on a statue of the child Jesus.

Ignatius Press announced that Church's products have been withdrawn from its Web site and catalogue.

"It is with regret that we do this," the company said in a statement to its customers on its Web site.

"Miss Church possesses a great gift

from God, and in the past she has used her talent often to offer praise and glory to Our Lord," the statement said.

"We cannot stand by a young woman who uses her stature in the media to mock the Eucharist, slander the Holy Father, and denigrate the vows of religious women," it continued.

"Therefore, our catalogues and Web site will immediately withdraw all compact discs, cassette tapes, DVDs and VHS tapes that feature Miss Church. Please join us in praying for this troubled young woman," the statement added.

Church declined to comment.

Church, 20, was raised a Catholic and sang for Pope John Paul II at the Vatican at the age of 12.

The pilot for her show was filmed before a live studio audience July 12.

Ignatius Press was founded by Father Joseph Fessio, a California Jesuit who studied under the future Pope Benedict in Germany in the 1970s and who continues to be a close friend.

Pope Benedict, the son of a German policeman opposed to Nazism, was forced into the Hitler Youth movement as a child, and during World War II he served briefly in an anti-aircraft battalion.

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



INTRODUCING...

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES WEST -

St. Barnabas in Arden -

open after all Masses of 2nd and 4th weekends each month

Visit our others satellite stores, too:

St. Charles Borromeo in Morganton

St. Gabriel in Charlotte

St. Therese in Mooreville

Come in and check out our GREAT SUMMER READING selections!!

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)

maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

Former owners deny claim that chapel replaced abortion facility

WASHINGTON (CNS) — It made a nice story: A building where abortions used to be performed in a suburb of Buffalo, N.Y., becomes a Catholic chapel dedicated to the aborted children.

The trouble is the building's only previous owners adamantly deny they ever rented space to anyone who performed abortions.

In mid-July Catholic News Service picked up and distributed a story about the chapel that originally ran in the Western New York Catholic, the Buffalo diocesan newspaper.

The story said a local independent Catholic radio station, WLOF-FM, had recently celebrated the dedication of a chapel in a building where abortions used to be performed.

On July 31 The Buffalo News, a local daily, reported on the story but quoted the building's first owners, William and Mary Jane Howard, as saying there had never been an abortion provider in the building.

Mary Jane Howard told CNS they owned the building from 1975 until they sold it to the radio station in 2003 and she was the building manager.

She said she thinks the abortionist story arose from an "innocent misunderstanding."

William Howard said that while the building was up for sale, one person who came to look at it was someone who they later learned was looking for a place to rent out as an abortion clinic. That person visited the building once and never returned or made a purchase offer.

Howard told CNS he had never said there had been an abortion practice there. He said Jim Wright, co-founder of WLOF, may have misconstrued a comment he had made that he was glad the station bought the building instead of someone who wanted to set up an abortion clinic.

The 330-square-foot worship site, called the Chapel of the Holy Innocents, is intended as a place of meditation for the station's employees and is wired to allow live broadcasts of the Mass on radio.

Following Howard's denial, Wright told CNS, "I wouldn't make up a story like that. I remember him telling me there was an abortionist down there."

Mary Jane Howard said the building had housed medical practices over the years but never anyone who provided abortions.

The suggestion that they once rented space to an abortion provider "has caused all sorts of consternation in our family," which is strongly Catholic.

INTERVENTION SPECIALIST

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic School, Winston-Salem, NC, is seeking a part-time Intervention Specialist. Position involves coordination of services of LD students in K-8 grades. Knowledge of structured phonics is desirable. Two years of experience preferred.

Please send resume, transcripts, and references to:

Cheryl Zuiker, Principal

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic School

1730 Link Road

Winston-Salem, NC 27103 (336)722-7204 or email czuiker@ourladyofmercyschool.org

Do you know everything you need to know about your home mortgage options?

No? Call me, I can help!

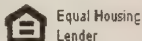
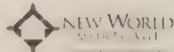
Jayne McGonnell

Mortgage Loan Originator

(704) 516-9682

jaynmcgonnell@mortgagemaps.com

Let me be your mortgage advisor!



Thinking about a will?

Practice good stewardship, create a lasting legacy and help the poorest of the poor overseas.

Request a free Wills Kit from Catholic Relief Services.

1-800-235-2772 ext. 7318 or kdudzik@crs.org

DIRECTOR OF DIOCESAN HOUSING CORPORATION

The Catholic Diocese of Charlotte Housing Corporation is seeking a full-time director to provide vision and leadership to a developing housing ministry. A complete job description for this position is posted at www.cdhousingcorp.org. Position includes competitive salary and an extensive benefits package. EOE.



To be considered for this position, submit a resume and salary history postmarked by August 25, 2006 to:

Gerard A. Carter, CDCHC

1123 South Church Street

Charlotte, NC 28203-4003

or email gacarter@charlottediocese.org.

RICHMOND DIOCESE

DIRECTOR - CHURCH LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

The Diocese of Richmond seeks a Director to oversee the new diocesan Church Leadership Institute. The Director will provide the inspirational leadership to develop, implement, and evaluate a Church leadership formation program that will produce both volunteer and career/professional ecclesial ministers. The Director will collaborate with chancery offices in order to provide opportunities for development of the skills necessary for lay ministry, within a variety of roles.

Minimum requirements include a master's degree in theology or related field, three years' experience in pastoral ministry, adult education experience, a demonstrated ability to work collaboratively, excellent communication and facilitation skills, good administration skills and a passion for developing leaders. The selected candidate will be well-versed in Church documents, particularly regarding the role of lay ecclesial ministers, and be a Catholic in good standing. Some travel is required. Position is open until filled.

Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest and diocesan application to dmahanes@richmonddiocese.org, or mail to D.G. Mahanes, Director of Human Resources, Catholic Diocese of Richmond, 811 Cathedral Place, Richmond, VA 23220.

Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT

NANNY: ARE YOU MY GRAMMY/FAV AUNT? Ballantyne (South Charlotte) family looking for experienced, mature nanny to care for adorable baby and active toddler 25-30 hours/week. Must be warm and loving, have lots of energy and be more than just a caretaker! Please call: 704-953-0302.

SERVICES

COUNSELING SERVICES: Individuals. Couples. Family. Lucille Moses, BSN, M.Ed. Licensed Professional Counselor. 1801 East 5th Street, 108-B, Charlotte. 704-366-6507 or 704-942-4334.

FOR RENT

LAKE LURE VACATION HOME: New! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, all amenities. 3 minutes to

Rocky Broad River, Lake Lure beach; fishing, boating, hiking, swimming. Reasonable! 828-299-3714.

CONDO: Oceanfront on Pleasure Island. 2 BD/2 BA. Minutes from Wilmington. Rent by day or week. 4 BDs also available. Call 703.450.8480 or write wfkelle@aol.com for availability.

HOUSE: Renter's dream! "Little to no maintenance." Located near university area (Mapleton subdivision). 8801 Norway Ct., Charlotte 28269. \$1175 per month. <http://www.1sourcerents.com/3058>

FOR SALE

HOME: Lake Wylie, SC (near Charlotte). 3 BD/2BA home, excellent school district, nice neighbors, community pool and playground, new Catholic church being built nearby. \$192,000. www.homesbyowner.com/28338

PRAYERS AND PETITIONS

In thanksgiving to St. Jude for blessings received. M.A.

Classified ads bring results! Over 135,000 readers! Over 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

Fighting a global problem

Program sheds light on human trafficking

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

BELMONT — Trafficking in humans — whether for slave labor, the sex industry or domestic servitude — is a global problem, affecting an unknown number of men, women and children from Thailand to North Carolina.

"It's a justice issue, it's a human rights issue. It's a mission that belongs to all of us," said Sister Mary Ellen Dougherty of the U.S. bishops' Migration and Refugee Services (MRS).

A member of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Sister Dougherty is coordinator for education and outreach for MRS' human trafficking program.

She was a featured speaker at a daylong program addressing human trafficking — its causes, scope and prevention — sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy in Belmont Aug. 4.

According to Catholic Relief Services, there are between 700,000 and 2 million victims of human trafficking around the world, primarily women and children.

Sister Dougherty said the U.S. State Department estimates that 16,000 people are trafficked into the United States each year. The United States is one of only 17

countries that have enacted specific laws against human trafficking.

Many victims agree to be smuggled into the United States, Sister Dougherty said.

"The trafficking comes not in the act of smuggling, but in the fraud in that they expect to be liberated or have a job of their own choosing," she said. "Sometimes, they are brought here by people who they think love them and will marry them."

Instead, they find themselves enslaved in a job they can't extricate themselves from, or in "debt bondage" from which they can never escape.

"We are broadening our search (for human trafficking) and finding that the problem is much vaster than we realized," she said.

What was formerly considered, by cultural attitudes, to be child labor is now considered slavery. For example, 10 years ago, using child labor in African fishing industries was commonly accepted, but no longer, said Sister Dougherty.

Contrary to what many people may think, the majority of human trafficking victims are not brought to the United States for work in the sex trade, said Sister Dougherty.



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

Vietnamese girls, one as young as 8, sit in a Cambodian brothel in this March 2002 photo. Human trafficking has become a global problem, with as many as 2 million people living and working in bondage.

Although 70-80 percent of victims are female, "there is almost a 50-50 breakdown between sexual exploitation and labor," she said.

When underage victims are forced into the sex business, she said, the U.S. mentality about juvenile delinquency often prevents their being recognized as victims. They are seen as teenage prostitutes, or criminals, rather than as the victims of commercial sex with a

minor, which is a crime throughout the United States, she said.

If minors caught up in prostitution are viewed as victims rather than criminals, the response will be quite different, she said.

Sister Dougherty said people can help victims of human trafficking in a variety of ways — by notifying authorities of trafficking activities, by lobbying social service agencies to help victims and by raising awareness about the widening scope of human trafficking.

In the Diocese of Charlotte, CSS employees have been trained to identify the signs and symptoms of human trafficking and how to assist victims.

Often, the only contact trafficking victims have with the outside world is through religious ministers, as weekly Mass might be the only activity that the trafficker allows them to do alone.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

Contributing to this story was Jerry Filteau of Catholic News Service.

WANT TO HELP?

Anyone who suspects a trafficking situation that has not yet been reported or investigated should start by calling the Justice Department's Trafficking in Persons and Worker Exploitation Task Force complaint line at (888) 428-7581. That will initiate a federal investigation into the matter.

Apply to the Abbey for fall 2006!

Scholarships, financial aid, and housing are still available.



It's not too late to inquire and apply online at:
BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

For more information call 1.888.222.0110 or email: admissions@bac.edu



BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Memoirs of a Congress

Part 1 of a 7-part series on the second Eucharistic Congress

After several long months of preparation, the day finally arrived. And over the next several and quickly passing hours, the day came to a close. What remained? Did the Diocese of Charlotte's first Eucharistic Congress make an impact? Had it been worth the effort?

Friday, Sept. 23, 2005 —
Charlotte Convention Center

After the stage was set, which took a host of volunteers — including priests, seminarians and laity — and after a turbulent choir rehearsal, the moment arrived. The congress opened with a 100-voice choir concert, which explored our rich Catholic musical tradition in chant and song.

The choir elevated the hearts and souls of thousands of eager congress participants and set the stage for a mystical two-day event. As the final notes resounded through the ballroom and as the uproarious applause ended, the stage was then vacated for one solitary voice — one man, an actor, who would then fill the hall with his voice alone, at times gentle and at times commanding.

Jim Caviezel, most famous for his role as Jesus in "The Passion of the Christ," led the faithful through an opening night Catholic "pep rally" that defined Charlotte's first Eucharistic Congress.

But Caviezel did not conclude the night. Jesus did. Congress participants were invited to St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte for nocturnal adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. For nine consecutive hours throughout the night, faithful from throughout the diocese kept vigil with the Lord as the Knights of Columbus stood guard.

Early the next morning, the priests of the diocese spent a final hour with the Blessed Sacrament before departing for the eucharistic procession.

Saturday, Sept. 24, 2005 —
St. Peter Church, Charlotte

History continued to unfold as thousands of faithful Catholics arrived to participate in Charlotte's first-ever eucharistic procession through uptown Charlotte. This moving display of Catholic faith involved every characteristic of the church's life: clergy, laity, seminarians, religious; adults, youth, children.

As the procession entered the convention center, the faithful enjoyed a Holy Hour and Benediction to complete the morning devotions. The day had begun.

Over the next few hours, participants listened to inspired talks given in "tracks" for adults, teens, children in English and Spanish. The day also offered time for fellowship, shopping for books and religious articles from vendors, and the opportunity for confession and adoration

Guest Column

FATHER MATTHEW
BUETTNER
GUEST COLUMNIST



of the Blessed Sacrament throughout the day.

The event reached its spiritual culmination with the celebration of the holy sacrifice of the Mass in the evening. Bishop Peter J. Jugis surprised us with the announcement of Charlotte's second Eucharistic Congress, which met with thunderous applause.

In retrospect, I think the faithful had already begun to taste the fruit produced by the Eucharistic Congress and were eager for more.

Was it worth the effort? Indeed. That is why we are preparing now for the Diocese of Charlotte's second Eucharistic Congress to be held at the Charlotte Convention Center on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 6-7, 2006.

Come and taste again the fruit of God's grace.

Father Buettner is pastor of St. Dorothy Church in Lincolnton.



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Bishop Peter J. Jugis carries the monstrance holding the Eucharist during the eucharistic procession of the Eucharistic Congress Sept. 24, 2005.

Pope tells 42,000 altar servers they are all Jesus' friends

BY CINDY WOODEN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Although billed as his weekly general audience, Pope Benedict XVI's Aug. 2 appointment in St. Peter's Square was mainly an audience for 42,000 European altar servers.

And, in fact, there was a special focus on the 35,000 altar boys and altar girls from Germany.

"Because most of the servers gathered in this square today are German-speakers, I will address them first in my mother tongue," the German-born pope explained at the beginning of the audience.

Instead of giving his main audience talk in Italian, as is customary, the pope delivered his speech in German, then offered short greetings in Italian, French, English, Spanish, Polish and seven other languages.

Including the altar servers, about 55,000 people had gathered in St. Peter's Square on a hot, humid day for the audience.

The pope explained to the altar servers that he was in the midst of a series of audience talks about the Twelve Apostles.

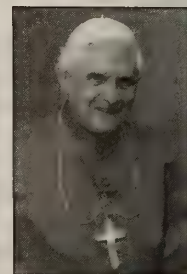
"The apostles were friends of Jesus," he said. "He himself called them that during the Last Supper."

"They were apostles and witnesses of Christ because they were his friends, united to him by a bond of love enlivened by the Holy Spirit," the pope said.

Pope Benedict told the young people

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



that Jesus also calls them his friends and wants to transform them into courageous witnesses of the Gospel.

The pope asked them to listen to Jesus' voice and to be open to his call, particularly if he is calling them to "give yourself without reservation" in the priesthood.

"Dear friends, in reality you already are apostles of Jesus," he said. "When you offer your service at the altar, you give a witness to all. Your attitude of prayer, your devotion that comes from the heart and is expressed in gestures, song and responses, all this is apostolate."

Pope Benedict asked the altar boys and altar girls to be on guard against becoming too used to serving at the altar and, instead, to let themselves marvel again and again at the love of Christ who sacrificed himself on the cross and sacrifices himself on the altar.

"That love which you receive in the liturgy, carry it to everyone, especially to those places where you see love lacking," he said.

Catholics have many means of expression

Recent letters to the editor expressed dismay and disdain to see Mexican Catholics praying for a World Cup victory and dressing a statue of the child Jesus in a soccer uniform ("Mexican Catholics pray for a World Cup miracle," June 23).

It made me smile, just as I smile when I see our local Hispanic Catholics paint icons to Our Lady of Guadalupe on their work trucks or hang rosaries from

their rearview mirrors.

And when athletes make the Sign of the Cross to celebrate a touchdown, good for them — what a lovely way to express our thanksgiving in all things.

Hooray for scapulars, holy cards, icons and other Catholic distinctives that set us apart. I say, enjoy being Catholic! Viva Jesus del futbol!

— Steve Judge
Arden

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Eucharist: Bread of Life

Jesus can satisfy our hunger

There are many hungers in our human life that cry out for nourishment. As we gather together in these hot summer weeks to celebrate the Eucharist, we are challenged in our Scripture readings to consider all these hungers.

Through the various accounts, believers are reminded that God wants to satisfy every human hunger and that we are to reflect on what we receive and who is the giver. Some examples of this process can be found in Elisha feeding 100 people (17th Sunday), the manna in the wilderness (18th Sunday), Elijah being fed by an angel (19th Sunday) and Jesus multiplying the bread for many (20th Sunday).

Not by accident, the Catholic Church brings to the attention of the faithful chapter 6 of John's Gospel for five Sundays in a row. This chapter has 71 verses and all of them speak about the Eucharist as the bread of life.

The people were drawn to Jesus at the seashore and in the wilderness because their lives were as dry as the sand of the shore and as lost in the wilderness of unsatisfied hungers.

The story of the multiplication of bread is so important that it is reported six times in the four Gospels. In each

Guest Column

CAPUCHIN
FATHER JOHN
AURILIA
GUEST COLUMNIST



account, we find some common denominators: large crowds, a remote setting, the estimated cost of buying food for such a crowd (200 denarii = \$9,000), the seating of the crowd, the menu (bread and fish) and the leftovers are more than they started with.

The story beyond the story is far more important than the Gospel's pericopae. Actually, Jesus says to you and to me today, "Bring me your barley loaves and your dry fish and see what I can do with them." Don't wait until you are perfect to act, because you never will be. Giving something is always better than giving nothing.

It would be unfair to understand the Eucharist only in terms of "transubstantiation" as adopted by the Fourth Lateran

Council in 1215 or similar words.

The reality is that "any reference to the Eucharistic species as bread and wine is wrong. They are properly called the Body and Blood of Christ," as quoted in "Our Sunday Visitor's Catholic Encyclopedia" (see Transubstantiation on ps. 940-941).

The Eucharist is the food for the journey, and Jesus is the magnet drawing us to this bread and drink of life. Our hunger is not so much for bread that we buy at the supermarket — the hunger for God is definitely more striking.

Today's world finds itself in a paradoxical situation: We are thirsty, but we don't go to the fountain, which is God; and most of the time, we expect the fountain to come to us.

We want to be happy, but we run away from happiness. On our spiritual journey, we sometimes pay attention to so many minutiae that we lose ourselves in the details and forget the cornerstone, which keeps the structure together.

In this land of plenty, would it not be ironic to die of spiritual starvation?

Capuchin Father Aurilia is pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in Hendersonville.

'Beloved'

Peace of Mind

LORI FOX
GUEST COLUMNIST



Finding self-esteem through God's eyes, and our own

In this day and age, it's no wonder so many of us find ourselves lacking in the "self esteem department." Just consider the messages that bombard us in our daily routines.

When was the last time that you received a pat on the back for a job well done? When did someone you love look you square in the eye and tell you, "I think you are amazing."

Have you turned on the TV lately and thought, "Wow, those thin, beautiful, rich people are just like me?"

Unfortunately, we're more likely to hear when we have missed the mark at work, done something to disappoint someone at home or angered someone by an unintended maneuver on the freeway. We humans are conditioned to look outward and feed our hunger for approval by what we see reflected there.

Self-help books tell us to stop relying on others to build our self-esteem. We need to look within and feel great about our lives no matter what anybody else has to say about us.

This is easier said than done.

But what if the love and appreciation we crave were right before us all along?

Of all the gifts the life of Jesus has brought to mankind, one of the greatest was the chance for us to experience the unconditional love of God as a father in a very human way.

In turn, Jesus allowed God to experience a father's love for his child. When Jesus is baptized, we hear God speak of his Son in words all children long to hear: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased" (Matthew 3:17).

What would it mean to you to hear those words coming from God's lips?

Would you feel that even in your imperfections, God loves you and has a father's boundless pride in you?

Would you feel more at peace about your life and the choices you have made?

Would you feel like what you do is recognized and matters?

Would you feel so full of love for yourself that you would try to help others feel this same self-acceptance?

These questions beg to be answered because it happens to you every day. A father rests his hand on his child's precious head and he calls you by your name, "Beloved."

Lori Fox is supervisor of counseling services at Catholic Social Services in the Diocese of Charlotte.

Re-entering the world

A grieving mother's compassionate journey

It is almost impossible to comprehend the horror that shattered Elaine Stillwell's life in 1986.

In her own words, she tells what happened: "In an instant my life changed forever when my two oldest children, 21-year-old Denis and 19-year-old Peggy, were killed in a freak car accident Aug. 2, 1986, not far from our home on Long Island."

I could relate, having suffered the sudden deaths of two sons myself less than three years apart. Small wonder that I would want to read what Stillwell wrote about her new "journey" in a book titled simply "The Death of a Child, Reflections for Grieving Parents."

Like her, my immediate reaction to this unbearable loss was to ask as she asks: "Where do we go from here? How do we get up in the morning?"

But unexpected healing and learning was to come from her grief, bringing her to live a "meaningful life" again.

This happened because she had a faith in the Lord that would, as she says, "light up" her life.

This trust led her to see the work she now could do precisely because of what grief had taught her.

"I was armed with three solid reasons to get up each day. I didn't want my children to be erased from peoples' minds. I wanted to keep doing every-

thing I could to make them proud of me. And I didn't want to waste the special love I had for them," she said.

She "re-entered the world," asking the Lord to design a new path that would lead her to live a "meaningful life" again.

The work Stillwell has done since then is astounding. She began to work with Compassionate Friends, a self-help group for bereaved parents and siblings, and founded a chapter of this organization in her own Rockville Centre Diocese on Long Island.

She then became New York state regional coordinator for the group, serving on the board of the National Catholic Ministry to the Bereaved.

She has chaired grief seminars and conferences, written for national magazines and authored books and pamphlets for the bereaved.

All this work is in the name of her children, and all royalties and stipends she receives go to the "Peggy and Denis O'Connor Memorial Scholarship," established at the University of Dayton, Ohio.

This summer marks the 20th anniversary of their deaths, and Stillwell planned a "big Aug. 5 affair" for the scholarship fund on the grounds of Bishop Kellenberg High School on Long Island.

"This is one of the ways I share

The Bottom Line

ANTOINETTE
BOSCO
CNS COLUMNIST



Peggy and Denis with the world," she said, acknowledging that everything she does "is connected with them," giving her energy and keeping her feeling "really close to them."

Yet, she also has met people "who can't let go of their pain and are stuck" in their agony and anger.

"I think they just crumble because they have no anchor in a religion," Stillwell writes.

"I could never have imagined the array of joys that would light up my life after suffering the deaths of Peggy and Denis. I did not have a master plan, but the Lord did!"

A truly God-connected woman, she can say, "When I envision heaven, I see Peggy's and Denis' beaming faces and the faces of my babies lost through miscarriage.

"My heart is overwhelmed with tears of joy as I patiently await our glorious reunion. Every day we are one day closer!"



JOIN US FOR THE SECOND DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS FRIDAY AND SATURDAY OCTOBER 6 & 7 —

FRIDAY: 7 pm — Sacred Music Concert followed by speaker **Raymond Arroyo** (EWTN host of "The World Over Live") presenting "The Big Way of Mother Angelica." Nocturnal Adoration will follow at St. Peter Catholic Church, Tryon St. at 1st Street.

SATURDAY: 8 am-5:30 pm — Lauds; programs and speakers for adults, Hispanics, teens and children; Eucharistic procession through uptown; and closing Mass. Also, the Congress will include Eucharistic Adoration, sacrament of Reconciliation, culture hour in several native languages, and vendors offering books, CDs, sacred objects and many more unique items. See schedule below.

CHARLOTTE CONVENTION CENTER — COLLEGE ST. & STONEWALL
NO ADMISSION FEE — ALL ARE WELCOME!

CONGRESS SPEAKERS



Bishop Peter Jugis - Leading the Eucharistic Procession and celebrating Mass



Bishop Emeritus William Curlin - Eucharistic Holy Hour Homily

General Track



Mary Beth Bonacci — "The Mission to Raise Chaste Teens" — Internationally known speaker and writer, her work appears frequently in Catholic journals and newspapers. She will address key issues facing young people — and, in fact all of us — regarding faith, chastity and our culture.



Jeff Cavins — "The Mission of Peer Evangelization" — After twelve years as a Protestant pastor, Jeff Cavins returned to the Catholic Church where he is recognized both nationally and internationally as an exciting public speaker who has a deep love for Jesus Christ.



Father James E. Goode, OFM, Ph.D. — "The Mission of Building a Culture of Life" — Father Goode is the leading Black Catholic evangelist in the United States. Known as the "Dean of Black Catholic preachers," Father Goode preaches the gospel message of "blessed assurance" and the dignity of all human life throughout the world.



Father Leo Patalinghug — "The Mission to be Beautiful — Children of the Most Beautiful Mother" — Fr. Patalinghug is making a return visit to the Eucharistic Congress. Father Patalinghug, associate pastor of St. John Church in Westminster, Md., entertains and inspires with a fast-paced, often humorous talk including break-dancing and karate.

Hispanic Track



Dr. Fernando Casanova — "The Mission of Being Catholic" — Dr. Casanova, a Puerto Rican theologian, is known for his enthusiastic and charismatic talks about the Catholic Church, its doctrine and its morality.



Father Juan Rivas — "The Mission of Catholic Media" — Born in Guadalajara, Mexico, Father Rivas is a priest member of the congregation of the Legionaries of Christ, ordained in 1982. For 18 years he has directed and produced the daily radio and television shows of Hombre Nuevo, evangelization programs explaining Catholicism with clarity, vigor and conviction.

Teen Track

Mary Beth Bonacci - see General Track above

Jeff Cavins - see General Track above

Father Leo Patalinghug — "The Mission to be Super Heroes"

Children's Track (K — 5th grade)

A four-hour program that is open to children in grades Kindergarten through 5th grade. The track features a variety of dynamic and fun-filled activities for children to discover Christ in their everyday lives. Children will also have a special adoration session.

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, October 6

7 pm — Concert of Sacred Music

Raymond Arroyo — "The Big Way of Mother Angelica"

Nocturnal Adoration at St. Peter Church

SATURDAY, October 7

8 am — Lauds

9 am-1pm — Speakers, programs for adults, Hispanics, teens, kids

12:15pm — Culture hour in native languages

1:30 pm — Eucharistic procession through uptown

4:30 pm — Eucharistic Congress Mass

Check www.GoEucharist.com for the latest Eucharistic Congress updates!



Perspectives

Father Buettner
examines what impels us;
David Hains writes about
forgiveness for Mel Gibson

| PAGES 18-19

SPREDing God's word

PROGRAM WELCOMES
DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED
INTO PARISH

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — There are special people in many parishes who need friends and support on their faith journeys.

To address that need, St. Matthew Church in Charlotte has implemented SPRED, a program of religious education specifically designed to meet the spiritual needs of persons with developmental disabilities.

SPRED (Special Religious Development) is a network of services that assists those people with developmental disabilities to realize their own giftedness and dignity and become more integrated into their parishes.

See SPRED, page 5

Leading a new flock

Bishop Burbidge
installed as head of
Raleigh Diocese

BY CATHOLIC NEWS
SERVICE

RALEIGH — Bishop Michael F. Burbidge used the example of St. John Vianney, the patron saint of parish priests, in formally introducing himself to his new flock as bishop of Raleigh at his Aug. 4 installation Mass.

"Like the people St. John

See RALEIGH, page 17

THE WAR AT HOME



CNS PHOTO BY FADI GHALJOUN, REUTERS

A Lebanese woman cries as she walks past the wreckage of a building in Beirut Aug. 8. A U.N.-brokered truce went into effect Aug. 14 to end more than four weeks of fighting between Israel and Hezbollah.

See LEBANON, page 6



CNS PHOTO BY NANCY WIEHEC

The sign outside St. Clare Church and its parish school in Waveland, Miss., displays a message of hope. The church, school and homes in the community were destroyed by Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

Still picking up the pieces

A year after hurricanes, Southern dioceses
still trying to recover

BY CAROL ZIMMERMAN
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Southern dioceses from Texas to Alabama are still reeling from the swath of destruction left by last year's hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

The Archdiocese of New Orleans and the Diocese of Biloxi, Miss., both hit hard by

Hurricane Katrina Aug. 29, have taken steps toward recovery, but full-scale restoration is still a long way off as thousands of residents no longer have places to live, churches and schools remain damaged and community service programs are no longer operational.

See KATRINA, page 9

Generous in spirit

Man leaves more than
\$1 million to diocese

| PAGE 10

Vocations

Priests, seminarians hold
cookout; youths discern callings

| Page 13

Culture Watch

Music ministers' focus; ****
Madonna's act upsets many

| Pages 14-15

CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930

UNC
NC COLLECTION

#420836#

*****3-DIGIT 275

S25 P1

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

DRIVEN BY FAITH



CNS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SHEMITZ, LONG ISLAND CATHOLIC

Teresa Duff, 99 (right), chats with fellow parishioner Jane Campbell following Mass in late July at Immaculate Conception Church in Westhampton Beach, N.Y. Duff still goes to church every day, arriving at 7:30 a.m. to pray the rosary before Mass.

At 99, Long Island Catholic woman remains vital part of her parish

WESTHAMPTON BEACH, N.Y. (CNS) — At 99 years old, Teresa Duff still cleans her own house, shops for groceries and goes to Mass every day.

She is practically part of the furniture at Immaculate Conception Church in Westhampton Beach.

"The sixth pew back, on the left," Duff said, noting her usual spot. "This is what I live for. God has been so good to me. I owe him this debt of gratitude. Since I am able to go, I go."

When Father Joseph Mirro, pastor at Immaculate Conception Church, announced Duff's 99th birthday from the pulpit at Mass July 14, the congregation gave her a standing ovation.

Duff drives to church every morning, arriving at 7:30 to pray the rosary before Mass. On rainy or snowy days, a neighbor takes her. On the rare occasions she can't make it to church, Duff watches Mass on television.

She has attended daily Mass nearly all of her adult life. An Irish immigrant, she lived in Manhattan with her now-deceased husband, Angus, and her two

sons. During that time, she worked at various department stores, attending Mass each afternoon on her lunch break.

When she moved to Quogue on Long Island 45 years ago, she started attending morning Mass at Immaculate Conception Church.

She credits her mother's example for her strong faith and love of the Mass.

"It doesn't surprise me that she comes to Mass every day," Father Mirro said. "It does surprise me that she is more active than a lot of younger people."

"We celebrate Teresa not because she is 99 but because she is a loving, caring person and a regular volunteer; she is always there to help in whatever way possible," he said.

Duff is part of the parish's mailing ministry and still bakes her famous Linzer tortes and other baked goods for church occasions.

"I am really blessed," Duff said. "I don't know what I did to deserve this. I have had a comfortable life. I am part of a good church. I am just so grateful and I tell God I am grateful."

Group works in churches to bring awareness of, tips on energy cuts

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Interfaith Power & Light sounds like the name of a public utility, complete with monthly bills. But it's not.

Interfaith Power & Light, active in 21 states and the District of Columbia, works at educating churches and their members about how to make a dent in global warming. It's part of the organization's way of caring for God's creation, and the work is done on many fronts.

"The focus is ... making congregations the model of behavior for individuals through conservation, new technologies; making congregations more energy-efficient, and then having it filter down to the individuals to make changes in their lifestyles and make their lives more energy-efficient," said Tim Kautza, education specialist for the National Catholic Rural Life Conference, a member of Iowa Interfaith Power & Light.

Michigan Interfaith Power & Light operates on several levels, said its director,

Father Charles Morris, pastor of St. Elizabeth Church in Wyandotte, Mich.

One is a Web site where customers can order compact fluorescent lights and power-saving appliances at a discount.

St. Elizabeth Church spent \$5,000 on an energy audit in 1997 and recouped the expense within a year by implementing the audit's energy-saving recommendations, according to Father Morris.

"We can save money as well as make a sacramental witness of our deepest values, with our care of creation," Father Morris said.

At St. Elizabeth, "we have four solar (power) systems in the rectory," Father Morris said: a solar thermal unit for the hot water, cutting natural gas usage in half; a 1.1-kilowatt photovoltaic unit; a 400-watt solar-wind hybrid turbine; and a solar attic fan.

"You can finance on-site renewable (energy) to reduce your ecological footprint," he noted.

Diocesan planner

ASHEVILLE VICARIATE

ASHEVILLE — The *St. Martin de Porres Dominican Laity Chapter* meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the rectory building at the Basilica of St. Lawrence, 97 Haywood St. Inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Beverly Reid at (423) 638-4744 or bebereid@adelphia.net.

HENDERSONVILLE — The *St. Francis of the Hills Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order* meets the fourth Sunday of each month, 2:30-4:30 p.m., at Immaculate Conception Church, 208 7th Ave. West. Visitors and inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Joanita Nellenbach, SFO, (828) 627-9209 or jnell@dnnet.net.

BOONE VICARIATE

SPRUCE PINE — A *Rosary of Intercession for Priests* is recited each Friday at St. Lucien Church, 695 Summit St., before the 9 a.m. Mass. Prayers are offered for bishops, priests and deacons, and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. For more information, call the church office at (828) 765-2224.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — St. Basil the Great Ukrainian Church will have a *Ukrainian Mass* in the chapel of Charlotte Catholic High School, 7702 Pineville-Matthews Rd., Aug. 20 at 11 a.m. The Mass is open to anyone who would like to attend. For more information, please contact Father Deacon Mark Shuey at mshuey2@nc.rr.com or call (919) 779-7246.

CHARLOTTE — Father Timothy Reid, parochial vicar of St. Matthew Church, will present "*The Importance of Beauty in Living a Catholic Life*" Aug. 24 at 7 p.m. in the activity center of St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd. RSVP to gail@catholicscripturestudy.com.

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church will host a *Christian Coffeehouse* Aug. 26, 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Roof

with a View in the Cedar Hill Building, 800 W. Hill St. in uptown Charlotte. Single and married adults are invited for an evening of contemporary Christian music, food and fellowship. For more information, call Kathy Bartlett at (704) 400-2213.

CHARLOTTE — *Pathfinders*, a peer-led support group for separated and divorced adults, offers education, support and fellowship through the divorce process. The group meets Tuesdays, 7:30-9 p.m., in St. Gabriel Church's Ministry Building, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, call Nancy at (704) 752-0318.

HUNTERSVILLE — *Mass* is celebrated in Spanish, Sundays at 3 p.m. at St. Mark, Catholic Church, 14740 Stumptown Rd., beginning Sept. 3.

HUNTERSVILLE — A *Mass to Honor Deceased Loved Ones* is celebrated the last Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. St. Mark Church, 14740 Stumptown Rd. For more information, call Pam Schneider at (704) 875-0201.

CHARLOTTE — A *Support Group for Caregivers of a Family Member with Memory Loss* meet the last Monday of each month, 10-11:30 a.m., at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, contact Suzanne Bach at (704) 376-4135.

CHARLOTTE — The *St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order* gathers the first Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. at Our Lady of Consolation Church, 2301 Statesville Ave. Those interested in learning more about the SFO and the Franciscan way of life are invited to attend. For more information, call Tom O'Loughlin at (704) 947-7235.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

HIGH POINT — Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 4145 Johnson St., will begin the third series of the *Hope of Seeing Everyone Again* program. HOSEA is a program to invite Catholics who have distanced themselves from the Catholic Church, for whatever reason, to return. This small group will meet beginning Sept. 5, 7-9 p.m. and will meet weekly for six weeks to discuss various issues and concerns and to receive pastoral referrals and guidance. For more information, contact Larry Kwan at (336) 688-1220.

GREENSBORO — *Catholic Daughters of the Americas*

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

AUG. 18, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 38

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Next secretary of state says Vatican warnings on Iraq were prophetic

ROME (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI's choice as the next secretary of state, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, said the current situation in Iraq demonstrates that the Vatican's warnings against the war were "prophetic."

At the same time, the cardinal said he has argued against a precipitous pullout of Western forces from Iraq because it would leave local Iraqis exposed to dangers.

Cardinal Bertone, archbishop of Genoa, Italy, made the comments in the Italian magazine 30 Giorni (30 Days), published Aug. 9.

Cardinal Bertone, who takes up his new duties Sept. 15, also said he had been following the fighting in Lebanon and was praying every day that the country be spared further "useless massacres." He expressed support for the strongly worded appeals of Pope Benedict and the outgoing secretary of state, Cardinal Angelo Sodano, both of whom called for an immediate

cease-fire in Lebanon.

On Iraq, Cardinal Bertone said he had agreed with the Vatican's position against the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in 2003 and added, "The current situation in Iraq shows how prophetic that judgment was."

Although not a diplomat by training, Cardinal Bertone has traveled extensively and has been involved in global issues, including economic relations between the world's poorest and richest countries.

Regarding Islam, Cardinal Bertone said that as archbishop of Genoa he had not opposed the construction of a mosque in the city, because he believes it is important to protect the human dignity of Muslim believers.

At the same time, he said, it would be good if "a certain reciprocity" were shown to Christian minorities in Muslim countries.

Archbishop Gabriel Montalvo, former nuncio to U.S., dies at age 76

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Colombia-born Archbishop Gabriel Montalvo, who served for seven years as the Vatican's nuncio to the United States, died Aug. 2 in Rome in a hospice run by the Sisters of Mercy of Alma, Mich.

Cardinal Angelo Sodano, Vatican secretary of state, presided over his Aug. 5 funeral Mass in St. Peter's Basilica.

Archbishop Montalvo, 76, was reported to have been suffering from lung cancer.

A career Vatican diplomat, the archbishop arrived in Washington in January 1999 after six years of service as the president of the Pontifical Ecclesiastical Academy, which trains priests to become Vatican diplomats.

Conversant in Spanish, French, English, Italian and German, his background included service in countries torn by violence and in nations where church-state tensions were high.

Before stepping down this past

February as nuncio to the United States, Archbishop Montalvo had traveled throughout the country, not simply participating the liturgies marking the installation of new bishops — including that of Bishop Peter J. Jugis in the Diocese of Charlotte in October 2003 — but also getting to know U.S. Catholics and the situation of the church in the country.

His tenure in the U.S. included a period of great challenges to the Catholic Church in the U.S. In addition, the United States and the Vatican had serious differences over the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq.

The archbishop first gained attention as a Vatican diplomat in 1982 when Pope John Paul II appointed him assistant mediator in Argentina and Chile's dispute over the Beagle Channel. The Vatican's mediation efforts, which began in 1979 when Argentina and Chile were on the brink of war, ended successfully with Archbishop Montalvo's help in early 1984.

will meet Sept. 11 at 7 p.m. in Our Ladies Cottage at Our Lady of Grace Church, 2205 West Market St. Any questions can be directed to Lawrence Kirwan at 292-2776.

HICKORY VICARIATE

NEWTON — *Fostering Justice Worldwide*, sponsored by the diocesan Office of Justice and Peace, will share Catholic Relief Services (CRS) stories. This free event will take place at St. Joseph Church, 720 West 13th St., St., Sept. 9, 1:30-5 p.m. The program will provide an overview of Catholic social teaching, CRS-related work in the Diocese of Charlotte, CRS work in Africa, presentations on effective advocacy and more. This event will be repeated in Stoneville Nov. 4. For specific details about the Saturday afternoon events please call the Office of Justice and Peace at (704) 370-3234 or (704) 370-3225, or e-mail justicepeace@charlottediocese.org.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

SALISBURY — *Elizabeth Ministry* is a peer ministry comprised of Sacred Heart Church parishioners who have lost babies before or shortly after birth. Confidential peer ministry, information and spiritual materials are offered at no cost or obligation to anyone who has experienced miscarriage, stillbirth or the death of a newborn. For details, call Renee Washington at (704) 637-0472 or Sharon Burges at (704) 633-0591.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

MURPHY — A *Charismatic Prayer Group* meets Fridays at 3:30 p.m. in the Glenmary House of St. William Church, 765 Andrews Rd. Join us for praise music, witness, teaching, prayers and laying on of hands for those in need. For more details, call Gery Dashner at (828) 494-2683.

MURPHY — Msgr. Joseph Champlin will lead an annual summer mission Aug. 19-23 with 12 p.m. and 7 p.m. services alternating between St. William Church, 765 Andrews Rd., and Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hayesville. Themes addressed will be "Prayer and Faith," "Mercy and Peace," "Grace and Growth" and "Faith and Forgiveness." The closing session, "Spirituality and Stress," will be a 6 p.m. Mass at St. William Church Aug. 23. For more information, call Judy Lott at (828) 835-3359.

HAYESVILLE — Msgr. Joseph Champlin will lead an annual summer mission Aug. 19-23 with 12 p.m. and 7 p.m. services alternating between Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Highway 64 West, and St. William Church in Murphy. Themes addressed will be "Prayer and Faith," "Mercy and Peace," "Grace and Growth" and "Faith and Forgiveness." The closing session, "Spirituality and Stress," will be a 6 p.m. Mass at St. William Church Aug. 23. For more information, call Judy Lott at (828) 835-3359.

WAYNESVILLE — *Adult Education Classes* are held the first three Wednesday evenings of each month beginning at 6:45 p.m. in the St. John the Evangelist Church Social Hall, 234 Church St. For more information, call Charles Luce at (828) 648-7369 or e-mail luce54@aol.com.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

WINSTON-SALEM — The Spirit of Assisi hosts a *Wednesday Lunch & Speaker Series* each Wednesday, 12:30-1:15 p.m., at the Fatima Chapel, 211 W. Third St. Conventual Franciscan Father Conali McHugh will speak on "Meditating with the Bible" at the Sept. 6 program. Laura Graban will speak on "Reconciliation: the Sacrament of Healing" at the Sept. 13 program. For more information and to RSVP, call Sister Kathy Ganiel at (336) 624-1971 or e-mail kganiel@triad.rr.com.

CLEMMONS — A *Charismatic Prayer Group* meets Mondays at 7:15 p.m. in the eucharistic chapel of Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd. Join us for praise music, witness, teaching, prayers and petition. For more details, call Jim Passero at (336) 998-7503.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Calling for change



CNS PHOTO BY PAUL HARING

Sister Carole Shinnick, a School Sister of Notre Dame, addresses a rally on Capitol Hill in Washington June 27. Sister Shinnick, executive director of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, was pressing for Congress to make poverty issues a priority.

PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS

Bishop Peter J. Jugis announces the following pastoral assignments:

Effective July 10, 2006: Capuchin Father Remo DiSalvatore, as pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Charlotte.

Effective Aug. 1, 2006: Father Joseph Kelleher, as chaplain of Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville.

CORRECTIONS

Figures need correcting from the Room at the Inn article ('Helping make Room at the Inn,' Aug. 4):

— Since December 1994, the residency program has served 400 mothers and children, not 300;

— In its second year, the outreach center served 113 mothers and children, not 50 individuals;

— In the last fiscal year, the outreach center served 437 mothers and children, not more than 400 women. The Catholic News & Herald regrets the errors.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Aug. 20 — 12 p.m.
Vietnamese Cursillo gathering
Reedy Creek Park, Charlotte

Aug. 22 — 8 a.m.
Mass for the Missionaries of Charity
Missionaries of Charity convent, Charlotte

Aug. 24 — 10 a.m.
Diocesan Foundation board meeting
Catholic Conference Center, Hickory

Sept. 9 — 1:30 p.m.
"Fostering Justice Worldwide"
St. Joseph Church, Newton

Faith from the floor up



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of Knights of Columbus St. James Council 7152 are pictured before installing new flooring in the rectory of St. Philip the Apostle Church in Statesville in July. The work took about two weeks, according to Father Kurt Fohn, pastor.

"The Knights are very involved at the parish and always lend a hand to do what needs to be done," said Father Fohn.

Pictured (clockwise from left): Dick Bockoras, Jim Reilly, Phil Klvana, Ken Jewell, Kay and Tom Dziubczynski.

Donating support



COURTESY PHOTO

Carol Pennington, president of Columbiettes Council 8509, and Ruth Bailey, Columbiettes member, present a \$645 check June 29 to Eileen Gilreath, mother of Cheryl Gilreath, a parishioner of Holy Cross Church in Kernersville who is discerning her call to the religious life while performing mission work with the poor overseas.

The Columbiettes, the women's auxiliary group of the Knights of Columbus, hold annual fundraisers to help support those considering or pursuing religious vocations.

On June 28, Grand Knight Lance Cancro of Knights of Columbus Council 8509 presented Cheryl Gilreath with a donation toward her education and training.

Gilreath's interest in the religious life grew while attending Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio. Currently she is in Sabinov, Slovakia, as part of a mission trip to assist the poor in other countries. She was interested in assisting in the Sudan.

Sworn to serve



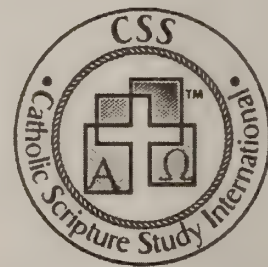
COURTESY PHOTO BY FRED HOGAN

Newly-elected officers of Knights of Columbus Council 8509 are pictured after being sworn in after Mass at Holy Cross Church in Kernersville July 9. Oblate Father Joseph Tustin, pastor and council chaplain, officiated at the ceremony assisted by Chris Parker, district warden, and Bob Nicolosi, district deputy. To fulfill the council's bylaws, elected officers unable to attend the ceremony had stand-ins to represent them at the function.

Pictured (from left): Parker; Nicolosi; Stanley Winnicki, stand-in; Dave Shepherd, treasurer; Al Livelsberger, outside guard; Dick Meyer, advocate; Fred Schaefer, stand-in; Lance Cancro, grand knight; Sal Vita, chancellor; Bruce Baden, financial secretary; and Father Tustin.

Officers not pictured are Guy Harley, deputy grand knight; Mike Hamilton, recorder; Jean Dion, warden; Max Saffer, inside guard; George Role Jr., trustee third year; Tom McMahon, trustee second year; Chip Evans, trustee first year.

Join us this September for
Catholic Scripture Study's (CSS) latest offering
The Gospel of Matthew



Join Catholics around the world as we delve chapter-by-chapter into the Gospel of Matthew study written by Dr. Scott Hahn and Mark Shea. The DVD lectures are done by Fr. Matthew Kauth of the Diocese of Charlotte.

Break-out discussion groups review questions about the Scripture text, offer intriguing points for discussion, help the readers apply the Scripture to their lives, and provide key points from authors that help connect the riches of Scripture to the teachings the Catholic Church. You'll learn firsthand how our Catholic faith is rooted and nourished by the Holy Bible. Classes meet weekly at St. Vincent de Paul on Park Road in Charlotte and are open to all parishes.

Wednesdays 10am - 11:30 am or Thursdays 7pm - 8:30 pm

Classes begin September 13 and end in May with holiday breaks. Cost includes study materials and is \$59.99. To register contact Pat Brownstein at 704-542-0213 or pcbrownstein@mindspring.com.

To find other Catholic Scripture Study classes in the Charlotte diocese, visit the CSS website: www.catholicscripturestudy.com.

FROM THE COVER

Program welcomes developmentally disabled into parish life

SPRED, from page 1

"We hope it catches on in the Diocese of Charlotte. It is like a second family for our developmentally disabled friends," said Jan Clemens, SPRED coordinator at St. Matthew Church.

"SPRED is an inclusive, not exclusive, ministry. It prepares them to share in the life of their community and parish," said Clemens.

Founded in the Archdiocese of Chicago more than 40 years ago, the program now has more than 200 SPRED groups throughout the United States and overseas. St. Matthew Church is the first area parish to establish a SPRED program.

The two dozen members of SPRED and their families celebrated the end of the program's first year at St. Matthew Church with a banquet and Mass May 20.

Msgr. John McSweeney, pastor, celebrated and Father Carmen Malacari, then-parochial vicar, concelebrated the Mass in which SPRED members participated with their "catechist helpers," volunteers who receive special training in SPRED methods.

Clemens was involved with SPRED in northern Virginia before coming to Charlotte. In 2004, she asked Pat Tomlinson, St. Matthew Church faith formation director, about bringing SPRED to the parish.

"She said 'we don't have one, but we need one,'" said Clemens.

They approached Msgr. McSweeney about the program and he was "very enthusiastic," said Clemens.

The parish's pastoral plan included identifying ways to welcome and include persons with developmental disabilities, said Msgr. McSweeney.

Clemens was even more inspired to pursue the initiative after hearing Bishop Peter J. Jugis' Thanksgiving homily at St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte in 2004.

"He said there is room for everyone at the Lord's Table," she said.

St. Matthew Church's SPRED program is for both youths and adults, with six participants per group. Each participant is paired with a catechist helper.

"We identified parishioners who were interested in serving as catechists and sent them for training (at the SPRED headquarters) in Chicago," said Msgr. McSweeney.

This year, a catechist training day will



COURTESY PHOTO

Father Carmen Malacari (rear right), then-parochial vicar of St. Matthew Church, stands with participants and catechist helpers in the parish's SPRED program. Also pictured (from left): Tom Sperrazzo, catechist; Jack Kennedy and Nora Martini, participants; and Frances Martini and Mary Rutman, catechists.

be held at St. Matthew Church Aug. 26.

"You need committed, trained people," said Msgr. McSweeney. "This is a ministry that requires time and preparation for each time they come together."

For those people with developmental disabilities, the Word is proclaimed and the message internalized through activities, gestures, songs and other symbolic methods, with ritual being an important factor. Much of SPRED activity draws heavily on the work of Maria Montessori, the famed Italian educator and devout Catholic.

Through one-on-one and group relationships, persons with disabilities are better able to celebrate the sacraments and participate in the sacramental life of the church; also, they discover a place where they can belong and enjoy meaningful relationships in which can realize their dignity.

The SPRED program has been accepted with great enthusiasm at St. Matthew Church, according to Pat White, parish coordinator of volunteers and communications.

Parents of SPRED participants have expressed their gratefulness for a program that provides the spiritual development, friendship and dignity that their children so richly deserve, she said.

France Robinson's son, Kevin, is blossoming in St. Matthew Church's

adult SPRED group.

"It's the first time Kevin has been a part of his faith, being an active member of the parish," she said.

"It's a lonely world he's in. Now he has some reason to go to church. He's really enjoying SPRED," said Robinson.

"Persons with developmental disabilities are unique individuals," said Msgr. McSweeney. "To see their smiles and their participation in the special liturgies we've had for them let's me know this is a worthwhile endeavor for them."

Beginning in fall 2006, St. Matthew Church will establish a support group for parents, family members and friends of persons with disabilities. It will be an opportunity to hear special education experts, obtain valuable information on community resources and share ideas.

"Parents can give no greater gift than to put their children in an environment where they can feel comfortable, have friends and worship God together as a community," said Clemens.

Contributing to this article was Pat White.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information about St. Matthew Church's SPRED program, call Jan Clemens at (704) 341-8978.

For the Archdiocese of Chicago's SPRED center, visit www.spred.org.

Help for Haiti



COURTESY PHOTO

Parishioners of St. Matthew Church in Charlotte help load pallets of food and supplies aboard a truck Aug. 10, as part of the parish's 4th annual Food Drive for Haiti. They will be shipped to the Missionaries of the Poor, an international monastic order of brothers, in Cap-Haitien. There the missionaries feed and care for those in need, teach children, build housing, provide church services and bury the dead. After the truck was loaded, three leftover pallets of food were donated to Second Harvest Food Bank in Charlotte. The parish has donated a total of 72 tons of food and supplies.

Attention: Homeowners...Have a plumbing problem? Don't Panic!...

"How To Get A Top Talent Plumber To Show Up On-Time So You Don't Waste Time"

You have a busy schedule and value your time. Most plumbing companies won't give you a real appointment time and keep you waiting all day for a plumber to show up. Now there's a new way to get your plumbing problem fixed, save money, and get a precise Appointment Window so you don't have to waste time waiting.

Three-Way Plumbing Services, Inc.

We're The Good Guys Your Friends Told You About®

(704) 535-4795 Charlotte

(704) 795-9349 Concord

Serving The Entire Charlotte Diocese Area

www.3wayplumbing.com

Proud member of St. James Church

Local Lebanese Catholics mindful of conflict

LEBANON, from page 1

Lebanon. While they still have electricity, the fighting has cut off many parts of the country and they have begun rationing supplies for fear of shortage, he said.

Many communities have no or limited access to electricity, fuel and food.

"There are few bridges left, and many of the roads have been destroyed," said Lucille Moses, a parishioner of St. Gabriel Church.

Moses, a Maronite Catholic raised Roman Catholic, is the daughter of Lebanese immigrants. Her husband is of Lebanese descent and she has cousins living in Lebanon.

The recent fighting that claimed more than 1,250 lives and wounded thousands forced Moses' family to take refuge in the mountains outside of Beirut.

"The entire infrastructure is gone. There's more destruction in Beirut than from the 15-year-old civil war," she said, relaying what her cousins told her.

A month ago, Moses could call and e-mail her cousins easily. Now, contact with them is sporadic and difficult.

Catherine El-Khoury, a parishioner of St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte, visited family in Lebanon last summer.

"It breaks my heart to look at the photos (of my trip) and think of all the internal destruction," said El-Khoury, 45. "It's hard to get through to (my family), but we're trying to keep in touch. If we're lucky, we talk once a week."

A few hours before the U.N. Security Council adopted the cease-fire resolution Aug. 11, Archbishop Silvano Tomasi, Vatican representative to the U.N. Human Rights Council in Geneva, decried the loss of life and destruction caused by the fighting.

The archbishop told the council that during the fighting little was done to ensure the safe conduct of relief supplies for "the suffering populations whose right to life, food, health, water (and) housing" was being denied.

"The Holy See is deeply convinced that no just and durable solution can be reached by recourse to terrorism or armed conflict, and only dialogue is the way to peace and to the safeguarding of

human rights," said Archbishop Tomasi.

"My attention is certainly on the situation in Lebanon, but my heart goes out to all those who are affected," said Kadri.

Precarious peace

The Security Council's resolution called for a cease-fire and for sending a 15,000-member international peacekeeping force into southern Lebanon.

Under the terms of the resolution, Lebanon also would send 15,000 of its own troops to the area to disarm the Hezbollah militias, and Israel would withdraw its troops from the Lebanese territory it invaded in an attempt to stop Hezbollah from firing rockets and mortars into Israel.

Although Israel, Lebanon and Hezbollah accepted the cease-fire agreement, each did so with conditions.

Hezbollah leader Sheik Hassan Nasrallah said Aug. 14 that his guerrillas achieved a "strategic, historic victory" against Israel — a declaration that prompted celebratory gunfire across the Lebanese capital.

Israel's prime minister, however, maintained the offensive eliminated the "state within a state" run by Hezbollah in southern Lebanon.

From Castel Gandolfo, south of Rome, Pope Benedict XVI prayed that the cease-fire agreement would hold and that humanitarian aid quickly would reach those in need.

"Recent developments let us hope



CNS PHOTO BY MOHAMED AZAKIR, REUTERS

Lebanese people displaced by the conflict between Israel and the Hezbollah militia attempt to return home in the southern Beirut suburbs Aug. 14. A U.N.-brokered truce went into effect Aug. 14 to end more than four weeks of fighting.

that the clashes will cease and that humanitarian assistance for the populations will be assured quickly and effectively," the pope said during his Angelus Aug. 13, about 17 hours before the cease-fire went into effect.

"Everyone hopes that finally peace will prevail over violence and the force of weapons," said the pope.

Like many people watching the situation, Kadri is hopeful for the ceasefire to work.

"It's possible, but it will require help from a lot of places, in particular the United States," he said.

"It will take a long time for things to get back to normal," said El-Khoury.

Land of faith and strife

Archbishop Tomasi told the Human Rights Council that the conflict was a

See LEBANON, next page

AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles
Licensed & Insured
FREE ESTIMATES
www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185



Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

Please pray for the
following priests who
died during the month
of September

Rev. Msgr. Thomas Burke 2001

Rev. Msgr. Hugh Dolan 1981

Rev. Msgr. Arthur Duncan 2002

Rev. James King 1978

Rev. John J. Murray 1997

Rev. Edward F. O'Doherty 1998

You're Invited!

to

Room At The Inn's
Twelfth Annual Banquet

"Life Giving Love"



Charlotte Convention Center
Thursday, October 26, 2006

Featured Speaker

Patrick Madrid

Catholic Apologist

www.surprisedbytruth.com

Come hear this acclaimed author, editor, TV host, radio host, speaker, husband, and father of eleven talk about the practical and spiritual implications of numerous interlocking social and moral issues. His thought-provoking presentation will address abortion, euthanasia, cloning, contraception and the worldwide reality of population implosion (the myth of over-population), and "global aging."

Registration/Reception: 5:30 pm

Seating for dinner: 6:40 pm

**** Reservations are FREE, but required.**

To make your reservation or to host a table of eight, contact Banquet Reservations at (704) 525-4673, ext. 10 or iroomattheinn@carolina.rr.com by October 12th.

Room At The Inn, Inc. is a pro-life Catholic maternity and after-care program in Charlotte, NC, providing an alternative to abortion for pregnant women. Please check our website www.rati.org for more information. Not affiliated with Room At The Inn of the Triad, Inc.

MIDEAST CONFLICT

Pope prays Mideast cease- fire holds, aid reaches needy

LEBANON, from previous page

threat to the peaceful coexistence among Lebanese Muslims, Christians and Druze.

"The violence of these weeks is destroying a promising model of national conviviality, built over centuries, where a plurality of communities, even of very different religious convictions, learned that the only way to live in peace and security and to use their human resources in a creative way is dialogue and close cooperation."

"That land is for everyone — Christians, Jews, Muslims — and nothing gets solved from war and constant killing," said Kadri.

Christians have religious ties to the areas of conflict, said Kadri, and the fighting affects more than just Jews and Muslims.

"There are a lot of Christians over there, many of whom are Catholic or Greek Orthodox," said Kadri, who comes from a "strong Catholic family," including an ancestor who was martyred



CNS PHOTO BY YONATHAN WEITZMAN, REUTERS

An Israeli soldier prays by an armored personnel carrier near the Israeli-Lebanese border Aug. 14 after returning from Lebanon.

in Syria for his faith.

"People forget that Christianity started in the area around Jerusalem," he said. "There are Christian families there

who go back to the time of Christ."

"(The conflict) is having a huge effect on the small but very Christian community in Lebanon," said El-Khoury. "People don't understand how the Christian community in the Holy Land is dwindling because of everything that is going on over there."

Her father left Lebanon in his early 20s; he, along with her mother (a first-generation Lebanese American) helped to found Holy Redeemer Church in Andrews, N.C. Her father donated the land next door to their house.

"The two biggest things in our lives were our church and our culture — it's what made us different but special," said El-Khoury.

A number of sites in Lebanon are significant to Christian history, said Kadri. The Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon is located in Harissa, 17 miles north of Beirut.

Lucille Moses feared the shrine would get hit, as the Israeli army was striking targets with no apparent military significance, including a resort town and a lighthouse, she said.

If any religious sites were destroyed, it "would be devastating to future generations," said El-Khoury.

Kadri wished more people would

learn about the region's history and significance, and discern the information they get from the media.

"Lebanon is beautiful. Beirut is known as the paradise of the Middle East," he said. "The Lebanese people are very caring, giving and hospitable."

"People should read up on and be knowledgeable of the people who are over there," said El-Khoury. "Not every Muslim aligns with radical terrorists."

Yet years of conflict have left deep marks upon the country and its people.

"It's the children who suffer. They grow up to hate because all they know is violence," said Kadri.

"Every time Israel tries to stamp out a terrorist group, it creates another one, and those groups engrain a hatred of Israel in their children," said El-Khoury. "How to break that cycle, I don't know."

Power of prayer

Cardinal Nasrallah P. Sfeir, patriarch of the Maronite Catholic Church, told Vatican Radio Aug. 12 that the Lebanese were feeling both "desolation" and hope.

While everyone hoped for a quick end to the fighting, the destruction created in a month of bombardments and the displacement of hundreds of thousands of Lebanese will make recovery difficult, the cardinal said.

"I hope that all those who were forced to flee can return soon, but unfortunately they will not find their houses because everything has been destroyed. I think that initially we will have to shelter them in prefabricated houses or in tents until we can help them rebuild their houses," he said.

Moses said she hopes her family will be able to return to Beirut, if there is anything left of the city.

"The only thing that is going to save Lebanon is prayers," she said.

Prayer is a big part of El-Khoury's family.

"We are always saying extra prayers for what's going on over there," said El-Khoury. "Every day I try to take a moment to pray, if not to stop the fighting, at least to help make it less of a constant for my family."

"People should continue to pray for peace and all the people there, and that the children grow up to become agents of change," said Kadri.

"We are all part of God's family. We need to look out for each other," said El-Khoury.

"None of the problems get solved by war," said Kadri. "It will take time, but peace will rise again."

Contributing to this article were Staff Writer Karen A. Evans, Catholic News Service and the Associated Press.

Sponsored by Catholic Social Services, Elder Ministries

Share your day and lunch with friends!

Fall Day of Reflection for Seniors



FIVE DATES & LOCATIONS TO CHOOSE FROM!

Wednesday, Sept. 13 - St. Paul the Apostle, Greensboro (co-sponsor) —

Mass: 9 am; Events: 9:45 am - 2:45 pm

Deadline for registration: Tuesday, Sept. 5th

Presenter: Sr. Maureen Meehan

Thursday, Oct. 5 - St. Eugene, Asheville - 10 am - 3:30 pm

Deadline for registration: Thursday, Sept. 28th

Presenter & Mass celebrant: Fr. Kieran Neilson

Thursday, Oct. 19 - St. Mark, Huntersville - 10 am - 3:30 pm

Deadline for registration: Thursday, Oct. 12th

Presenter: Sr. Jeanne Marie Kienast, RSM

Mass celebrant: Bishop Peter Jugis

Thursday, Nov. 16 - Catholic Conference Center, Hickory - 9:30 am - 3:30 pm

Deadline for registration: Tuesday, Nov. 7th

Presenter & Mass celebrant: Msgr. Anthony Marcaccio

Tuesday, Nov. 21 - Curtin Hall, Belmont - 10 am - 2:30 pm

Deadline for registration: Monday, Nov. 13th

Presenter: Sr. Ann Marie Wilson

Mass celebrant: Fr. Kieran Neilson

Cost: \$12 - includes coffee and pastries, and full lunch

Register as a group or individually by sending your check (payable to Catholic Social Services) and your parish name to: Sandra Breakfield, CSS Elder Ministry

1123 S. Church St.

Charlotte NC 28203-4003

For more information call Sandra at 704-370-3220 or Sherill at 704-370-3228.

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



INTRODUCING...

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES WEST —

St. Barnabas in Arden —

open after all Masses of 2nd and 4th weekends each month

Visit our others satellite stores, too:

St. Charles Borromeo in Morganton

St. Gabriel in Charlotte

St. Therese in Mooreville

Come in and check out our GREAT SUMMER READING selections!!

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

AFTER THE HURRICANES

Healing hearts and minds

Door-to-door post-Katrina counseling critical to recovery

BY PETER FINNEY JR.
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW ORLEANS — The long haul is here.

Every day, teams of counselors and social workers with Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New Orleans visit hurricane-devastated neighborhoods and go door-to-door asking people simple questions related to complex problems.

Behind every door is a Katrina survivor with his or her sobering story.

The stories haven't changed much since Katrina hit nearly a year ago, and that is perhaps the saddest indicator of a community in the midst of a collective mental health crisis.

By early July, social workers and counselors with Catholic Charities' Louisiana Spirit outreach program had personally visited 65,000 people and reported spikes in domestic violence, child abuse, substance abuse, depression and suicidal tendencies.

Now the program is in danger of elimination because the Federal Emergency Management Agency is refusing to pay for certain previously approved and budgeted services, leaving Catholic Charities with a \$20,000 daily shortfall and an uncertain future.

Daunting indicators

A recent report by The New York Times noted that the annual suicide rate in New Orleans tripled in the four months after Hurricane Katrina — from fewer than nine a year per 100,000 residents to 26 per 100,000.

Dr. Elmore Rigamer, medical director of Catholic Charities in New Orleans, said he isn't in a position to contradict the apparent threefold increase in the suicide rate, but he does know from the firsthand evidence gathered by his team of 140 Louisiana Spirit workers that the community's mental health is teetering.

"The level of anxiety and people feeling overwhelmed and saying 'I don't know if I can take this' is up," said Rigamer, who is a psychiatrist.

Many people have been "stymied by the insurance companies and by the hopelessness of the hoops they have to jump through to get funds. It's sort of an urbanwide malaise," he said.

Taking it to the streets

The Louisiana Spirit program is changing lives the old-fashioned way — by reaching out to people instead of waiting for them to come forward for help.

Every day Louisiana Spirit regional director Heidi Nuss colors in a map with a yellow marker to indicate where a team has been. Social workers provide an empathetic ear and emotional support, and then leave the person with an updated resource list for agencies that can provide needed services.

If during the conversation the person looks distraught, Louisiana Spirit can send a counselor to the person's home within 24 hours for up to five visits.



CNS PHOTO BY MICHAEL ALEXANDER, GEORGIA BULLETIN

A sign displays the Mass times at St. Clare Church in Waveland, Miss., where the parish currently conducts services in a donated Quonset hut on the concrete slab where the church once stood. The Diocese of Biloxi, Miss., was hit hard by Hurricane Katrina Aug. 29, and steps have been made toward recovery, but full-scale recovery is still a long way off.

"The level of anxiety and people feeling overwhelmed and saying 'I don't know if I can take this' is up."

— Dr. Elmore Rigamer
Catholic Charities in New Orleans

"No other program sends a licensed counselor to your door to come to see you," Nuss said, adding that there is no eligibility criteria to get the counseling.

"All you have to do is say, 'I want to talk to somebody.' That's the eligibility," she said.

Tracy Cormier, the children's team clinical manager, said she has witnessed an increase in nightmares and

"regressive" behavior such as children wanting to sleep with their parents.

But she said there is a critical lack of

psychiatric resources in New Orleans: Only 10 beds are available for adolescents needing psychiatric help, and there is no "respite" program that would allow children to get away from angry parents.

"We are seeing an increase in domestic violence, which transfers to kids," Cormier said.

Catholic Charities also has two related programs to help people deal with post-Katrina realities. Counseling Solutions — which was in place before Katrina — provides counseling, paid through insurance coverage or on a sliding-scale basis, at five locations throughout the archdiocese.

Director Bill Swann is attempting to set up group sessions of the program at local churches.

Another program is Katrina Aid Today, which offers long-term case management for Katrina victims. The program is funded through a grant provided by the United Methodist Church and Catholic Charities USA.

"It's very individualized help that will help someone get on the road to recovery," said director Joseph Mahoney, noting that clients may need help with Katrina-related paperwork or they might need referrals to other agencies or counseling and support services.

The program has helped 1,000 clients since January and is expected to run through next October. Because there is a waiting list, only people over age 55 or who have a disability are currently being advised.

According to Rigamer, not everyone who is depressed needs to see a medical professional, but he advises those with depressive moods to "connect with someone."

Another key to recovery, he said, is to have a plan.

"You can't get out of depression if you remain passive and you can't get moving," said Rigamer.

Providing help. Creating hope. Changing lives.

Catholic Social Services — The Diocese of Charlotte

Executive Director: Elizabeth Thurbee (704) 370-3227

Associate Director: Gerard Carter (704) 370-3250

Refugee Office: Ciria Ponce (704) 370-6930

Family Life: Gerard Carter (704) 370-3228

Justice and Peace: Joe Purello (704) 370-3225

OEO/CSS Murphy Satellite Office (828) 835-3535

Charlotte Region: 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203

Area Director: Geri King (704) 370-6155

Western Region: 50 Orange Street, Asheville, NC 28801

Area Director: Debra Braese (828) 255-0146

Piedmont-Triad: 621 W. Second St., Winston-Salem, NC 27108

Area Director: Gerard Carter (Interim) (336) 727-0705

Greensboro Satellite Office (336) 274-5577

Latino Family Center (336) 884-5858



Retirement isn't
what it used to be.
PLAN accordingly.



Les Davaz
Financial Advisor
Member, St. Patrick's Church

100 N. Tryon St., Suite 3300
Charlotte, NC 28202

(704) 331-2233 or
(800) 438-0397

<http://fc.smithbarney.com/davaz>

citigroup
SMITHBARNEY

© 2006 Citigroup Global Markets Inc. Member SIPC. Smith Barney is a division and service mark of Citigroup Global Markets Inc. and its affiliates and is used and registered throughout the world. CITIGROUP and the Umbrella Device are trademarks and service marks of Citigroup Inc. or its affiliates and are used and registered throughout the world.

For information on specific programs, please call your local office.

1123 South Church Street, Charlotte NC 28203

www.cssnc.org

A year after hurricanes, Southern dioceses still trying to recover

KATRINA, from page 1

The coastal area of the Archdiocese of Mobile, Ala., is also in the midst of recovery. Church structures have been repaired, but residents of the small fishing village of Bayou La Batre, Ala., are still living in trailers and trying to salvage what they can from destroyed homes and fishing livelihoods.

Farther west at the Texas-Louisiana border, the impact of Hurricane Rita, which slammed the area Sept. 24, is evident in ongoing repair work.

In the dioceses of Beaumont, Texas and Houma-Thibodaux, La., there has been a flurry of repairs of homes, schools and churches, but in the Diocese of Lake Charles, La., repairs are only just beginning.

"The needs are still as great as ever," said Margaret Dubuisson, communication director for Catholic Charities in New Orleans. "If anything, the needs are greater as people come home or attempt to come home."

The agency continues to provide immediate relief with food, medical care and shelter, but it is also inundated with long-term recovery needs from counseling to housing. The agency has been involved in gutting destroyed homes, remodeling apartments for the elderly and helping establish new communities.

"We don't build levees, but if we did, we'd be right out there," Dubuisson said.

By the numbers

The New Orleans Archdiocese was hit with \$120 million in uninsured losses alone and is in the midst of the arduous process of repairing wind- and flood-

"If anything, the needs are greater as people come home or attempt to come home."

— Margaret Dubuisson,
Catholic Charities in New Orleans

damaged schools and churches. Six churches have been permanently closed and 23 have closed temporarily.

A number of churches are still undergoing repairs, and 24 churches and one mission that sustained extensive flooding damage have reopened. Sixteen schools are still closed and 21 have remained open while being repaired.

Although the archdiocese has filed paperwork with the Federal Emergency Management Agency in the hopes of being reimbursed for costs associated with the rebuilding of schools and other nonworship facilities, it is unclear how much the archdiocese will eventually receive. FEMA will not pay to rebuild church buildings.

The Biloxi Diocese suffered property damage of \$70 million and only half of the damage is covered by insurance. Thirteen churches were damaged, and three of them will not reopen.

The future of one church is currently undetermined. Five are using temporary locations until their buildings can be repaired and four have been in use while undergoing major repairs.

Katrina also destroyed five schools and damaged 10. The diocese consolidated six schools into three and has been doing repair work on 10 schools that remain open.

One Year Later

Recovery continues in the dioceses suffering record losses from Hurricane Katrina.

New Orleans Archdiocese

CHURCHES

+++++ destroyed
+++++ temporarily closed
+++++ open but undergoing repair
+++++ open

Reopening of churches depends on population return and finance issues.

SCHOOLS

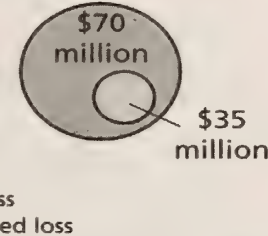
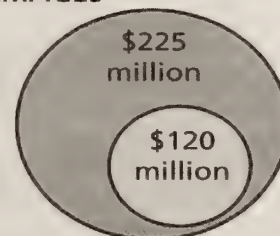
+++++ destroyed
+++++ temporarily closed
+++++ open but undergoing repair
+++++ open

Biloxi, Miss., Diocese

+++++ destroyed
+++++ temporarily closed
+++++ open but undergoing repair
+++++ open

One new diocesan elementary school and one new high school will be built.

DAMAGES



● total loss
○ uninsured loss

Sources: Archdiocese of New Orleans and Diocese of Biloxi

©2006 CNS

The new school year in the Biloxi Diocese started in early August.

According to Mike Ladner, diocesan superintendent of schools, crisis management plans have been finalized, buildings have been modified and school officials have been advised to take school records with them to a dry place in the event of another hurricane.

In Biloxi and other areas, many are considering what they would do differently in the face of a hurricane, but they are also hoping just to get their lives back to where they were prior to the storms.

Rita's wrath

Although Rita was overshadowed by Katrina, its destruction can't be dismissed by local residents now accustomed to the ever-present blue tarps marking signs of repair.

In Beaumont, one church closed because of hurricane damage and five closed temporarily for ongoing repairs. One Catholic school closed but will reopen for the upcoming school year.

Just prior to Hurricane Rita, the Louisiana dioceses of Houma-Thibodaux

and Lake Charles were busy assisting Katrina evacuees. Although Katrina inflicted minimal damage on the Houma-Thibodaux Diocese, Rita flooded more than 10,000 homes.

As a result of both hurricanes, seven Catholic schools and eight parishes were damaged, but have since been repaired and are currently functional.

In the Lake Charles Diocese, Rita caused severe damage in several counties and its strong wind and storm surges essentially flattened the civil entity of Cameron Parish, a region that includes five parishes and five mission churches, nine of which had been temporarily closed because of storm damage.

Currently, three damaged churches are in the very early stages of repair, after gaining approval from the local government, the Army Corps of Engineers and FEMA.

For the past several months, the mission chapel of St. Patrick has been the only church in the civil entity of Cameron Parish safe enough to have Masses on a regular basis.

"It's still a very difficult time for many people," said Morris LeBleu, director of communications for the diocese and editor of its diocesan newspaper, The Southwest Catholic.

He noted that only about 5 percent to 6 percent of the residents of Cameron Parish have returned.

On July 23, for the first time since Hurricane Rita, a Sunday Mass was celebrated at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church in Cameron. Parishioners brought their own chairs and prayed together in the empty shell of the church.

"It was good to see the church and be in it and worship," LeBleu said, even if it will be a long time before parishioners will actually be inside the church as it once was.

Contributing to this story was Peter Finney Jr. in New Orleans.

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels.

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065

May Your Hands Be Blessed!

Learn Rosary Making



Call or visit
our website
for your
introductory
offer!

LEWIS
& COMPANY

P.O. Box 268, Troy, NY 12181

(800) 342-2400

rosaryparts.com

Generous in spirit

Charles Shelton leaves more than \$1 million to diocese

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — In the small town of Newton, Charles Shelton is remembered for his devotion to his church and to his community.

Because of some careful planning, he will be remembered for years to come for his generosity, not only by residents of Newton and parishioners of St. Joseph Church, but also by the entire Diocese of Charlotte.

In January 1995, when Shelton wrote his final will and testament, he notified the diocesan development office of the bequest in his estate plans. Shelton passed away Nov. 12, 2000 of Alzheimer's disease.

Shelton's estate bequeathed more than \$1 million to the Diocese of Charlotte. In addition, Shelton left \$100,000 to his parish, St. Joseph Church in Newton, a portion of which was used to establish an endowment in his name. Also, he left \$100,000 to the church he attended as a child in Springfield, Ill.

Shelton's endowment marks the second \$1 million estate gift in the past year, said Jim Kelley, diocesan director of development. Last year, Aurelia Isle Guffey left \$1.4 million to the Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, Catholic Social Services and two parishes.

The foundation is a non-profit organization established to provide endowments for the diocese and its parishes, schools, agencies and organizations.

An endowment is a permanent fund placed in the diocesan foundation that earns income over time. The original amount is not spent, but the income can be used in a manner stipulated in the person's estate plan or in an endowment agreement, according to Kelley.

Shelton made his living as an engineer and consultant for General Electric, a job that included traveling the world. He was an active member of his parish and the parish's Prime Timers, a group for adults over 50.

Shelton spent his final years at The Little Flower Assisted Living Residence in Charlotte, and later at Carolinas Medical Center as his Alzheimer's developed.

"He was very devout in his faith," said Father Richard Hanson, former pastor of St. Joseph Church. "The Mass and the Eucharist meant everything to him."

Shelton was a generous member of his parish, Father Hanson said. He would often make anonymous donations, preferring to avoid any fanfare.

"Like Mr. Shelton, more people are giving not only of their current assets, but taking the additional step of designating a portion of their assets for the foundation in their estate plans," said Kelley.

Currently, the diocesan foundation has 140 endowments.

"Charles Shelton left a legacy in his

estate to what he valued in his life," said Kelley.

WAYS TO GIVE

A gift through a will can stipulate that the foundation or named endowment receives a specific amount, a percentage of your estate, or remainder after other bequests are filled. In addition to a bequest in a will, there are five other primary ways to donate an endowment to the diocese, according to Judy Smith, diocesan director of planned giving.

They are:

— Gifts of cash, securities or real estate.

— Gifts of life insurance, which allow you to make a gift that might be larger than if you were to give an asset outright. You can donate a paid policy that you already own or you can purchase a policy to donate.

— Life income arrangements, which allow you to make a gift during your lifetime while retaining and even increasing your income from those assets for the remainder of your life. These include trusts and charitable gift annuities.

— Gifts from retirement plans, which allow you to designate your endowment as the remainder beneficiary of an IRA, 401K, or annuity to receive what is left in your retirement plan after your death.

— A gift of life estate in real property, which allows you to enjoy your home or vacation property during your lifetime, while giving you the satisfaction of knowing your church will benefit from the gift after your death.

WANT MORE INFO?

To learn more about planned giving or to set up an endowment, call Jim Kelley at (704) 370-3301 or e-mail jkelley@charlottediocese.org, or Judy Smith at (704) 370-3320 or e-mail jmsmith@charlottediocese.org.



**Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center**

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus



It's news and
inspiration about
the Diocese of Charlotte!

Subscribe today
— it's FREE!

Check it out at
www.CharlotteDiocese.org.

Experiencing difficulties in your marriage? A Lifeline for Marriage

September 8 - 10 in Raleigh



Come for a weekend to rediscover your spouse under the ministry of Retrouvaille, (pronounced "re-tro-vye"). Designed to provide tools for difficult times, this weekend will help married couples examine their lives in new, positive ways.

Retrouvaille has helped many thousands of couples experiencing everything from disillusionment to deep misery.

For confidential info or to register: 336-297-0595 or retrouvaille@msn.com.
Visit our Web site: HelpOurMarriage.com

LOOKING FOR SOME GREAT SUMMER READING?

FIND IT HERE!

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri
10:00am-4:00 pm

Tuesday
10:00am-6:00 pm

Saturday
10:00am-1:00 pm

We have books for all ages, religious and inspirational artwork, statues, rosaries, jewelry, medals, crosses, crucifixes, prayer and greeting cards, music, audio books on CD's, DVD's, sacramental and general gift items and so much more!

*Bring this ad and receive a free gift when you purchase
\$20 or more in our store!*

Limited time offer while supplies last



The Catholic Shoppe
AT BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

Located in St. Leo's Hall • 704.461.5100 • CatholicShope@bac.edu
Shop securely online at BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu



REVIVAL

"REVIVAL OF THE SPIRIT 2006"

Theme: "Who Invited the Devil?"

with Rev. R. Tony Ricard, M.Th., M.Div. — Revivalist

Fr. Tony says, "The concept is to focus on how Satan invites himself into our lives (when we leave the doors open for him to get in). It is up to us to realize how he gets in ... and more importantly, how we can get the 'hell' out of our lives."



- Catholic Revivalist and Youth Speaker
- Blessed Preacher and Gifted Teacher
- Priest of the Archdiocese of New Orleans
- Pastor of Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish
- Director of Knight Time Ministries
- Administrator, Campus Minister and Teacher for The MAX Satellite School of New Orleans



ALL ARE WELCOME!
WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Sponsored by

**African American Affairs Ministry
of the Diocese of Charlotte**

To be held at: Our Lady of Consolation Church
2301 Statesville Ave., Charlotte, NC

**Friday, August 25 *through*
Sunday, August 27**

The Revival is an opportunity to publicly worship our God in the spirit of the Black church while at the same time breaking down traditional misconceptions of Catholicism held by our Protestant brothers and sisters. Come and bring your family, friends and neighbors!

WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Friday, Aug. 25 and Saturday, Aug. 26

7 pm — Gospel Concert
8 pm — Preaching by Fr. Tony Ricard

Local gospel choirs and musicians — including
the Perpetual Hope Gospel Choir of Our Lady of Consolation Church —
will enhance your spiritual experience throughout the weekend!

Sunday, Aug. 27

11 am — Closing Worship
Celebrant
Fr. Jude Duffy, OFM Cap.
Pastor, Our Lady of Consolation Church
Homilist
Fr. Tony Ricard

For more information, please call 704-370-3267. Someone will return your call.

'A Godly man'

Deacon Vallandingham remembered for kindness

SALISBURY — Deacon Patrick Malone Vallandingham's kindness and service to the church will be remembered for a long time to come.

Deacon Vallandingham, permanent deacon at Sacred Heart Church in Salisbury, died Thursday, July 6, at Rowan Regional Medical Center. He was 67.

A prayer service was held at Sacred Heart Church July 9, and a Mass of Christian burial was celebrated by Bishop Peter J. Jugis July 10. Burial followed at the U.S. National Cemetery.

Deacon Vallandingham was born July 12, 1938, in Carrollton, Ky. He graduated from Charleston Catholic High School in 1956 and attended West Virginia State University and Stonier Graduate School of Banking at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J. Deacon Vallandingham served in the 150th Armored Cavalry in Fort Meade, Maryland.

Deacon Vallandingham was ordained in the Diocese of Charlotte's first diaconate class in 1983 and began his ministry at his home parish, Sacred Heart Church.

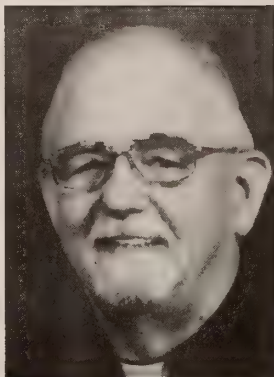
"I have always had very positive experiences working with the permanent deacons of the diocese, and this was certainly true where Deacon Pat was concerned," said Father John Putnam, pastor of Sacred Heart Church.

"When I arrived as pastor in the summer of 2000, he was one of the most helpful people in the transition," said Father Putnam.

Deacon Vallandingham went to work for First Union National Bank of Charlotte in 1970, in the building where the original diocesan pastoral center was located. In fact, his old office later belonged to then-Bishop Michael J. Begley.

While in Charlotte, he was instrumental in developing the local charismatic renewal movement. After moving to Salisbury, he attended Sacred Heart Church, where he held various church positions, including parish council, finance council and membership in the Knights of Columbus.

"God had done so much for me, and it became more important for me to walk in my faith," said Deacon Vallandingham in a



Deacon Patrick Vallandingham

March 2001 interview with The Catholic News & Herald. "I wanted to tell the Lord that I was appreciative for all he had done for me and my family and a way to show that was to respond to the call of service in the church."

After joining the permanent diaconate, he served as the first diaconate president and later served as regional vicar. He also was an advocate for the diocesan tribunal, which handles requests for marriage annulments.

Deacon Vallandingham retired from banking in 1994 and began full-time work for the church.

"Aspects of my faith are paramount in my life; it really means something to me internally," said Deacon Vallandingham in 2001.

"Deacon Pat was a man who loved life, loved people and loved the Catholic Church," said Father Putnam. "He always exhibited a genuine concern for people and their relationship with Jesus Christ. This was evident in his interaction with parishioners, his attentiveness to the sick and his desire to bring Jesus to the faithful through word and sacrament."

"He was, in short, a Catholic gentleman, a Godly man," he said.

Deacon Vallandingham is survived by his wife, Ann Ashe Vallandingham; one son and three daughters, and their families; two sisters; and three brothers, and their families.

Forming the faithful

Parish faith formation director retires after 16 years

HAMLET — Ann Peters, faith formation director at St. James Church in Hamlet, recently retired after 16 years of service.

Peters was honored by her fellow parishioners during a farewell gathering June 14.

During the gathering, Peters was presented with a "circle of life" pendant necklace representing the lives that were touched by her work and dedication. Children and young adults from the parish also presented her with flowers.

Eric Duncan and Colleen Lindstrand spoke about how the parish's faith formation program had impacted their lives and how Peters had nurtured and influenced them as they participated in the program.

"Mrs. Peters has been a great influence on all of us and she will be truly missed," said Lindstrand.

"She has been a great support to my own children and I have watched them grow in their own faith because of the opportunities that they were given," she said.

Peters taught at a Catholic school in Wisconsin before relocating to North Carolina and accepting the faith formation director position at St. James Church.

During Peters' tenure, 41 people have been welcomed into the church as Catholics, and the adult and children's programs have enriched the parish's faith life.



Ann Peters

When the Hispanic community began to grow in the area, Peters worked to expand classes and unite the English- and Spanish-speaking communities. St. James Church now celebrates four bilingual children's liturgies a year and offers Family Learning Days, a youth group and a children's choir.

More than 50 children come from different cities and churches to attend the parish's Vacation Bible School each summer.

"The faith formation program has flourished and grown. One thing has remained constant — the dedication and tireless energy of Ann Peters," said Lindstrand.

Have you been asked questions about your Catholic faith that you wish you could answer?

Would you like to know and better understand Scripture?

Catholic Scripture Study at Belmont Abbey College is your answer!

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Friday, September 8, 2006. Reserve your spot now!

WHEN: The 29-week CSS program will run from the middle of September 2006 to May 2007 on Monday evenings.

TIME: 7:00pm - 9:00pm

WHERE: Belmont Abbey College

COST: \$59.99 per person



Brought to you by:
The Catholic Shoppe at
Belmont Abbey College

For more information and to register:

Call 704-461-5100 or email: CatholicShoppe@bac.edu

Everything you need for a great meeting!

The Catholic Conference Center
www.catholicconference.org

1551 Trinity Lane, Hickory, NC 28602
(828) 327-7441 or Toll-free (888) 536-7441
info@catholicconference.org

Food, fun and faith



COURTESY PHOTO

Approximately 60 priests, transitional deacons and seminarians enjoyed food and camaraderie for the second annual priest and seminarian cookout at Bishop Peter J. Jugis' residence in Charlotte Aug. 8.

The event began with evening prayer at St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte, followed by the cookout with Knights of Columbus from St. Mark Church in Huntersville manning the grills.

Pictured (in front, from left): Transitional Deacon Patrick Cahill, Father Robert Conway, transitional Deacon Patrick Toole and transitional Deacon Patrick Hoare.

In spring 2005, the diocesan Presbyteral Council suggested a get-together to allow the priests and seminarians of the Diocese of Charlotte to get to know each other. The event gives the men a chance to pray together as well as socialize.

Transitional deacons Cahill, Toole and Hoare will be ordained to the priesthood in June 2007.

Day of discernment



COURTESY PHOTO

Bishop Peter J. Jugis (second from left) stands with diocesan priests, seminarians and high school and college students from around the diocese for the annual vocations day of discernment, held at St. Joseph Church in Newton Aug. 11. The event was to provide a chance for male students to discern what God is asking of their lives and to explore their possible callings to the priesthood.

In addition to attending Mass celebrated by Bishop Jugis, the students spent the day in prayer, eucharistic adoration and talks with priests and seminarians on discerning a call to the priesthood. The day also included sports, games and a panel discussion with a question-and-answer session about life in the priesthood and seminary.

For more information about vocations to the priesthood, contact the diocesan vocations office at (704) 370-3353.

Apply to the Abbey for fall 2006!

Scholarships, financial aid, and housing are still available.



It's not too late to inquire and apply online at:
BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

For more information call 1.888.222.0110 or email: admissions@bac.edu



BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE

EST. 1863 - 111 YEARS OF SERVICE

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Music ministers urged to focus on unity, not their own agendas

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (CNS) — Music ministers should focus on building bridges and creating unity, speakers said at the National Association of Pastoral Musicians' Western Regional Convention in Sacramento Aug. 1-4.

The principle that all are one in the body of the Lord is more important than cultural, ideological, musical or liturgical differences, they said.

"We need to resist going down the black hole of anger regarding how we translate our texts, what we will sing, or which musical styles are most appropriate for our Masses," said liturgical composer David Haas in an opening keynote Aug. 1.

"We still have something wonderful to sing about: God is still here, calling all of us to receive what we have been given from God as gift and give it back lavishly in service to the Lord and one another," he added.

About 600 people, mostly church musicians but some liturgists and clergy as well, attended the convention. They came from California and more than 30 other states and several other nations.

The Sacramento convention was one of three regional events held this year by the association, which has about 9,000 members. Sacramento Auxiliary Bishop Richard J. Garcia referred to the convention theme — "What You Receive, Give As Gift" — in his remarks welcoming the attendees.

"You breathe in life-giving air and transform it into song. God blesses this whole community through the work you do, sharing your God-given gifts in the service of his people," he said.

Haas, one of the country's most noted liturgical composers, said the "full and active participation by all the people" called for by the Second Vatican Council involves something much deeper than getting worshippers to join in singing.

"The primary focus of all liturgical and catechetical mission-based service is Jesus Christ, who never wrote a document himself but who did call us to love one another," said Haas. "That is common ground we should look for. Everything we

do as musicians must point to Christ, must deepen our relationship with him."

Haas lamented the tendency in some parishes to develop "red state/blue state" mentalities where, he said, the attitude is often, "You not only cannot disagree with me, but there is something wrong with you and I have to stop you."

"We have to stop fighting, put down our swords, truly love one another — intentionally and unconditionally — and listen to one another in love," he said, "because these debates are tearing us apart."

Composers Pedro Rubalcava and Peter Kolar led a workshop on the difficulties of building bridges between parish communities that have different languages and cultures. They invited their audience to reflect on terminologies used in planning celebrations — multicultural, multilingual, cross-cultural, intercultural — and on how the parish's composition compares with the parish leadership.

A true intercultural liturgical celebration is not achieved simply by using a song or reading from another language, the presenters said. They said it must begin by connecting with parishioners outside of liturgy and genuinely learning to know and appreciate the ethnic communities apart from their own.

"Seek first to understand, then to be understood," said Msgr. Raymond G. East of Washington, D.C., in the conference's closing keynote talk Aug. 4.

He urged music ministers to "synergize. It isn't about my way or your way, it's about our way. It's about solving problems, celebrating the other, honoring the other."

Auxiliary Bishop Jaime Soto of Orange, in a workshop following his keynote talk Aug. 2, noted that hospitality is a key to promoting genuine unity and participation by all.

NEW COVENANT BOOKSTORE

- Books
- Cards
- Videos
- Jewelry
-and more!

336-760-1673

304 Upton St.,
Winston-Salem, NC
www.newcovenantbookstore.com

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: AUG. 27, 2006

Aug. 27, Twenty-first
Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b
Psalm 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21
- 2) Ephesians 5:21-32
- 3) Gospel: John 6:60-69

Understanding our faith only enhances it

BY DANY LUBY
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

For someone so prominent in the Gospels, to whom Jesus gives so much responsibility, whom the church honors so highly, St. Peter sure gets a lot of things wrong.

When the Lord proclaims his messiahship as a humble path of redemptive suffering rather than a prideful march of triumph, Peter objects loudly. He boastfully promises loyalty only hours before publicly denying Christ, not once but three times.

Even after Pentecost he draws the wrong conclusion in an early dispute with Paul over the Mosaic law.

But in Sunday's Gospel Peter couldn't have gotten it more right.

When everyone else grumbles at the "hard sayings" of Jesus (about eating his flesh and drinking his blood), when other followers are returning to the superficial logic and familiar comfort of the old ways, Peter speaks on behalf of all those who are committed to Jesus, even without fully grasping the mystery of who he is.

"Master," he asks, "to whom shall we go?"

In that simple, heartfelt question all his false arrogance disappears. He understands from his core that even though he makes mistakes, misinterprets things and gets dazzled by his own agenda, his highest hopes and deepest yearnings will find their fulfillment only in Jesus.

It is important for us to work at understanding the doctrinal expression of our faith in Christ. Our mission to proclaim his love in what we say and do can be enhanced through a fuller appreciation of our theological tradition.

We can help others understand such "hard sayings" when we give ourselves to the discipline of study and learning.

But in the end, all of us come to a threshold beyond which our intellect cannot go, a mystery that logic and science and history cannot penetrate. May all of us, when we approach that point, embrace the humble wisdom of Peter and say, "Master, to whom shall we go?"

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF AUG 20-26

Sunday (Twentieth Sunday in ordinary Time), Proverbs 9:1-6, Ephesians 5:15-20, John 6:51-58; Monday (St. Pius X), Ezekiel 24:15-24, Deuteronomy 32:18-21, Matthew 19:16-22; Tuesday (Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary), Ezekiel 28:1-10, Deuteronomy 32:26-28, 30, 35-36, Matthew 19:23-30; Wednesday (St. Rose of Lima), Ezekiel 34: 1-11, Matthew 20:1-16; Thursday (St. Bartholomew), Revelation 21:9-14, John 1:45-51; Friday (St. Louis, St. Joseph Calasanz), Ezekiel 37:1-14, Matthew 22:34-40; Saturday, Ezekiel 43:1-7, Matthew 23:1-12.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF AUG 27-SEPT 2

Sunday (Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time), Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18, Ephesians 5:21-32, John 6:60-69; Monday (St. Augustine), 2 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 11-12, Matthew 23:13-22; Tuesday (The Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist), 2 Thessalonians 2:1-3, 14-17, Mark 6:17-29; Wednesday, 2 Thessalonians 3:6-10, 16-18, Matthew 23:27-32; Thursday, 1 Corinthians 1:1-9, Matthew 24:42-51; Friday, 1 Corinthians 1:17-25, Matthew 25:1-13; Saturday, 1 Corinthians 1:26-31, Matthew 25:14-30.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF SEPT 3-9

Sunday (Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time), Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8, James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27, Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23; Monday, 1 Corinthians 2:1-5, Luke 4:16-30; Tuesday, 1 Corinthians 2:10-16, Luke 4:31-37; Wednesday, 1 Corinthians 3:1-9, Luke 4:38-44; Thursday, 1 Corinthians 3:18-23, Luke 5:1-11; Friday (Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary), Micah 5:1-4, Matthew 1:18-23; Saturday (St. Peter Claver), 1 Corinthians 4:6-15, Luke 6:1-5.

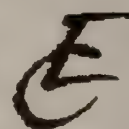


Let stairs be our problem... not yours!

Ask about our Stairway lifts.

- Easily attached to steps (not walls)
- Folds out of the way
- Fits most stairways (straight & curved)
- Very affordable (rent or buy)
- We install

Chair & Equipment Rentals & Sales, Inc.
800 Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC • (800) 333-8431
Member of St. Thomas Aquinas



Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic
Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Charlotte 704-334-6421

Pineville 704-544-1412

Mint Hill 704-545-4864

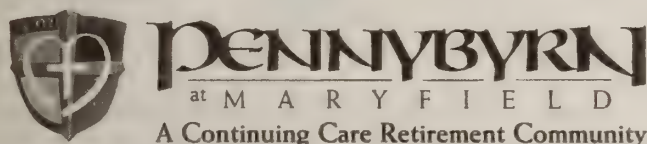
Derita 704-596-3291

Retired. Not retiring.

Sara and Marge each have their own idea of wellness.

Sara likes tai chi. Marge prefers crossword puzzles and an occasional massage. Both love sharing dreams, memories and laughs. Living here will make them feel good.

Because here, wellness is a way of life.



www.PennybrynAtMaryfield.com

(336) 886-4103 or (866) 627-9343

1315 Greensboro Rd, High Point, NC 27260

Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor
Servants of the Mother of God




NP/CNH Well#1

'Zoom' not worth the rush



CNS PHOTO BY COLUMBIA

Michael Cassidy, Kate Mara, Spencer Breslin, Ryan Newman and Tim Allen star in "Zoom," a lively but lightweight comedy about a washed-up superhero, Captain Zoom (Allen), dragged out of retirement by a top-secret military agency to train four young misfits with incredible powers to save the world from the destructive wrath of Zoom's brother, a supervillain.

Based on the Jason Lethcoe children's book, the zippy film is entertaining if your expectations are kept low, though its kid-friendly themes of family and teamwork are handicapped by bland performances and a skeletal, only fitfully funny script, padded with strained slapstick humor and tedious musical montages.

Some mildly crude humor and unnecessary gross-out sight gags, a few rude expressions and some comic-book-style violence.

The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

European religious leaders criticize Madonna's use of religious symbols in act

ROME — Christian, Jewish and Muslim leaders in Europe have criticized the pop star Madonna's latest world tour, in which the singer is bound to a shimmering cross while wearing a crown of thorns.

"Madonna is exploiting Christian symbols ... and attempting to mix human passions, including her own personal ones, with something sacred," said a spokesman for the Russian Orthodox Church, which has urged people to stay away from the singer's concert in Moscow Sept. 11.

Madonna's performance in Rome Aug. 6 drew disapproval from an Italian cardinal, an official of the Italian Muslim League and a spokesman for Rome's Jewish community. They called the use of the religious symbols offensive.

Several local pastors in Rome also criticized the stage act in the days leading up to the concert.

Although the Vatican ignored the controversy, the criticism was frequently characterized in the media as "Vatican opposition." That led a spokeswoman for Madonna to extend an "open invitation" to Pope Benedict XVI to see the show.

During the performance, images of the pope were flashed on a giant screen along with those of other international figures past and present, including Adolf Hitler, Benito Mussolini, Saddam Hussein and George W. Bush.

In Rome, Madonna performed to a sellout crowd of about 70,000 people. Tickets to the Moscow performance reportedly were selling briskly.

Groce
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

Asheville & Arden
The Catholic Funeral Directors
828-252-3535



Goodbye to St. Justin Center.
Hello to a clear site line for the
Basilica of St. Lawrence in Asheville.

Walking through time

Educator experiences culture, faith in Turkey

EPHESUS, Turkey — It was an eye-opening experience.

Mike Streich, history department chair at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville, was among 18 U.S. and Canadian educators on a cultural and educational tour of Turkey.

The July 18-30 trip was sponsored

by EF Educational Tours, which organizes tours around the globe for teachers and students as a way to bring the classroom experience to life.

"It is a way for teachers to learn more about a particular culture, as well as to share with each other how we apply those experiences in the classroom," said Streich, who serves on EF's education council.

Also on the trip was Richard Valitutto, Bishop McGuinness' 2005 valedictorian and a rising sophomore at the University of Cincinnati.

In Ephesus, they saw the site where St. Paul proclaimed the message of Jesus.

Outside of Ephesus, the group visited the House of the Virgin Mary, where it is believed she was cared for by St. John in her last days.

"The site was an oasis of peace and deeply inspiring," said Streich.

The experiences helped break down many cultural stereotypes, said Streich, and also enriched his faith.

The experiences will help make "the ancient world come alive for my students. Yet they also challenged me to renew my faith so that, in the spirit of St. Paul, I can proclaim Christ through my daily life," he said.

Streich has taken students and groups on foreign trips for 15 years and plans to continue doing so.

"Having journeyed through Turkey, I hope at some future point to take students and parents there so that they also can experience this rich culture and spiritual heritage," he said.



COURTESY PHOTO

Richard Valitutto (left) and Mike Streich stand outside the Hagia Sophia (Church of Holy Wisdom), a former Eastern Orthodox church that became a mosque and then a museum in the Turkish city of Istanbul.

INTERVENTION SPECIALIST

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic School, Winston-Salem, NC, is seeking a part-time Intervention Specialist. Position involves coordination of services of LD students in K-8 grades. Knowledge of structured phonics is desirable. Two years of experience preferred.

Please send resume, transcripts, and references to:

Cheryl Zuiker, Principal

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic School

1730 Link Road

Winston-Salem, NC 27103 (336)722-7204 or email czuiker@ourladyofmercyschool.org

DIRECTOR OF DIOCESAN HOUSING CORPORATION

The Catholic Diocese of Charlotte Housing Corporation is seeking a full-time director to provide vision and leadership to a developing housing ministry. A complete job description for this position is posted at www.cdhousingcorp.org. Position includes competitive salary and an extensive benefits package. EOE.

To be considered for this position, submit a resume and salary history postmarked by August 25, 2006 to:

Gerard A. Carter, CDCHC

1123 South Church Street

Charlotte, NC 28203-4003

or email gacarter@charlottediocese.org.



ALUMNI RELATIONS INTERNSHIP

Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville, NC is looking to fill an internship position for the Alumni Relations program.

Qualifications: Preferably Communications/Journalism/Marketing and/or Public Relations major. Experience with publication design and editing; excellent communication and organizational skills; some event planning experience.

Internship Duties: Assist the Advancement Director with the coordination of the alumni relations programs including developing and editing of alumni newsletter, planning and assisting with class reunions, maintain communications with class representatives, assist with planning and coordination of Alumni Weekend and Hall of Fame events.

Contact Information: Paola Scilinguo, Director of Advancement, (336) 564-1009 or pscilinguo@bmhs.us

Registered Nurse (Part-Time)

RN needed for part-time work with in-home caregiving company. Approx. 12 hrs/wk now, more in future. Will perform supervisory visits to client homes, conduct assessments w/ potential clients, and be on-call 1 weekend/month.

Send resume to:

Partners In Care
1914 Brunswick Ave., Ste. 1-B
Charlotte, NC 28207



In-Home Aides (FT & PT)

We need NC-licensed CNAs and experienced caregivers. Help seniors and others to remain independent in their homes.

We only hire dependable and trustworthy professionals.

All shifts available.

Interviewing now!

Call Partners In Care:

704-554-9904



The Catholic Shoppe

AT BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE

Part Time Position Available

Catholic bookstore seeking part time employee, 10-15 hours per week. Must be available to work on Saturdays. Prior bookstore experience a plus. Ideal candidate will have a strong intellectual knowledge of and personal commitment to the Catholic faith. Send cover letter, resume & three professional references (including names & contact information) to Human Resources, Belmont Abbey College, 100 Belmont-Mt. Holly Rd, Belmont, NC 28012.

Classifieds

SERVICES

COUNSELING SERVICES: Individuals. Couples. Family. Lucille Moses, BSN, M.Ed. Licensed Professional Counselor. 1801 East 5th Street, 108-B, Charlotte. 704-366-6507 or 704-942-4334.

HOUSE: Renter's dream! "Little to no maintenance." Located near university area (Mapleton subdivision). 8801 Norway Ct., Charlotte 28269. \$1175 per month. <http://www.1sourcerents.com/3058>

FOR RENT

LAKE LURE VACATION HOME: New! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, all amenities. 3 minutes to Rocky Broad River, Lake Lure beach; fishing, boating, hiking, swimming. Reasonable! 828-299-3714.

FOR SALE

HOME: Lake Wylie, SC (near Charlotte). 3 BD/2BA home, excellent school district, nice neighbors, community pool and playground, new Catholic church being built nearby. \$196,000. www.homesbyowner.com/28338.

Classified ads bring results! Over 135,000 readers! Over 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org,

faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

FROM THE COVER

Bishop Burbidge installed as head of Diocese of Raleigh

RALEIGH, from page 1

Vianney served, we are called to ongoing conversion and transformation," Bishop Burbidge said.

"May we use this day to renew our commitment to build upon the great foundations that have been established in this diocese and rededicate ourselves to responding to the challenges St. John Vianney preached to his people," he said.

Bishop Burbidge, formerly an auxiliary bishop for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, was installed at the Meymandi Concert Hall in Raleigh to accommodate a crowd of more than 1,700.

Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory of Atlanta installed Raleigh's new shepherd. Also in attendance were Cardinals Justin Rigali of Philadelphia and William H. Keeler of Baltimore; Cardinals Anthony J. Bevilacqua, retired archbishop of Philadelphia, and Theodore E. McCarrick, retired archbishop of Washington; and 30 other archbishops and bishops, including Bishop Peter J. Jugis of Charlotte.

Bishop Burbidge has relatives living in the Diocese of Charlotte.

"We renew the commitments conveyed in the mission statement of the Diocese of Raleigh, to use our time, talents and resources to: advocate the worth and dignity of the human person from the moment of conception to natural death; eradicate the causes of division and polarization; and promote greater social justice in the cause of peace," Bishop Burbidge said in his homily.

"We could easily be overwhelmed

"I plan to take with me only a keen awareness of all that God has done for me, a profound gratitude for all his blessings ... to proclaim his Gospel."

— Bishop Michael F. Burbidge

by these challenges. However, we must remember that the transformation St. John Vianney's village experienced was not overnight," he continued.

"It happened slowly and steadily, required patience and perseverance and demanded that people work together calmly and consistently," he said.

Bishop Burbidge said he had received a warm welcome from the people of the Diocese of Raleigh since his appointment was announced June 8.

In a July 28 farewell prayer service in Philadelphia, Bishop Burbidge told those assembled, "With the Lord's help, I plan to leave behind the anxiety and even fear that can be part of a journey into the unknown.

"Instead, I plan to take with me only a keen awareness of all that God has done for me, a profound gratitude for all his blessings, a deep and lasting trust in his divine assistance, and a renewed commitment to proclaim his Gospel," he said.

"I was delighted to participate in Bishop Burbidge's Mass of installation, and welcome him to North Carolina," said Bishop Jugis. "The bishop has relatives who live in the Diocese of Charlotte, so I look forward to welcoming him when he comes to visit family in our area."



CNS PHOTO BY NICK CRETTER, NC CATHOLICS

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge smiles during his Aug. 4 installation as the fifth bishop of Raleigh, N.C. Bishop Burbidge, formerly an auxiliary bishop for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, was installed at the Meymandi Concert Hall in Raleigh to accommodate a crowd of more than 1,700. Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory of Atlanta presided at the installation ceremony.

Bill Peglow, 56, of St. Bernard Church in Philadelphia, recalled how down-to-earth then-Father Burbidge was as a parochial vicar there. Peglow was humorous in remarking that the bishop's new post will be a change for the Philadelphian: "I hope he can say, 'Dominus vobiscum, y'all.'"

Contributing to this story was Christie L. Chicoine in Philadelphia.



Do you know everything you need to know about your home mortgage options?

No? Call me, I can help!

Jayne McGonnell
Mortgage Loan Originator
(704) 516-9682
jaynecgonnell@mortgagemap.com

Let me be your mortgage advisor!

  Equal Housing Lender



Safe. Healthy. Effective. Natural Family Planning



Be not afraid! Discover how and why to live out the Church's teaching on marital love and sexuality.

CLASSES BEGIN SEPTEMBER 10TH

Our Lady of Grace Catholic School library, Greensboro

Couple to Couple League of Guilford Co.

Contact Scott and Carri Richter
(336) 621-1071

www.andersonfamilymed.com

Anderson Family Medicine

...Healthcare with a heart.

Dr. E. Kelly Anderson is available to help with all of your family's healthcare needs. A graduate of the Yale University School of Medicine and the residency program at Carolinas Medical Center - Union, Dr. Anderson is now accepting patients of all ages.

Dr. E. Kelly Anderson
Parishoner
Our Lady of
Consolation, Charlotte

HOURS:

Mon, Tue, Th, Fri. 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Wednesday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, (by appt.)

704-283-8888

An NFP-only practice

Join Other Catholics Departing: May 7, 2007

Australia Tour

17-Days from \$3698*

Join other Catholics and see the best of Australia on this comprehensive escorted tour "Down Under." Includes Victoria's capital of Melbourne, Port Philip Bay, Toorak Village, Cook's Cottage, Albury, Canberra, National Gallery of Australia, Australian War Memorial and Museum, Sydney, Botanical Gardens, a Captain Cook Cruise luncheon cruise, Coff's Harbour surrounded by lush bush land (wilderness), The Gold Coast with pristine beaches, whale & dolphin spotting, The Australia Zoo, Brisbane (Queensland's capital) with tropical rainforests, plus more! *Price per person, based on double occupancy, includes taxes and round trip airfare from Charlotte.

For information, reservations & brochure call 7 days a week:

'YOUR MAN' TOURS 1-800-968-7626

Providing carefree vacations since 1967!

ABBOTSWOOD SENIOR LIVING



For more than 17 years, Abbotswood at Irving Park has built a reputation on providing exemplary retirement living services to independent seniors. Residents enjoy the largest 1 and 2 bedroom floorplans in Irving Park, delicious meals, a full-time wellness director and month-to-month rental with NO BUY-IN FEES. Optional in-home health care services are available. Call today to schedule your personal tour.

(336) 282-8870

ABBOTSWOOD
at Irving Park



The only full service retirement living address in the heart of Irving Park
3504 Flint Street • Greensboro, NC 27405 • www.kiscoseniorliving.com

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Summer's depression

Bread of Life can sustain us in dark times

Depression often strikes during the winter holidays — when everything is glittering and shining — or when the Christmas season makes all cash registers ring joyfully in every department store and supermarket.

When we see the beautiful white snow covering the barren trees and the busy highways, ironically, some of us experience real depression, sadness and loneliness.

There are many explanations for this. I believe that when we intend to place our fulfillment and our happiness in what's out there, we end up empty-handed and depressed. Fulfillment and happiness are not out there, but inside of us and in God; and if they are not in us and in God, they are nowhere to be found.

Similar depression is experienced in summertime — when we take our vacations, when schools are closed. We experience this depression for the same reasons mentioned above.

We learn from the Hebrew scriptures that depression is not something new; it is as old as the creation of the world and it will be with us until we die. We all get discouraged from time to time, but few of us get as discouraged as Elijah — to the point of wanting to die (cfr. 1 Kgs.19:4).

However, in spite of discouragement and darkness, the Lord is more powerful than our depression.

He says: "Get up and eat, else the journey will be too long for you" (Kgs.19:5).

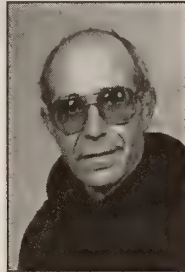
No matter how gloomy the situation may appear, we can still "taste and see the goodness of the Lord" (Ps.19). St. Paul gives us a good advice, when he says: "All bitterness, fury, anger, shouting and reviling must be removed from you, along with malice" (Eph.4:31).

To make this advice more powerful and personal, imagine that St. Paul is writing to you personally, rather than to the Ephesians.

The prophet Elijah doesn't seem to be suffering from chemical depression, but rather from situational depression.

Guest Column

CAPUCHIN
FATHER JOHN
AURILIA
GUEST COLUMNIST



As we all know, chemical depression requires professional help and fortunately there are medications that can help the problem.

Situational depression is totally different. We all get it — when we fail a test; when a boyfriend or girlfriend leaves us; when we get sick; when our car breaks down; when a loved one dies.

In dealing with situational depression, professionals often use the acronym HALT to describe the four basic steps: never get too Hungry, too Angry, too Lonely, too Tired.

In this case, let us not forget that the prophet Elijah deals with depression in a different way than we usually do. When we get discouraged, how many of us speak to God?

Is it not true that we usually turn in to ourselves, close the windows and doors of communication, build stronger walls around us? And our sense of guilt grows stronger to the point of destruction of self-esteem.

Elijah instead opens up to God, who saved him and saves us. The teaching of the prophet is very powerful indeed: Whether these are the worst of times or the best of times, these are the only times we have.

How, then, might we make the present count?

By feeding ourselves with the Bread of Life — Jesus — who emptied himself in order to fill our emptiness.

Capuchin Father John C. Aurilia is pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in Hendersonville.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

Mel Gibson's revelation

Media, public should practice fairness, forgiveness

What did Mel Gibson do recently that was so extraordinary? He drove a car after drinking. That unfortunately happens every night. He got caught, good.

He then flew into an anti-Semite rage at his arresting police officers; like ice clinking in an empty glass, drunks often say stupid, vile things. But it is no surprise that the media had a field day when it learned of Gibson's tipsy tirade. No, the extraordinary thing was it showed us how truly heartless the American media is.

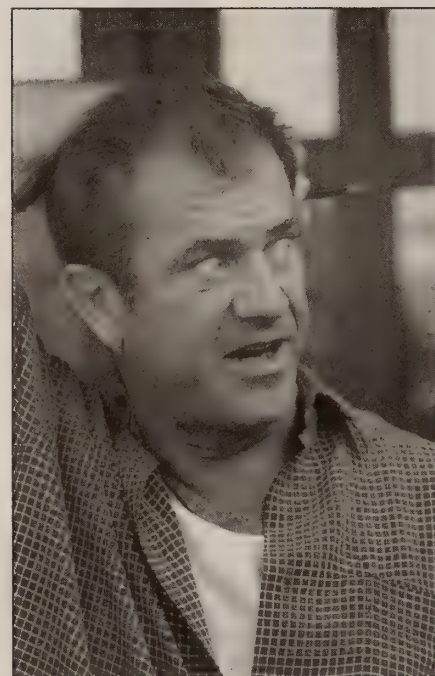
Gibson has rugged good looks, on-camera charm and the ability to self-produce a blockbuster film, "The Passion of the Christ." He has an Academy Award for directing "Braveheart" and, undoubtedly, a bank account that would make King Midas feel like a hobo.

But he has his flaws. Most notable is an admitted problem with alcohol. News reports say he was undergoing treatment for alcohol dependency when he was arrested and has since signed up for more.

So, a well-known actor gets drunk and flies into a rage. For the media, that is a genuine story, especially when the subject of the actor's rage, Judaism, is a sensitive topic. In a world that is being torn asunder by war and in a country where a broken ankle means financial ruin if you are uninsured, the Gibson outburst was worth a news cycle or two at best.

But in this age of 24-hour cable news, blogs and chat rooms that tend to care more about Paris Hilton than Paris, France, we have coverage that lasts weeks and weeks.

Coverage of a drunk driving arrest doesn't make the media heartless. But when you consider that Gibson has apologized not once, but twice, and in both cases has specifically asked for forgiveness, heartless does describe the



CNS PHOTO BY MARY KNIGHT

Mel Gibson chats with workers outside the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' headquarters in Washington July 21, 2003. Gibson met privately with then-general secretary Msgr. William Fay to discuss "The Passion of the Christ."

Catholics & the Media

DAVID HAINS
GUEST COLUMNIST



continuing coverage.

We are a mostly Christian nation and Christianity, not to mention Judaism — "our older brothers in faith," as Pope John Paul II so eloquently stated — exalts the act of forgiveness.

Forgiveness is mentioned more than 100 times in the books of the Bible. In Chapter 17 of Luke, Jesus says, "If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him" (Lk: 17-3). Christ is the greatest forgiver of all time and if he can forgive us every time we humbly seek a pardon, then who are we to deny the same to Mel Gibson?

Forgiveness is the hard work of our faith. When we forgive, we look in the face of an immense wrong, a monumental injustice, and we say, "Forget about it, let's move on to something better." Our faith requires forgiveness when someone asks for it and Gibson has asked.

Forgiveness also means "forgetness." OK, I made that word up, but you catch my drift.

If we don't practice forgetness, we carry around anger and pain that puts us right back on the starting line of injustice. We haven't really forgiven if we haven't forgotten.

Gibson should answer for his crime. But that is between him and a court of law. The rest of us don't really have a part in this drama.

News organizations, pundits and gossip television dutifully reported what Gibson said in his statements of contrition. That is what they are supposed to do. But if the media really wanted to be fair, they would drop the story and perhaps focus on Madonna, who has taken to having herself crucified on a mirrored cross during her show, an act that is sorrowful on so many levels.

But the Gibson story hasn't been dropped. Reporters and editors continue to dream up new angles in their search for spicy quotes from people who are oblivious to the concept of forgiveness.

At some point the media has a responsibility to simply shut up. As people of faith, we should demand more from the incessant roar that is the media.

As for me, for the next couple of months when I see or hear a story about Mel Gibson's problem, I'm changing the channel or turning the page.

Hey Mel, "forget about it."

David Hains is director of communications for the Diocese of Charlotte. Contact him at dwhains@charlottediocese.org. Podcasts of his columns are available at www.charlottediocese.org.

What impels us?

Part 2 of a 7-part series on the second annual Eucharistic Congress

Why do we do what we do? What motivates us to do the things that we do? What impels us?

In the first century, the apostle St. Paul answered this fundamental question in his second letter to the Corinthians: "The love of Christ impels us ..." (5:14).

Centuries later, a contemporary apostle, Bishop Peter J. Jugis, concurred with St. Paul's response by accepting the apostle's inspired words as his episcopal motto: "Caritas Christi Urget Nos."

Those who have become acquainted with the shepherd of the Diocese of Charlotte have indeed heard these words echoed in his teaching and preaching. But recently, this response has found a new venue: it has become the theme of the Diocese of Charlotte's second Eucharistic Congress to be held Oct. 6-7 this year.

What relevance does this theme have to the Eucharistic Congress?

Last year, the diocese's first Eucharistic Congress, which providentially occurred during the Year of the Eucharist, took for its theme, "Come, Let Us Adore Him." The events and talks of the congress focused our attention on the true presence of Jesus Christ in the holy Eucharist and the building up of the Catholic Church by means of the



PHOTO BY KAREN E. EVANS

The Eucharist is displayed during the Eucharistic Conference in Asheville June 24.

eucharistic sacrifice.

Last year, the congress emphasized the nature of the holy Eucharist and, therefore, highlighted the necessity of praising, worshipping and adoring the Lord, truly present in the Blessed Sacrament.

This year, however, the theme focuses our attention not so much on the nature of the holy Eucharist but on its effects, its missionary appeal. What impels us? The love of Christ, experi-

Guest Column

FATHER
MATTHEW
BUETTNER
GUEST COLUMNIST



enced profoundly in the holy Eucharist.

The love of Christ urges us to preach and teach the truths of our faith. The love of Christ impels us to receive the sacraments faithfully, to attend Mass and to receive the mercy of God in reconciliation.

The love of Christ motivates us to serve the poor, defend the unborn, promote chastity, work for justice, console the sorrowful, etc. Indeed, the love of Christ received most profoundly in the holy Eucharist impels us toward every missionary effort of the church, bringing the light of Christ to a world darkened by evil, sin and death.

St. Josemaría Escrivá commented, "We are urged on by the charity of Christ to take upon our shoulders a part of this task of saving souls. It is impossible to live according to the heart of Jesus Christ and not know that we are sent, as he was, 'to save sinners'...."

What impels us? The same thing that impelled St. Paul and, indeed all the saints of the Catholic Church, continues to impel every aspect of life in the church today: the love of Christ.

Father Buettner is pastor of St. Dorothy Church in Lincolnton.

Life is full of struggles, but believers survive, pope says

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



Openness to 'mystery of God' adds value to life, pope says

BY CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy — Life is full of struggles and difficulties, but believers survive and even thrive by always keeping in mind the fact that life on earth is simply a prelude to eternal life, Pope Benedict XVI said.

With only 4,000 people requesting free tickets to the Aug. 16 audience, Pope Benedict was able to hold the gathering in the courtyard of his summer villa at Castel Gandolfo, rather than return to the Vatican for the morning.

The pope told his guests he wanted to continue focusing on the assumption of Mary, celebrated the previous day.

"The assumption evokes a mystery that interests each one of us," he said, because the fact that Mary lives with God in heaven is a reminder that God created each person for eternal life with him.

Unfortunately, he said, people often are so overwhelmed by the daily events of their lives that they forget "this consoling spiritual reality, which constitutes an important truth of faith."

"There are those who live today as if they will never die or as if everything will end with death," the pope said.

"Some behave as if human beings have total control over their destinies, as if God did not exist, sometimes going so far as to deny that there is any space for him in our world," he said.

However, Pope Benedict said, such thinking leads to a sense of confusion and emptiness, because the meaning of life becomes too limited.

"Only openness to the mystery of God, who is love, can assuage our hearts' thirst for truth and happiness; only the prospect of eternity can give authentic value to historical events and, especially, to the mystery of human fragility, suffering and death," the pope said.

Contemplating Mary's assumption and knowing that we, too, are destined for eternity fills believers with peace and serenity even when life becomes difficult, he said.

Star-spangled revolution

National anthem should define past and future

KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

What I am about to write is almost guaranteed to generate some "hate mail," but I'm going to say it anyway.

The United States should drop "The Star-Spangled Banner" as its national anthem.

It's hard to sing, especially that high note near the end. It has been butchered so badly and so publicly (think comedian Roseanne Barr a few years back), that it is more interesting to listen for how badly the performer sings it than to listen to the song itself.

How many young baseball fans think the last two words are "Play ball!" or that the last line is "O'er the land of the free and the home of the (Atlanta) Braves?"

After hearing the national anthems of both the U.S. and Canada during hockey's Stanley Cup playoffs, my 12-year-old nephew noted how violent our anthem is, with its "rockets" red glare, the bombs bursting in air."

In its short history, America has fought a lot of wars. Some to ensure the freedom of its citizens, some for the freedom of people in far-off lands.

But do we need, do we want, a national anthem — the one song that defines who we are to the rest of the world — that speaks only of our flag surviving a battle?

I propose having an anthem that encapsulates all that is America: hard-fought freedom and prosperity, the rich diversity of its peoples and lands, gratitude to God for its many blessings. How about a couple of lines that speak to the future: the nation we want to be, not what we were or even what we are?

The Catholic Church values peace above war, creation above destruction, love above all else.

I hope that all Catholics, and Americans, share similar values. If they do, shouldn't they have a national anthem to reflect those values?

I heard this quote recently: "What you think, you become."

What if, at every sporting event, school assembly and political gathering, we sang about peace and unity? Maybe Americans would start valuing those qualities, and strive to instill them in their own lives, and in their world.

If you're a hard-core Francis Scott Key fan, would you settle for replacing

Making a Difference

KAREN A.
EVANS
STAFF WRITER



the first verse of the poem with the last? You didn't know the original poem has four verses? Me neither.

So you don't have to look it up, here is that last verse:

O thus be it ever when free-men shall stand

Between their lov'd home and the war's desolation;

Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the heav'n-rescued land

Praise the Pow'r that hath made and preserv'd us a nation!

Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,

And this be our motto: "In God is our trust!"

And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!



JOIN US FOR THE SECOND DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS FRIDAY AND SATURDAY OCTOBER 6 & 7 —

FRIDAY: 7 pm — Sacred Music Concert followed by speaker **Raymond Arroyo** (EWTN host of "The World Over Live") presenting "The Big Way of Mother Angelica." Nocturnal Adoration will follow at St. Peter Catholic Church, Tryon St. at 1st Street.

SATURDAY: 8 am-5:30 pm — Lauds; programs and speakers for adults, Hispanics, teens and children; Eucharistic procession through uptown; and closing Mass. Also, the Congress will include Eucharistic Adoration, sacrament of Reconciliation, culture hour in several native languages, and vendors offering books, CDs, sacred objects and many more unique items. See schedule below.

CHARLOTTE CONVENTION CENTER — COLLEGE ST. & STONEWALL

NO ADMISSION FEE — ALL ARE WELCOME!

CONGRESS SPEAKERS



Bishop Peter Jugis - Leading the Eucharistic Procession and celebrating Mass

Bishop Emeritus William Curlin - Eucharistic Holy Hour Homily

General Track



Mary Beth Bonacci — "The Mission to Raise Chaste Teens" — Internationally known speaker and writer, her work appears frequently in Catholic journals and newspapers. She will address key issues facing young people — and, in fact all of us — regarding faith, chastity and our culture.



Jeff Cavins — "The Mission of Peer Evangelization" — After twelve years as a Protestant pastor, Jeff Cavins returned to the Catholic Church where he is recognized both nationally and internationally as an exciting public speaker who has a deep love for Jesus Christ.



Father James E. Goode, OFM, Ph.D. — "The Mission of Building a Culture of Life" — Father Goode is the leading Black Catholic evangelist in the United States. Known as the "Dean of Black Catholic preachers," Father Goode preaches the gospel message of "blessed assurance" and the dignity of all human life throughout the world.



Father Leo Patalinghug — "The Mission to be Beautiful — Children of the Most Beautiful Mother" — Fr. Patalinghug is making a return visit to the Eucharistic Congress. Father Patalinghug, associate pastor of St. John Church in Westminster, Md., entertains and inspires with a fast-paced, often humorous talk including break-dancing and karate.

Hispanic Track



Dr. Fernando Casanova — "The Mission of Being Catholic" — Dr. Casanova, a Puerto Rican theologian, is known for his enthusiastic and charismatic talks about the Catholic Church, its doctrine and its morality.



Father Juan Rivas — "The Mission of Catholic Media" — Born in Guadalajara, Mexico, Father Rivas is a priest member of the congregation of the Legionaries of Christ, ordained in 1982. For 18 years he has directed and produced the daily radio and television shows of Hombre Nuevo, evangelization programs explaining Catholicism with clarity, vigor and conviction.

Teen Track

Mary Beth Bonacci — see General Track above
Jeff Cavins — see General Track above
Father Leo Patalinghug — "The Mission to be Super Heroes"

Children's Track (K — 5th grade)

A four-hour program that is open to children in grades Kindergarten through 5th grade. The track features a variety of dynamic and fun-filled activities for children to discover Christ in their everyday lives. Children will also have a special adoration session.

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, October 6

7 pm — Concert of Sacred Music
Raymond Arroyo — "The Big Way of Mother Angelica"
Nocturnal Adoration at St. Peter Church

SATURDAY, October 7

8 am — Lauds
9 am-1pm — Speakers, programs for adults, Hispanics, teens, kids
12:15pm — Culture hour in native languages
1:30 pm — Eucharistic procession through uptown
4:30 pm — Eucharistic Congress Mass

Check www.GoEucharist.com for the latest Eucharistic Congress updates!

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

SHARING THE LIGHT OF FAITH



CNS PHOTO BY BOB ROLLER

Volunteers Jessica Hensle (left) and Laura Cartagena of A Simple House show Hakeem Alston, 14, how to light a prayer candle following Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington Aug. 15. A Simple House is an outreach program in Washington whose volunteers serve the poor by proclaiming the Gospel through acts of faith, love and charity.

A Simple House is a spiritual, material outreach to poor

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Relying on divine providence and the charisms of Sts. Francis of Assisi and Alphonsus Liguori, volunteers with A Simple House adhere to a lifestyle of Christian poverty and practice what they call “friendship evangelization” among the poor in Washington.

According to the mission statement of the Catholic lay missionary apostolate, its volunteers “wonderfully and radically fall upon the cross of Christ for grace and support” and serve the poor by “proclaiming the Gospel through acts of faith, love and charity.”

They observe Franciscan poverty “with an Alphonsian love for the poorest of the poor.”

Clark Massey, director, said there is a “wonderful living in the moment” aspect of the ministry.

“I’ve quit worrying about the whole course of my life and now focus more on the last five minutes,” he said.

A Simple House — which has two locations in the District of Columbia — serves adults living in subsidized housing. Most are single mothers with a number of children. Others, including drug abusers, prostitutes and homeless people, come to the door for help.

According to the apostolate, it is different from most charities because volunteers focus on people’s spiritual needs, not just their material needs. Through friendship evangelization, they create personal relationships with those they serve.

They bring groceries to people, take them to church and to medical appointments, and visit their homes, where they counsel them, pray with them and

invite them to participate in Bible studies.

Massey said some people don’t leave their houses because they are depressed, so volunteers go to them.

Out of the visits, relationships grow, according to Laura Cartagena, a full-time volunteer. Some families have the volunteers over for dinner or invite them to family reunions, graduations and birthday parties.

She said little things happen every day that are “constant reminders that what we’re doing is important,” whether it be taking a group of youths to the movies or to Mass, or seeing a mother of 10 children get a job and move out of a dumpy apartment into a real house.

Full-time volunteers make a 10-month commitment, receive missionary training, participate in morning and evening prayer and attend daily Mass. Part-time volunteers make weekly or monthly commitments, and others volunteer occasionally.

Four times a year A Simple House delivers items to houses: school supplies in the fall and food baskets at Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter.

Founded in 2003, A Simple House is funded by donations.

“We want to continue begging and relying on God’s providence,” said Massey.

Cartagena said the outreach A Simple House does would seem “pretty silly” if prayer was not involved.

“My spiritual life has definitely improved,” she said. “It’s helped me to focus on praying and relying on God’s providence all the time, not just some of the time.”

FDA permission to sell Plan B over the counter called unacceptable

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Food and Drug Administration’s Aug. 24 decision, with the apparent support of President George W. Bush, to allow over-the-counter sales of Plan B, the “morning-after pill,” to women 18 and older defies common sense and is “completely unacceptable,” according to a pro-life official of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Deirdre McQuade, director of planning and information for the bishops’ Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, urged pharmacists “not to confuse FDA approval with a right to access” and said they should “refuse to stock this potent drug for distribution on demand.”

Plan B uses large doses of birth-control pills to prevent conception up to 72 hours after unprotected sex. Over-the-counter sales of the drug were expected to begin before the end of the year.

In its Aug. 24 announcement the FDA said that, “when used as directed, Plan B effectively and safely prevents

pregnancy.” But McQuade said that ignores the “potentially abortifacient” effects of the drug.

“While Plan B can prevent fertilization, the manufacturer admits it may also prevent a newly conceived embryo from implanting and surviving in the womb,” she said. “This is properly understood as causing an early abortion.”

“Without the benefit of a doctor’s supervision, many women will be unaware of this abortifacient action and the other risks posed by Plan B,” McQuade added.

McQuade said Plan B “is a powerful dose of the artificial hormone levonorgestrel — 40 times the amount found in comparable prescription-only birth-control pills.”

“Making the more potent dosage available to women upon request simply offends common sense, especially when the drug is not designed to treat a disease or pathological condition,” she said.

Diocesan planner

ASHEVILLE VICARIATE

HENDERSONVILLE — The Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be visiting Immaculate Conception Church, 208 Seventh Ave. West, Sept. 14, 2-4 p.m. The custodians of the statue will show an audiovisual presentation on the Fatima message and recite the rosary. For more information and to reserve a seat, call Carmen Caprio at (828) 890-0415.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — A Rosary and Benediction will follow the 5:30 p.m. Mass at St. Patrick Cathedral, 1621 Dilworth Rd. East, Sept. 7. The rosary will be offered for an end to abortion and all the culture of death.

CHARLOTTE — Blood Give-In Sunday will be held at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy, Sept. 17, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Appointments are encouraged and will be honored. Walk-ins are welcome, but will be taken as time permits. Donors will be required to provide identification, such as a driver license or Red Cross blood donor card. For more information, call Ed Nenninger at (704) 366-6637.

CHARLOTTE — TGIF on Wednesday is a support group for separated or divorced women and men. All are welcome to join us for encouragement and discussion with others making similar journeys at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. in the New Life Center, Room 114. If you have any questions, call Bonnie Motuz at (704) 543-8998.

CHARLOTTE — Healing Hearts, a support group for people coping with the death of a

spouse, meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall of St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Rd. For more information, contact Sister Therese Galligan, facilitator, at (704) 362-5047, ext. 216.

CHARLOTTE — The Vietnamese Cursillo of Charlotte School of Leaders meets the second Sunday of each month at 2:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1400 Suther Rd. For more information, contact Nam Le at (704) 549-1525.

CHARLOTTE — The Young Widowed Group meets at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month in the Fellowship Hall of St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, contact facilitator Sister Therese Galligan at (704) 362-5047, ext. 216.

CHARLOTTE — The 50+ Club of St. John Neumann Church, 8451 Idlewild Rd., meets the second Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. with a program and lunch in the parish hall. For reservations and more information, call Elaine at (704) 847-2835.

CHARLOTTE — The Happy Timers of St. Ann Church meet the first Wednesday of each month with a luncheon and program at 1 p.m. in the Msgr. Allen Center, 3635 Park Rd. All adults age 55 and older are welcome. For more information, call Charles Nesto at (704) 398-0879.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

HIGH POINT — Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 4145 Johnson St., will begin the third series of the *Hope of Seeing Everyone Again* program. HOSEA is a program to invite Catholics who have distanced themselves from the Catholic Church, for whatever reason, to return. This small group will meet beginning Sept. 5, 7-9 p.m. and will meet weekly for six weeks to discuss various issues and concerns and to receive pastoral referrals and guidance. For more information, contact Larry

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

SEPT. 1, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 39

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Vox Clara reviews U.S. bishops' proposals for wording in Mass prayers

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A Vatican-appointed committee of English-speaking bishops has reviewed the amendments and adaptations approved by the U.S. bishops in a new translation of the main prayers for Mass.

Archbishop Alfred C. Hughes of New Orleans, a member of the Vox Clara Committee, said members reviewed each of the U.S.-proposed changes to the text prepared by the International Commission on English in the Liturgy.

The Vox Clara Committee, which met July 17-21 at the Vatican, advises the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments on English-language translations. The congregation must approve translations adopted by a national bishops' conference before they can be used in parishes.

Archbishop Hughes said Vox Clara spent a significant amount of time on the translation approved in June by the

U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops because it was the only conference to have approved the text with amendments and adaptations.

The Order of the Mass contains the main, constant parts of the Mass, including the penitential rite, Gloria, creed, eucharistic prayers, eucharistic acclamations, Our Father and other prayers and responses used daily.

Currently, the United States is the only English-speaking country that does not use the phrase "consubstantial with the Father" in describing Jesus in the creed, Archbishop Hughes said. The U.S. bishops proposed to continue using the phrase "one in being with the Father."

The Vatican has encouraged English-speaking bishops' conferences to work closely with ICEL to perfect an exact translation of Mass texts from Latin into an English text that could be used everywhere in the world.

Kwan at (336) 688-1220.

GREENSBORO — St. Pius X Church and School, 2210 N. Elm St., are sponsoring a series of workshops for women called *Wisdom of Women*. Sessions will be held on the first Thursday of the month, 9:30-11 a.m. in the parish center. The group will be facilitated by parishioner and life coach Lucy Wellmaker. The purpose of the group is to create a time and a space for women to better connect with their inner wisdom and move forward on their journey in life. For more information or to register call Lucy (336) 632-1940 or email CoachW@LucyWellmaker.com

HIGH POINT — Immaculate Heart or Mary Church 4145 Johnson St. will offer a *free Spanish course* on Thursdays 7-8:30 pm beginning Sept. 7. For more information or to register call Nancy Skee at (336) 884-0522 or e-mail Larry Kwan at hlkw@lexcominc.net.

GREENSBORO — *Catholic Daughters of the Americas* will meet Sept. 11 at 7 p.m. in Our Ladies Cottage at Our Lady of Grace Church, 2205 West Market St. Any questions can be directed to Lawrence Kirwan at (336) 292-2776.

GREENSBORO — The *Greensboro Council of Catholic Women* will open its 2006-2007 fiscal year with a luncheon Sept. 27 at Cardinal Country Club. The speaker will be Lorraine Ahearn, Metro Columnist for the News & Record. For more information, please contact JoAnn Stevens-Church (336) 540-0786.

HICKORY VICARIATE

NEWTON — *Fostering Justice Worldwide*, sponsored by the Diocesan Office of Justice and Peace, will share Catholic Relief Services (CRS) stories. This free event will take place at St. Joseph Church, 720 West 13th St., St., Sept. 9, 1:30-5 p.m. The program will provide an overview of Catholic social teaching, CRS-related work in the Diocese of Charlotte, CRS work in Africa, presentations on effective advocacy and more. This event will be repeated in Stoneville Nov. 4. For specific details

about the Saturday afternoon events please call the Office of Justice and Peace at (704) 370-3234 or (704) 370-3225, or e-mail justicepeace@charlottediocese.org.

MORGANTON — The Cursillo Movement of the Diocese of Charlotte is hosting a diocesan-wide *Grand Ultreya* at Steel Creek Park Sept. 30, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Events include Mass, guitar music, group reunion, witness/spiritual talks, and hiking/nature trails for children. Please bring covered dish and a 2-liter drink. For more information, call Kathy Hack at (704) 548-1834 or e-mail hackhouse@bellsouth.net.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

CLEMMONS — Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd., has *Eucharistic Adoration* each Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-9 p.m. For more details, call Donna at (336) 940-2558 or Carole at (336) 766-4530.

WINSTON-SALEM — The Spirit of Assisi hosts a *Wednesday Lunch & Speaker Series* each Wednesday, 12:30-1:15 p.m., at the Fatima Chapel, 211 W. Third St. Conventual Franciscan Father Conall McHugh will speak on "Meditating with the Bible" at the Sept. 6 program. Laura Graban will speak on "Reconciliation: the Sacrament of Healing" at the Sept. 13 program. For more information and to RSVP, call Sister Kathy Ganiel at (336) 624-1971 or e-mail kganiel@triad.rr.com.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the *Diocesan Planner* at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Sept. 16 — 5 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
Basilica of St. Lawrence, Asheville

Sept. 19 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Charlotte

Episcopal calendar

Sept. 9 — 1:30 p.m.
"Fostering Justice Worldwide"
St. Joseph Church, Newton

Sept. 12 — 11 a.m.
Presbyteral Council meeting
Pastoral Center, Charlotte

Exorcist says demonic influence is strong in today's world

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — An Italian exorcist said demonic influence is strong in today's world, affecting individuals and sometimes entire societies.

While it is very rare for a person to be possessed by a demon, history reveals some likely examples — including Adolf Hitler and Joseph Stalin, said Pauline Father Gabriele Amorth.

Father Amorth, who works as an exorcist in the Diocese of Rome, made the comments on Vatican Radio Aug. 27.

Father Amorth said every culture in history has shown an awareness of the existence of evil spirits. With the Bible, he said, these spirits were identified as rebellious angels who "tempt man to evil out of hatred for God."

"The devil can possess not only individuals but also entire groups and populations. If one thinks of what was committed by people like Stalin or Hitler, certainly they were possessed by the devil. This is seen in their actions, in their behavior and in the horrors they committed," he said.

"Therefore, society also needs to be defended against the devil," he said.

Father Amorth said he thought one reason why the devil's influence was high today is that Christian faith has weakened, replaced in many cases by superstition and an interest in the occult, which he said "open the way to demonic influences."

He said the church teaches that the devil is a pure spirit; he is not seen, but his effects can be seen, he said.

Exorcism, he said, is a prayer made in the name of the church to liberate people stricken by the devil or by his evil influences.

Father Amorth gained notoriety in 2000 when he revealed that Pope John Paul II had performed an impromptu exorcism on a young woman who flew into an apparent rage at the end of a general audience at the Vatican.

In 1999, the Vatican issued a revised Rite of Exorcism, cautioning that cases of actual possession by devils were probably very rare. The church also has emphasized that before an exorcism is performed, it is important to make certain one is dealing with the devil and not a psychological or other illness.

Birthday kisses



CNS PHOTO BY JAVANTA SHAW, REUTERS

Missionaries of Charity nuns kiss the tomb of Blessed Mother Teresa, after praying for their foundress on what would have been her 96th birthday in Calcutta, India, Aug. 26. Mother Teresa, who died in 1997, was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 2003.

MAKE BETTER HEALTH CARE COVERAGE ELECTION PRIORITY, SAYS NUN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Improving health care insurance coverage should be a major campaign priority in November's elections, said the head of the Catholic Health Association, noting that 46.6 million people in the U.S. are uninsured.

"We hope that as the midterm election approaches, people across the country will demand that their candidates

for office explain how they will work to expand coverage and access," said Sister Carol Keehan, a Daughter of Charity.

Sister Keehan was commenting on 2005 figures released Aug. 29 by the U.S. Census Bureau. The bureau reported that 46.6 million people in the U.S. are uninsured. This includes 8.3 million children.

PASTORAL ASSIGNMENT

Bishop Peter J. Jugis announces the following pastoral assignment, effective Aug. 24, 2006:

Father José Enrique Gonzalez Gaytán as chaplain of Charlotte Catholic High School and Holy Trinity Catholic Middle School in Charlotte.

Belmont Abbey breaks ground for adoration chapel



COURTESY PHOTO

Bishop Peter J. Jugis, Abbot Placid Solari and Bill Thierfelder are pictured during the groundbreaking for a new eucharistic adoration chapel at Belmont Abbey College Aug. 22.

Structure will be first new building on campus in nearly 20 years

BELMONT — Belmont Abbey College recently broke ground for a new eucharistic adoration chapel.

The groundbreaking ceremony for the adoration chapel was led by Abbot Placid Solari and college president Bill Thierfelder Aug. 22. Bishop Peter J. Jugis, as well as other clergy from the Diocese of Charlotte and monastery, were in attendance.

By unanimous vote of the monks, the chapel was named for St. Joseph.

Belmont Abbey's first new building since 1989 and part of its overall strategic plan, the adoration chapel will replace the current one on the campus located behind the monastery and will provide a larger place for the college and community to pray.

"How appropriate that our first

groundbreaking in so many years is for an adoration chapel," said Thierfelder. "We're locating this chapel in the middle of the dormitories with the hope students will stop by daily to give thanks for what we have here."

Completion of the wood-and-glass chapel is scheduled for 2007.

"The building shows the progress of the college," said Abbot Placid. "It's one of the tangible signs of the advances the college has made."

Founded in 1876, Belmont Abbey College was named one of the best comprehensive colleges in the Southeast by U.S. News and World Report and The Princeton Review. The College welcomes anyone, from any religious background, who wishes to pursue academic excellence through a liberal arts curriculum.

Continuing the mission

Order of chivalry brings new members, service to diocese

CHARLOTTE — The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem is growing in the Diocese of Charlotte.

Bishop Peter J. Jugis, a member of the order, celebrated the order's annual scroll Mass at St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte Aug. 13.

During the Mass, two new members were recognized and others, including Bishop Jugis, received promotions.

The order, which dates back to the 11th century, is dedicated to preserving Christ's tomb in Jerusalem as well as supporting Catholic schools, hospitals, orphanages and churches in the Holy Land.

It is the only order of chivalry under the patronage of the Holy See. Members, also known as Knights and Ladies of the Holy Sepulchre, are leaders in their parishes and communities.

Membership is considered one of the highest papal awards conferred upon clergy and laity alike, according to Alice Cella, the order's regional representative for the Diocese of Charlotte.

Members are invested during a centuries-old ceremony and each receives a scroll imprinted with the seals of the Vatican secretary of state and the cardinal grand master.

Bishop Jugis and John Piuono of the order's Middle Atlantic Lieutenantcy (which includes the Diocese of Charlotte) presented scrolls to new members, Peter Asmer Jr. and Rita Maria Jimenez Witt,



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Knights and Ladies of the Holy Sepulchre gather with Bishop Peter J. Jugis (center), Father Paul Gary (left of bishop) and Father John Putnam (right of bishop) after the scroll Mass at St. Patrick Cathedral Aug. 13.

who were invested in 2005.

Promoted to the rank of Knight Commander with Star were Bishop Jugis and Cleatus Tate.

Promoted to Knight Commander were Father Paul Gary, rector of St. Patrick Cathedral; Father John Putnam, pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Salisbury; James Beckert and Robert Potter.

Promoted to Lady Commander were Alice Cella and Mary Potter.

On the local level, members lend their presence in support of their bishop by participating in ceremonies of the diocese.

The goal of each knight and lady is to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, for which they are awarded the prized Pilgrim's Shell by the Patriarch of Jerusalem.

All are welcome at the "MIRACLE HOUR" WORKSHOP

Learn a method of prayer that will change your life!

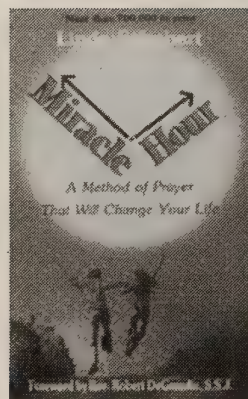
Sponsored by St. Matthew Catholic Church, Charlotte

presenter

Linda Schubert
Miracles of the Heart Ministries

Saturday, September 9th
9 am to 4:30 pm

St. Matthew Catholic Church
8015 Ballantyne Commons Parkway
Charlotte, NC 28277-0077



Registration: \$10 - bring a bag lunch; beverages provided

Checks payable to: St. Matthew Catholic Church (please note in memo "9/9/2006 workshop") Mail to: St. Matthew Catholic Church, PO Box 49349, Charlotte, NC 28277-0077.

Info: Julie Jahn (h) 704-708-9225 or (cell) 704-560-9202

Experiencing difficulties in your marriage? A Lifeline for Marriage

September 8 - 10 in Raleigh



Come for a weekend to rediscover your spouse under the ministry of Retrouvaille, (pronounced "re-tro-vye"). Designed to provide tools for difficult times, this weekend will help married couples examine their lives in new, positive ways.

Retrovaille has helped many thousands of couples experiencing everything from disillusionment to deep misery.

For confidential info or to register: 336-297-0595 or retrovaille@msn.com.
Visit our Web site: HelpOurMarriage.com

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church celebrates 40 years

GUADALUPE, from page 1

"Mary carried within herself the sweet, gentle gift of God," Bishop Peter J. Jugis said in his homily. "How appropriate that just as the Gospel was read we have the sweet, gentle gift of God from above to renew the earth."

Parishioners and visitors at the Mass celebrated not just the feast day but also Our Lady of Guadalupe Church's 40th anniversary.

"Our celebration today allows us to rededicate ourselves to Jesus' mission — salvation — the reason Jesus was sent into the world," Bishop Jugis said.

"In order for us to be effective in bringing Jesus' message, we have to remain rooted in Jesus," the bishop continued. "That's the goal of all our sacraments, to become one with him. He is the God-man, who came into the world to show us what it is to live a full life."

A 40-year mission

On Aug. 15, 1966, Bishop Vincent S. Waters of Raleigh dedicated the church, with its seven-sided construction to honor the seven Cherokee clans. Cherokee artist Watty Chiltoskie designed the mosaics, inlaid in the church floor, to represent those seven clans: Deer, Long

Hair, Paint, Wolf, Bird, Wild Potato and Blue Panther.

Goingback Chiltoskie, another Cherokee artist, carved symbols of the seven sacraments into the altar railing. Later, Cherokee carpenter T.J. Dupree moved the altar-railing panels to stand in front of the 5,000-piece stained-glass window, which is the first thing most visitors see when entering the church.

The window depicts Our Lady of Guadalupe, "patroness of captive nations." Sequoyah, inventor of the Cherokee alphabet and written language, kneels on the left in front of a Cherokee village.

The Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City is on the right, along with a rose bush, which bloomed in winter on nearby Tepayac Hill to indicate that Mary wanted a church built there.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, also built on a hill, has always been a mission church — first of St. John Church in Waynesville, then St. Margaret of Scotland in Maggie Valley.

When Bishop Michael J. Begley became the first bishop of the Diocese of Charlotte in 1971, he established St. Joseph Church in Bryson City in 1972; Our Lady of Guadalupe Church then became its mission.

At first, Glenmary Home Missioners — Father Donald Levernier, Father Frank Gardner, Father Tom Field — pastored the churches. In 2000, the Glenmarys returned



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Father Shawn O'Neal (left), Bishop Peter J. Jugis, and altar servers Harmmer Weichel (foreground) and Jim Fogarty pray during Mass at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Cherokee Aug. 15.

administration of the two parishes to the diocese.

Fathers Ray Williams and Frank Seabo preceded Father O'Neal as diocesan pastors.

Franciscan Sisters of Tiffin, Ohio, including Sisters Roberta McKinnon, Jane Schmenk, Marcella Keefe and Virginia Gase, provided a pastoral presence over the years.

"There was no limit to the sisters' diverse involvement in religious, cultural, and social activities," according to the church's historical notes. "They took part in interfaith studies with local ministers, ecumenical gatherings and promoting cooperation among denominations. ... They initiated various social programs and served on numerous boards."

"Spiritual lives were enriched by incorporating Indian rituals into Mass and prayer services at Our Lady of Guadalupe," the history states.

The continuing mission

Bishop Jugis reminded attendees that the mission continues: to tell others about Jesus, to work for social justice, to welcome newcomers from other countries.

"The Second Vatican Council talked about lay people being a leaven in the

world," he said. "If you're united with Christ, you're going to make a difference."

"It is a grand mission, a beautiful vocation. If we're not doing that, we're not fulfilling Bishop Waters' purpose for which this mission was established," he said.

At the end of Mass, Father O'Neal presented an eagle feather, given by Eastern Band of Cherokee member Maxine Studer, to Mary Herr for her many years of involvement with the church.

Herr recently retired as faith formation consultant and Native American multicultural worker for the Smoky Mountain Vicariate. It is legal to own an eagle feather, Herr said, as long as it is given by a Native American.

Father O'Neal asked that "we never forget the Franciscan Sisters of Tiffin, the Glenmarys, and other pastors who have served the church. He also thanked the bishop and everyone who attended Mass, many of whom were visitors."

"We will always welcome you as we would welcome Jesus," he said.

A reception followed in the parish hall, the Kateri Center, named in honor of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, a member of the Mohawk tribe, who died in 1680 at the age of 24. Pope John Paul II beatified her in 1980.

Have you been asked questions about your Catholic faith that you wish you could answer?

Would you like to know and better understand Scripture?

Catholic Scripture Study at Belmont Abbey College is your answer!

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Friday, September 8, 2006. Reserve your spot now!

WHEN: The 29-week CSS program will run from the middle of September 2006 to May 2007 on Monday evenings.

TIME: 7:00pm - 9:00pm

WHERE: Belmont Abbey College

COST: \$59.99 per person



Brought to you by:
The Catholic Shoppe at
Belmont Abbey College

For more information and to register:

Call 704-461-5100 or email: CatholicShopee@bac.edu



It's news and inspiration about the Diocese of Charlotte

Subscribe today — it's FREE!

Check it out at www.CharlotteDiocese.org

Mothers helping mothers

Peer ministry shares faith, experience

CLEMMONS — Women wading through the demands of motherhood often could benefit from the experience and faith of other mothers.

A group of mothers at Holy Family Church in Clemmons are hoping to help mothers in their parish and beyond by sharing the knowledge, support and faith they've gained through the Ministry of Mothers Sharing (MOMS).

"Becoming a mother after many years of wanting children has been a life-altering experience, and I longed to understand how this change called for adjustments in my spiritual life," said Gretchen Solomon, a MOMS facilitator at Holy Family Church.

The women in MOMS look to Mary and Elizabeth as the first role models of mothers supporting mothers.

"I wanted to relate to other mothers of faith and to exchange stories of triumphs and trials in daily life as well as in our spiritual journeys," said Solomon.

Through MOMS, Solomon found a strong connection with the other mothers in the group.

"I also gained a renewed appreciation for making my spiritual life a priority," she said.

MOMS is an eight-week parish-based peer ministry founded by the Benedictine Sisters of St. Paul's Monastery in St. Paul, Minn. Since 1992, MOMS has reached more than 500,000 women and their families in more than 100 dioceses, according to the monastery's Web site.

The weekly MOMS sessions begin and end with a prayer ritual designed to enhance the Christian perspective on a number of topics, including self-esteem and self-acceptance, anxiety, spirituality, setting goals, friendships and spiritual gifts.

Women taking the course keep journals and share their thoughts and experiences. Mothers of all ages and stages of life are encouraged to participate.

Solomon met her MOMS co-facilitators, Michelle Goldy and Kelly Hines, through Holy Family Church's mothers' support and play group. They realized that their daily busyness had disconnected their religious lives from the many tasks that filled their time — working, cooking, doing laundry and

caring for young children.

The women shared a desire to make a stronger connection between their daily routines of caring for children and their faith, and they launched the MOMS program.

Going through the program has helped Goldy reflect on many aspects of her life.

"Recognizing that being a mother is my calling at this point in my life has been such a gift," she said. "It has changed my perspective on all the day-to-day dealings I have with my husband and children, as well as how I approach maintaining the household."

"I am able to recognize those grace-filled moments that before seemed to go unappreciated, and that inspires me to be the best mother and wife I can be," said Goldy.

Hines said MOMS has helped her appreciate "moments of ordinary holiness."

"There is an element of spirituality in even the simplest tasks as a mother, wife and friend," she said. "It has also helped me take time to nourish my spirituality, which is something I think gets overlooked when we're so busy with everyday life."

MOMS courses were offered at Holy Family Church to coincide with Advent and Lent in the last year. Now, with the support of Father Brian Cook, parochial vicar, the facilitators are planning a MOMS retreat in September themed "Mary, Our Sister and Spiritual Model," led by Benedictine Sister Paula Hagen, co-founder and director of MOMS.

During the retreat, participants will take time to recognize and celebrate the sacredness of Mary as mother/sister/friend and see her come alive in her relationship with the Holy Spirit, Joseph, Elizabeth and her son, Jesus, from a mother's perspective.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on MOMS at Holy Family Church in Clemmons, contact Michelle Goldy at (336) 712-2442 or mgoldy@triad.rr.com, or Kelly Hines at (336) 940-6053 or khines72@hotmail.com.

Sharing in the spirit



COURTESY PHOTO

Grand Knight Lance Cancro (center) and members of Knights of Columbus Council 8509 enjoy food and camaraderie during a spiritual retreat at Holy Family Church in Clemmons Aug. 19. Forty-one knights attended the retreat led by Father Joseph Kelleher, a retired priest of the Diocese of Charlotte, who also celebrated Mass for the knights and their families.



Thinking about a will?

Practice good stewardship, create a lasting legacy and help the poorest of the poor overseas.

Request a free Wills Kit from Catholic Relief Services.

1-800-235-2772 ext. 7318 or kdudzik@crs.org

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



INTRODUCING...
IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES WEST —
St. Barnabas in Arden —
open after all Masses of 2nd and 4th weekends each month

Visit our others satellite stores, too:
St. Charles Borromeo in Morganton
St. Gabriel in Charlotte
St. Therese in Mooreville

Come in and check out our GREAT SUMMER READING selections!!

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

Values In Vogue Where Fashion and Faith Meet

Featuring today's fashions for
Young Women from
Goody's

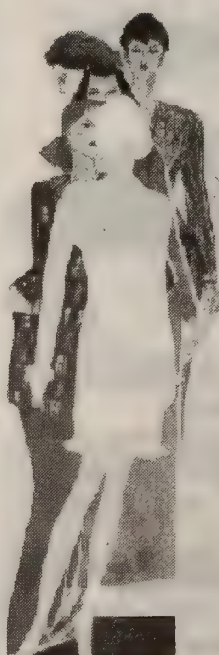
Emcee for the program is
Karen Rinehart

syndicated humor columnist from The Independent Tribune
Creator, The Bus Stop Momnies™

September 10th, 2006
2-4 pm

The Meroney Theater
Main Street Salisbury, NC

Tickets are \$8 each Seating is General Admission
Call Sacred Heart Catholic Church
(704)633-0591 for more information and ticket sales



Students return to Catholic schools

SCHOOLS, from page 1

opportunities for education and growth within the Catholic schools," said Father James Hawker, vicar of education for the Diocese of Charlotte and pastor of St. Luke Church in Mint Hill.

"At the same time we never cease to realize that this graced environment is founded upon the person and message of Jesus Christ," he said.

At Immaculata School in Hendersonville, new math programs have been adopted, as well as a new writing program for grades one through eight and the Handwriting Without Tears program for pre-kindergartners.

At St. Matthew School in Charlotte,



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Dominique Tan and Javier Cruz, first-graders at St. Ann School in Charlotte, look through their workbooks Aug. 23.

theLEAP (Learning Enrichment Activities Program) will offer more to students, as the teacher is employed full-time.

Beginning this year, the 132 students at Our Lady of the Assumption School in Charlotte can join the choir, dance, drama and Spanish clubs.

St. Ann School in Charlotte has instituted a Gifted and Talented program and introduced an outside classroom, where vegetables and flowers are grown for Samaritan House, a local ministry that provides a recuperative care home for the homeless when they have been discharged from the hospital.

Dominican Sister of St. Catherine of Siena Mary Seldita Tiorosio, the new principal at Sacred Heart School in Salisbury, welcomed 190 students — an increase of 20 since 2005-06 — as well as fellow Dominican Sisters Enriqueta Arnaiz and Elizabeth Arnaiz.

Sister Tiorosio and Sister of St. Joseph Helene Nagle, principal of St. Ann School, are the only two women religious serving as school principals in the diocese.

Graduates of diocesan schools seem to remain loyal to their Catholic educations: seven the teachers at St. Matthew School are graduates of Charlotte Catholic High School, including a graduate of All Saints School (now St. Matthew School). At St. Ann School, many of the current students' parents also attended the school, according to Sister Nagle.

"It is necessary that the vision, values and virtues lived and proclaimed by the Lord himself are cultivated and exemplified within the Catholic school community," said Father Hawker.

"Therefore, all who are involved will witness to the presence of Jesus in that graced environment and in their lives."

IMPROVED SCHOOLS

Students, teachers and staff returned to upgraded facilities at most schools, as 59 capital improvement projects were completed over the summer months.

Among the projects: The administration building at Holy Trinity Catholic Middle School in Charlotte now has a new central air conditioning system and roof, and a new water pipeline now serves the entire school.

St. Mark School in Huntersville has a new walking track and improved athletic fields.

At St. Ann School in Charlotte, central air conditioning was installed, the parking lot was resurfaced and new ceiling tiles and lighting were installed in the multipurpose room.

Asheville Catholic School also benefited from capital improvement, including a new roof for the gym, a resurfaced playground and air conditioning in the first- and second-grade classrooms.

Classrooms in most schools were re-painted.

GOING HI-TECH

Technological improvements were made at several schools as well.

Voice and data carriers were changed from ALLTEL to Bellsouth's Metro-E product, increasing Internet and bandwidth at each of the MACS schools to 10 mb bandwidth.

St. Gabriel School received a new wireless computer lab setup and a newly designed server room.

St. Ann School received a new computer lab, a newly designed server room and new cabling and wiring infrastructure throughout the entire school, including wireless.

St. Patrick School received a new computer lab.

St. Matthew School is in the implementation stage for a wireless network for the entire school.

Charlotte Catholic High School is in the implementation stage for new cabling and wiring infrastructure throughout the entire school including wireless. A new IP address scheme to accommodate more computer equipment on the system for students was implemented.

FIND HEALING IN HER 'SHOWER OF ROSES'

Share your special healing needs with Saint Therese, the Little Flower, who promised to let a "shower of roses fall from Heaven."

Saint Therese of Lisieux



Reverse of Centerpiece

Open your heart to this beloved Carmelite Saint when you pray with the Little Flower Rose Petal Chaplet.

- Features 25 rose-scented beads, made from real rose petals.
- Silver-tone medal with detailed image of Saint Therese.
- Blessed by the Carmelite Friars.
- Comes with instructions... "How to say the Little Flower Chaplet."

Ask Saint Therese for a "shower of roses" today! Request your Little Flower Rose Petal Chaplet with a gift of \$12 or more in support of the Carmelite Friars.

Carmelite Friars • National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel™
P.O. Box 868 • Carmelite Drive • Middletown, NY 10940-0868
(845) 344-0876 • (Calling Hours: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. EST Mon.-Fri.)

☐ YES... I believe in the healing power of prayer! Please send me _____ Little Flower Rose Petal Chaplet(s). I have enclosed a gift of \$_____ in support of Carmelite ministries. (The suggested donation is \$12 for each Chaplet requested.)

☐ Please send me a FREE Blessed Scapular.
Please Note: You must check boxes to receive items.

☐ My check is enclosed.

☐ Please charge my gift of \$_____ to my: ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard

Acct. no. _____ Exp. date _____ / _____

Signature _____

Name _____ (please print)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ Email _____

Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery of items. Your gift is tax deductible to the extent of the law.

CNH-TH06

THE GOOD NEWS IS, YOU HAVE THOUSANDS OF INVESTMENT OPTIONS. THE BAD NEWS IS...

- You have thousands of investment options, and you don't know how to pick the best ones for your situation.
- You have thousands of investments options, and you don't have time to research even a fraction of them.

Call to learn more about:



PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

Les Davaz
Financial Advisor
Member, St. Patrick's Church

100 N. Tryon St., Suite 3300
Charlotte, NC 28202
(704) 331-2233 or
(800) 438-0397

<http://fc.smithbarney.com/davaz>

citigroup
SMITHBARNEY

* Minimum balance \$25,000 Equity, \$100,000 Fixed Income. © 2006 Citigroup Global Markets Inc. Member SIPC. Smith Barney is a division and service mark of Citigroup Global Markets Inc. and its affiliates and is used and registered throughout the world. CITIGROUP and the Umbrella Device are trademarks and service marks of Citigroup Inc. or its affiliates and are used and registered throughout the world.



AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles

Licensed & Insured

FREE ESTIMATES

www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Will Sleeper and Campbell Shepherd, first-graders in Mary Beth Smith's classroom at St. Gabriel School, find hooks for their backpacks Aug. 23.

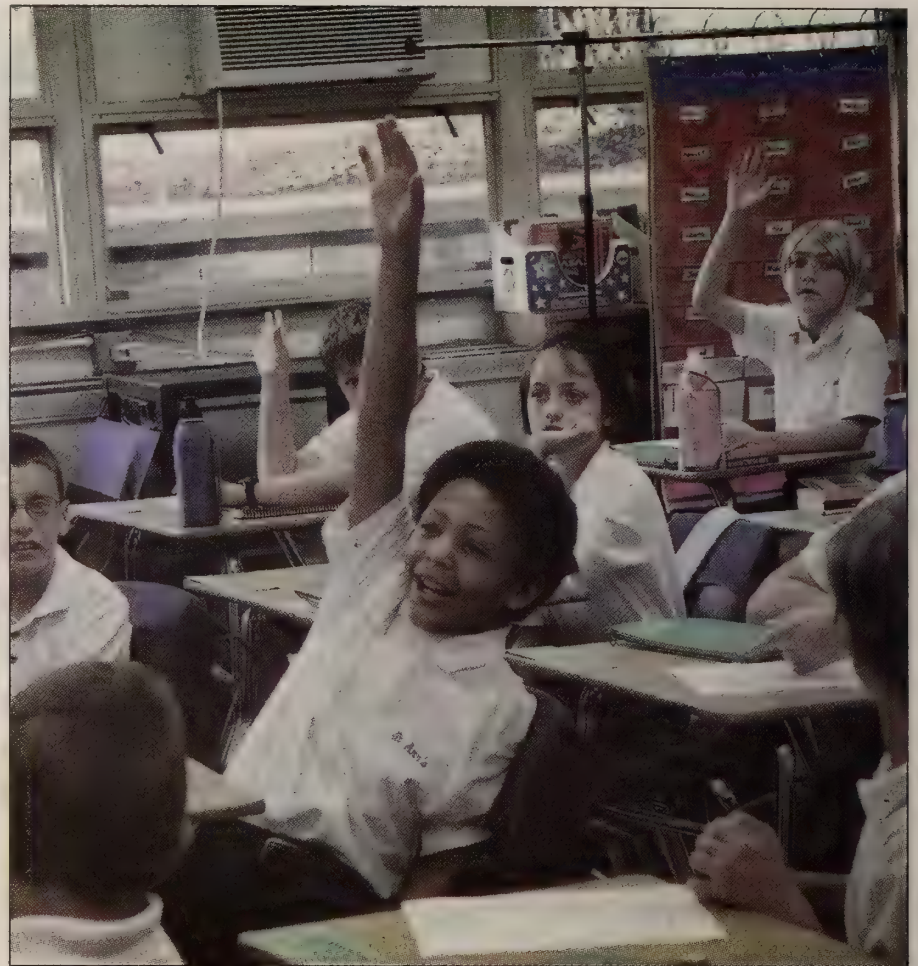
"Jesus is the reason for the existence of Catholic school within the pastoral educational mission of the church."

— Father James Hawker, vicar of education for the Diocese of Charlotte



COURTESY PHOTO

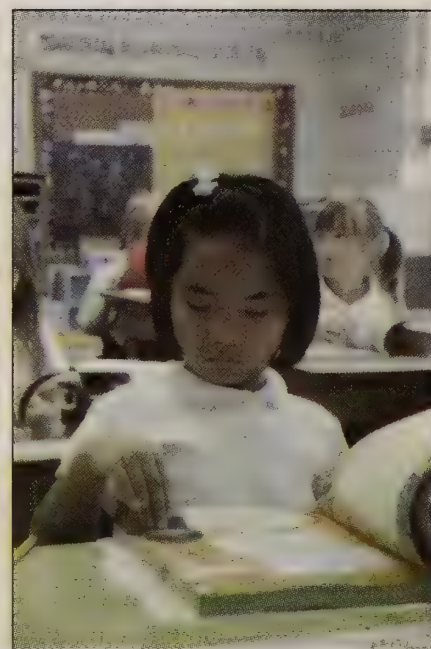
Ross Minor, a blind third-grader at St. Matthew School in Charlotte, teaches his classmates how to read Braille Aug. 24.



PHOTOS BY KAREN A. EVANS

Above: Fourth-grader Lavette Parker raises his hand to answer a question at St. Ann School in Charlotte.

Left: Dominique Tan looks through a new workbook on the first day of school at St. Ann School in Charlotte.



"It is good to see our Catholic families putting a priority on their children's faith development."

— Kevin O'Herron, principal of St. Matthew School, Charlotte

Carolina Funeral & Cremation Center

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

Live Your Faith

Be affirmed in your present ministry.
Upgrade your certification as a catechist and religion teacher. Fulfill the prerequisite for the Permanent Diaconate.
Grow in your faith.

If you have these desires, the Diocesan Office of Lay Ministry offers a two-year program designed to help you understand more fully your baptismal call to minister to your family, to others in the Church, and to those in your daily life.

LAY MINISTRY TRAINING PROGRAM

Classes held in Arden, Bryson City, Charlotte and Greensboro.

For more information call
Frank Villaronga,
704-370-3274 or E-mail
favillaronga@charlottediocese.org

www.andersonfamilymed.com

Anderson Family Medicine

...Healthcare with a heart.

Dr. E. Kelly Anderson is available to help with all of your family's healthcare needs. A graduate of the Yale University School of Medicine and the residency program at Carolinas Medical Center - Union, Dr. Anderson is now accepting patients of all ages.

Dr. E. Kelly Anderson
Parishoner
Our Lady of Consolation, Charlotte

HOURS:
Mon, Tue, Th, Fri. 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Wednesday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, (by appt)

704-283-8888
An NFP-only practice

"The students at Our Lady of Grace School truly live the Gospel message in their actions toward one another each day and through their community involvement."

— Gary Gelo, principal of Our Lady of Grace School, Greensboro



COURTESY PHOTO

Above: Emily Ann the Clown, portrayed by Barbara Kenley, physical education and music teacher, visits with the pre-kindergarten class at St. Michael School in Gastonia during their annual pizza party Aug. 23. She brought a camping bag and luggage stuffed with toys and a giant quilt for rest time.



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Right: Mary Polking reviews capital and lowercase letters on her first day as a first-grader at St. Gabriel School in Charlotte.



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Bradley Tatterson (left) and Adam Charlton (right) dance as they learn about personal space in their transitional kindergarten class at St. Ann School Aug. 23.



COURTESY PHOTO

The school board at St. Leo the Great Catholic School was among 10 governing or advisory Catholic school boards honored for outstanding achievement from the National Association of Boards, Commissions and Councils of Catholic Education (NABCCCE) at the National Catholic Education Association's 103rd annual convention in Atlanta, Ga., in April.

According to Dr. Regina Haney, NABCCCE executive director, the "2006 winners represent qualities of effective boards that set the example for others."

Pictured are OGeorgette Schraeder, principal; Kent Nastasi; Susan Doran, athletic director; Maureen Patti, teacher rep; Scott Semke, chairman; Tracy Valladares; Michelle Hanson; Father Thomas Kessler, pastor of St. Leo the Great Church.



Do you know everything you need to know about your home mortgage options?

No? Call me, I can help!

Jayne McGonnell
Mortgage Loan Originator
(704) 516-9682
jaynemcgonnell@mortgagemaps.com

Let me be your mortgage advisor!

 Equal Housing Lender



ABBOTSWOOD SENIOR LIVING



For more than 17 years, Abbotswood at Irving Park has built a reputation on providing exemplary retirement living services to independent seniors. Residents enjoy the largest 1 and 2 bedroom floorplans in Irving Park, delicious meals, a full-time wellness director and month-to-month rental with **NO BUY-IN FEES**. Optional in-home health care services are available. Call today to schedule your personal tour.

(336) 282-8870

ABBOTSWOOD
at Irving Park



The only full service retirement living address in the heart of Irving Park
3504 Flint Street • Greensboro, NC 27405 • www.kiscoseniorkliving.com

THE ORATORY

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER A Continuing Silence

8 pm Friday – 3 pm Saturday

Three sessions: September 8-9, December 1-2, and March 2-3

A continuing community of prayer support gathers every quarter at the Oratory. Schedule includes Taize prayer, silent contemplation, noon Eucharist, and lunch.

Cost: \$35 commuters \$65 overnight

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

'Da Vinci Code' author sued for plagiarism

BY STEPHEN KILTONIC
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

HOLYOKE, Mass. — Claiming that Dan Brown, author of the phenomenally successful fictional thriller "The Da Vinci Code," plagiarized his book, "The Vatican Boys," Catholic author Jack Dunn filed a \$400 million lawsuit Aug. 16 in the U.S. District Court in Springfield.

Dunn, a Holyoke native, named Brown; Random House, Brown's publisher; Columbia Pictures; Imagine Entertainment; Sony Releasing; and Sony Pictures, producer of the screen version of the book, in the lawsuit.

Dunn said extensive portions of his book appear in Brown's book and that there are many similarities in the text, the characters and plot points of "The Da Vinci Code" that closely parallel the characters and plot points in "The Vatican Boys."

Dunn's historical novel was written and copyrighted in 1997, while "The Da Vinci Code" was released in 2003.

In a press release, Dunn said he had alerted Random House and Sony Pictures April 26 that he "felt there were problems with the content of both books and possible copyright infringement." He received a letter from Random House saying it had received his complaint, but did not get a response from Sony.

In the last five months, Dunn has received "several oral and written credible preliminary reports from literary and/or linguistic experts confirming that substantial similarities in many constituent elements" between the two books are present "and would be readily apparent to reasonable lay readers of both books," according to the lawsuit.

"The Vatican Boys" is about church corruption and delves into the world of international money, the Opus Dei personal prelature, and the Shroud of Turin.

Dunn said he spent four years researching and writing the novel, traveling to Europe and Jerusalem.

Dunn told The Catholic Observer, newspaper of the Diocese of Springfield, that the similarities between "The Vatican Boys" and "The Da Vinci Code" were first brought to his attention at book

signings by readers who noticed that the story in Brown's book looked "an awful lot" like the story in his book.

Intrigued, he finally sat down last January to read "The Da Vinci Code" and immediately saw the connection.

"I was shocked that someone would so closely copy a book and then try and disguise it by putting in what I call all the fluff around the book, by creating scenes, by just moving characters around a little bit, or changing the scene," said Dunn, who claims there are "virtually hundreds" of similarities between both books.

Dunn, working with scholars and other experts, has nearly 40 pages of flow charts to identify specific instances of the copying of terms and phrases as well as the introduction of the characters in the plots and the scenes in the book.

Earlier this year the writers of the 1982 nonfiction book "Holy Blood, Holy Grail" sued Brown in London for plagiarizing their "bloodline" theory, which claims that Jesus married Mary Magdalene, fathered a child and produced a royal bloodline and that evil forces within the Catholic Church protected these secrets for centuries.

The London lawsuit ultimately failed because of lack of sufficient evidence.

"If you (take) out everything that he took from my story to get to the bloodline theory, there's nothing left of his book. He needs everything that he took from 'The Vatican Boys' in order to get to the bloodline," including the historical information and characters, Dunn said.

Like many Catholics who call "The Da Vinci Code" blasphemous, Dunn feels Brown must be challenged and ultimately discredited because fiction passed off as history undermines Christianity.

"As a Catholic, as a Christian, I'm very offended by what Dan Brown has done. I'm twice as offended since he used my story to do it," he said.

"I think all of us have a responsibility right now to take very seriously what Dan Brown is doing in promoting this bloodline theory and work together to show other information which refutes his allegations," he said.

Contributing to this article was Rebecca Drake.

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: SEPT. 10, 2006

Sept. 10, Twenty-third
Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Isaiah 35:4-7a
Psalm 146:7-10
- 2) James 2:1-5
- 3) Gospel: Mark 7:31-37

Streams of faith, friendship

BY JEFF HENSLEY
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Crossing Terlingua Creek in Big Bend National Park to get to the trail that leads up the side of Santa Elena Canyon can be a harrowing experience.

It was late-July a couple of years ago when I was making my way across the cobblestone streambed. Contrary to weather patterns in our part of Texas, this was at the end of the rainy season in the Big Bend, and the creek was running quite strong.

With the current lapping a few inches above my knees, I found it necessary to keep my eyes fixed on the far shore to which I was headed. Eyes on the goal, I inched my way across.

It wasn't lost to me that this was a

spiritual lesson about dealing with trying circumstances. Eyes on the problem: panic. Eyes on the goal: calm resolve. I got the message.

And that seems to be the lesson in the Isaiah reading today: "Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes with vindication."

I had followed in the footsteps, almost literally, of a young man with a walking staff who had gone before me, taking off up the trail on the other side about 20 minutes earlier.

After I'd made my way across the stream and up the side of the canyon, following the trail in the 110-degree heat a couple of miles and back, I found the fellow still on the far side of Terlingua Creek. He said he'd been swimming, but his clothes were dry.

I suspected he'd kept an eye out for my welfare, and once across the creek again I invited him to share some lunch with me. Unsought protection like that should not go unrewarded, I thought.

He turned out to be a Danish architecture instructor, teaching at a Virginia university. He brought forth a bottle of blueberry juice to share along with the sandwiches and grapes I provided.

We had a nice meal and visited over a broad range of topics here where a stream of friendship had indeed burst forth in the desert.

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF SEPT. 3-9

Sunday (Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time), Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8, James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27, Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23; **Monday**, 1 Corinthians 2:1-5, Luke 4:16-30; **Tuesday**, 1 Corinthians 2:10-16, Luke 4:31-37; **Wednesday**, 1 Corinthians 3:1-9, Luke 4:38-44; **Thursday**, 1 Corinthians 3:18-23, Luke 5:1-11; **Friday (Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary)**, Micah 5:1-4, Matthew 1:18-23; **Saturday (St. Peter Claver)**, 1 Corinthians 4:6-15, Luke 6:1-5.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF SEPT. 10-16

Sunday (Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time), Isaiah 35:4-7, James 2:31-37, Mark 7:31-37; **Monday**, 1 Corinthians 5:1-8, Luke 6:6-11; **Tuesday (Holy Name of Mary)**, 1 Corinthians 6:1-11, Luke 6:12-19; **Wednesday (St. John Chrysostom)**, 1 Corinthians 7:25-31, Luke 6:20-26; **Thursday (The Exaltation of the Cross)**, Numbers 21:4-9, Philippians 2:6-11, John 3:13-17; **Friday (Our Lady of Sorrows)**, 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-27, Luke 2:33-35; **Saturday (Sts. Cornelius and Cyprian)**, 1 Corinthians 10:14-22, Luke 6:43-49.

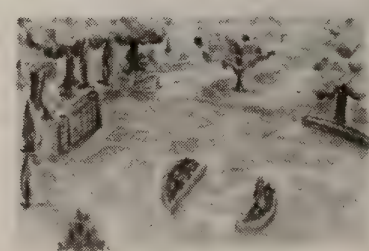
D A 50th-year class reunion

C for those who graduated from Dominican Commercial High School in Jamaica, New York in June 1957 is going to take place in the fall of 2007. Please call or email Nancy Felicioni at 516-541-8688, nfelinan@aol.com, or Mary Moratti at 704-846-9226, mary@moratti.net, if you would like to attend or if you have information about any other graduates.

Groce
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

Asheville & Arden
The Catholic Funeral Directors

The Groces are proud to support the St. Joan of Arc Serenity Garden Columbarium
For information about the columbarium call the parish office: 828-252-3151



Attention: Homeowners...Have a plumbing problem? Don't Panic!

"How To Get A Top Talent Plumber To
Show Up On-Time So You Don't Waste Time"

You have a busy schedule and value your time. Most plumbing companies won't give you a real appointment time and keep you waiting all day for a plumber to show up. Now there's a new way to get your plumbing problem fixed, save money, and get a precise Appointment Window so you don't have to waste time waiting.

Three-Way Plumbing Services, Inc.

We're The Good Guys Your Friends Told You About®

(704) 535-4795 Charlotte (704) 795-9349 Concord

Serving The Entire Charlotte Diocese Area

www.3wayplumbing.com

Proud member of St. James Church



YOUR CLOSET. ONLY BETTER.

Custom storage solutions for every room in your house.

- Closets, offices, garages, entertainment centers etc.
- Handcrafted designs that fit your needs and style
- Professionally trained designers and installers

25% OFF With This Ad
FREE INSTALLATION

We Will Beat Any Competitor's Offer

Call for a FREE design consultation

704.676.5000

closetfactory

www.closetfactory.com

CNH-I

'Lassie' a fine family film



CNS PHOTO BY ROADSIDE/SAMUEL GOLDWYN

Jonathan Mason and a collie star in "Lassie," a handsome adaptation of Eric Knight's original novel, "Lassie Come Home," about an impoverished Yorkshire mining family in World War II that reluctantly sells its beloved dog to a rich nobleman (Peter O'Toole) who takes the dog to Scotland where the collie escapes and attempts the impossibly long trek back home.

Writer-director Charles Sturridge has assembled a fine, mostly English cast. The scenic vistas are breathtaking and the story appealing, making this fine family viewing, though discerning adults may be bothered by a disjointed narrative, some plot turns that defy credulity, and an awkwardness in both script and direction that places it several notches below the classic 1943 MGM version.

A brief sequence of Lassie being beaten with a belt, a non-graphic scene where the miners urinate to throw some hunting dogs off the scent of an escaping fox, some mildly crass language, some mild violence and the death of a dog. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-I -- general patronage. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG -- parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

New book series aims to educate adult Catholics in the faith

SAN FRANCISCO (CNS)—Ignatius Press and Ave Maria University have co-published a parish-level adult faith formation series designed to help Catholics learn more about their faith or relearn aspects they do not understand well.

The series, Catholic Faith Explorers, currently covers seven topics and there are plans to add others. Each topic — the

Mass, Scripture, baptism, confession, Mary, the role of laity in the church, and church authority — is developed in participant workbooks presenting church teaching in everyday language and explaining how it applies to modern life.

The workbooks contain references for more in-depth study and lists of recommended resources and Web sites for further information. The leaders' guides contain suggestions for presentations and PowerPoint materials that can be reproduced.

Books can be used individually or in a parish group setting or as part of the parish's RCIA program.

Diane Eriksen, the series editor, said that in most Catholic parishes in the United States, adult faith formation has often focused on specific sacramental formation.

"But adult Catholics, many for the first time, also want clearer understanding on other aspects of their faith," she said.

"This program is not like a class at all. It's more a primer on knowing the faith and being better able to explain and discuss it with others," she added.

The series is a response to the U.S. bishops' call for active adult faith formation at the parish level.

NOTICE TO SENIORS AND THE DISABLED

What would you say if we told you - you don't have to pay your credit card bills?
Most of our clients say "Thank you".

If your only income is from social security, disability payments, pensions or veteran's benefits.

Federal law states that your income can't be taken away to repay debt. You don't have to pay, and you don't have to endure frustrating calls and letters from collection agents. You can live worry free. Just contact the Debt Counsel for Seniors and the Disabled (DCSD).

- DCSD shelters you from harassment
- DCSD protects your income
- DCSD is not a bankruptcy

Stop creditors from breaking the law - trying to collect debts you can't pay.

**Call Debt Counsel for
Seniors and the Disabled
at 1-800-992-3275, ext-1007**



Join our Oratorian Congregation to SERVE GOD AS PRIEST OR BROTHER

As priests and lay men, our community lives without vows and serves God's people numerous ways, including:

Parishes	Youth Camps	Nursing
Retreats	Campus Ministry	Hospital Chaplains

Find out more about serving God with us:

Fr. Ed McDevitt, CO The Oratory
P O Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586

Studies shows faith is positive

FAITH, from page 1

and a researcher for the University of Michigan Health System, also has tested her theory to include such stressful situations as Hurricane Katrina and the Kosovo war in the Balkans as examples of communal stress, and open-heart surgery as an example of individual stress.

Because about 90 percent of the people interviewed for an earlier study professed belief in some strain of Christianity or Judaism, there was no basis for comparison as to whether adherents to one faith fared better than members of another religion, Ai said.

"The 9/11 and Kosovar studies suggest the similar effect of different faiths," she added.

Ai's reports on post-Sept. 11 trauma were titled "Prayers, Spiritual Support and Positive Attitudes in Coping With the Sept. 11 National Crisis" and "Hope, Meaning and Growth Following the Sept. 11, 2001, Terrorist Attacks."

The former study, published in 2005, found "a linkage of spiritual support and positive attitudes mediated the effect of faith-based and secular factors on post-Sept. 11 distress," and that "higher levels of initial negative emotional response were associated with the use of prayer for coping, which was, in turn, related to less distress."

The study surveyed 453 graduate and undergraduate students three months after the attacks.

In "Hope, Meaning and Growth," also published last year, a survey of 457 students three months after the attacks "found the increase of seven character strengths that encompass the so-called theological virtues, including hope and spirituality, in Americans," and cited "lower levels of symptoms," presumably negative, that could have

been an outgrowth of the attacks. The three theological virtues are commonly referred to as faith, hope and love.

"These findings offer further credence to the study of positive aspects resulting from violence-related trauma and highlight the needs of addressing the nature of traumatic events and" post-traumatic growth, it added, cautioning that "little is known about how they may affect post-Sept. 11, 2001, mental health."

SENIOR ACCOUNTING POSITION

The Diocese of Charlotte is accepting applications for a senior accounting position. Responsibilities include management of the payroll function for 75 locations; analysis of accounting and financial reporting processes; development and implementation of new solutions to address current accounting issues; and certain monthly accounting functions. Applicants must have a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting and a minimum of three years' related experience with extensive experience with accounting systems. EOE. Send resume and salary history by September 15, 2006 to:

Controller, 1123 South Church Street, Charlotte, NC 28203.



PARISH MUSIC DIRECTOR

Holy Spirit Church in Denver, NC is looking for a music director versed in Catholic liturgy. Salary is negotiable. Contact Father Carmen Malacari at 704-483-6448 if interested.

Fundraising Representative

Local company needs rep in all areas of North Carolina. Perfect opportunity for those with sales or school volunteer experience. Ideal for those who prefer working from home and want a flexible schedule. This is a commission-based opportunity with bonus plan.

Call 336-288-4424.



ALUMNI RELATIONS INTERNSHIP

Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kershaw, NC is looking to fill an internship position for the Alumni Relations program.

Qualifications: Preferably Communications/Journalism/Marketing and/or Public Relations major. Experience with publication design and editing; excellent communication and organizational skills; some event planning experience.

Internship Duties: Assist the Advancement Director with the coordination of the alumni relations programs including developing and editing of alumni newsletter, planning and assisting with class reunions, maintain communications with class representatives, assist with planning and coordination of Alumni Weekend and Hall of Fame events.

Contact Information: Paola Scilinguo, Director of Advancement, (336) 564-1009 or pscilinguo@bmhs.us

Join us this September for Catholic Scripture Study's (CSS) latest offering **The Gospel of Matthew**



Join Catholics around the world as we delve chapter-by-chapter into the Gospel of Matthew study written by Dr. Scott Hahn and Mark Shea. The DVD lectures are done by Fr. Matthew Kauth of the Diocese of Charlotte.

Break-out discussion groups review questions about the Scripture text, offer intriguing points for discussion, help the readers apply the Scripture to their lives, and provide key points from authors that help connect the riches of Scripture to the teachings the Catholic Church. You'll learn firsthand how our Catholic faith is rooted and nourished by the Holy Bible. Classes meet weekly at St. Vincent de Paul on Park Road in Charlotte and are open to all parishes.

Wednesdays 10am - 11:30 am or Thursdays 7pm - 8:30 pm

Classes begin September 13 and end in May with holiday breaks. Cost includes study materials and is \$59.99. To register contact Pat Brownstein at 704-542-0213 or pcbrownstein@mindspring.com.

To find other Catholic Scripture Study classes in the Charlotte diocese, visit the CSS website: www.catholicscripturestudy.com.

Classifieds

SERVICES

COUNSELING SERVICES: Individuals. Couples. Family. Lucille Moses, BSN, M.Ed. Licensed Professional Counselor. 1801 East 5th Street, 108-B, Charlotte. 704-366-6507 or 704-942-4334.

FOR RENT

LAKE LURE VACATION HOME: Fabulous mountain views. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, a relaxing getaway. Reasonable. Book for leaf season! 828-299-3714.

AUTUMN AT TAYLOR'S PEAK CABIN: Blue Ridge Mtns. Near Boone. Gorgeous surroundings. Beautiful Blessed Mother Grotto. Available 9/23-10/7. Reasonable. 828-264-0054

FOR SALE

HOME: Lake Wylie, SC (near Charlotte). 3 BD/2BA home, excellent school district, nice neighbors, community pool and playground, new Catholic church being built nearby. \$192,000. www.homesbyowner.com/28338

FURNITURE: Formal Dining Room Set. Dark wood with 4 chairs. Leaf included. Like new. Asking \$400. Call 704-535-2696.

Classified ads bring results! Over 135,000 readers! Over 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.
Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

Upcoming collection to benefit priests' retirements

PRIESTS, from page 1

received a salary of \$50 a month, with no health insurance or retirement benefits.

Fortunately for the young man and his fellow diocesan priests, Cardinal Patrick O'Boyle of Washington instituted a priests' retirement collection several years later.

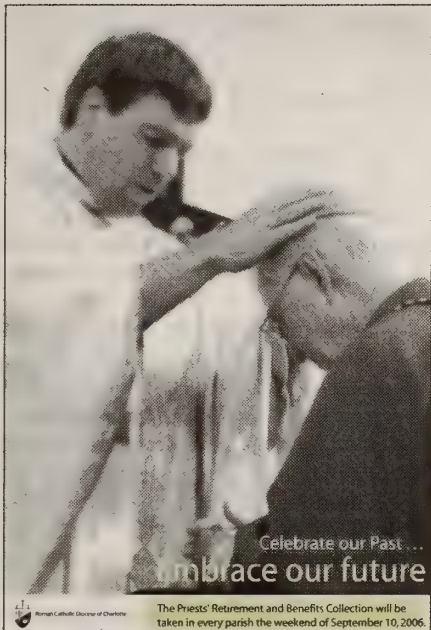
Thirty-seven years later, when Bishop Curlin came to shepherd the Catholics of western North Carolina, he found a similar situation in the thriving mission territory. One of his first orders of business was to work with Msgr. Mauricio W. West, diocesan vicar general and chancellor, to establish the annual Priests' Retirement and Benefits Collection, to be taken up in the parishes.

Now enjoying his fourth year of retirement, Bishop Curlin lives a quiet yet active life, continuing to serve the faithful of the Diocese of Charlotte and enjoying the leisure time afforded any retiree, thanks in large part to this collection.

Much of his time is spent leading priests' retreats and parish missions throughout the United States. He is also in demand to celebrate weddings, baptisms and funerals, and visits the hospitalized almost daily.

Catholics in the Diocese of Charlotte soon will have the opportunity to show their support for the 26 retired diocesan priests, including Bishop Curlin, who have faithfully served the Diocese of Charlotte for 1,086 years collectively.

The annual Priests' Retirement and Benefits Collection, this year themed "Celebrate Our Past ... Embrace Our



Above is the poster for the annual Priests' Retirement and Benefits Collection in the Diocese of Charlotte, this year themed "Celebrate Our Past ... Embrace Our Future." The poster was designed by Tim Faragher, graphic designer for The Catholic News & Herald.

Future," will be taken up in every parish the weekend of Sept. 9-10.

"Contributing to the Priests' Retirement and Benefits Collection is a tangible way for Catholics to show their gratitude for the faithful service of our retired diocesan priests," said Barbara Gaddy, associate director of development for the Diocese of Charlotte.

Contributions also help provide for the future retirements of the 79 diocesan priests

currently involved in active ministry, as well as the retirement funds of the 49 religious order priests serving in the diocese.

"This program is in place so that when our recently ordained priests retire, there will be funds available to help support them," said Gaddy.

The campaign's goal is to collect \$1,247,822 — \$863,615 to fund the diocesan priests' retirement and benefits plans; \$356,507 to support the retirement funds of religious order priests currently serving in our diocese; and \$27,700 to cover campaign expenses.

Each parish is assessed 3.5 percent of its annual offertory collection to raise funds needed to support the Priests'

Retirement and Benefits Collection. In most parishes, that amount is slightly less than two times the regular Sunday offertory.

Proportionate contributions on the weekend of Sept. 9-10 will help parishes pay the assessment.

"I would hope that the people of God of the diocese would recognize that these men have been serving faithfully for so many years," said Bishop Curlin. "Now is an opportunity for the faithful to provide loving care and service for them."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

"I would hope that the people of God of the diocese would recognize that these men have been serving faithfully for so many years."

— Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin

Diocese of Charlotte retired priests

Father Joseph Ayathupadam
Father James Cahill
Father Francis Cintula
Father Thomas Clements
Father Francis Connolly
Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin
Father William Evans
Father Patrick Gavigan
Father Conrad Hoover
Father Raymond Hourihan
Father Joseph Kelleher
Msgr. Joseph Kerin
Father Conrad Kimbrough

Msgr. Anthony Kovacic
Father Andrew Latsko
Father Bernard Manley
Father Richard McCue
Father Gabriel Meehan
Msgr. William Pharr
Father Charles Reese
Msgr. Joseph Showfety
Father James Solari
Father Edward Sullivan
Father John Tuller
Msgr. Thomas Walsh
Father Joseph Waters

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels.

Asheville
828-665-3944

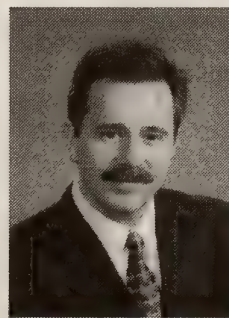
Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooreville
704-663-1065

You're Invited!
to

Room At The Inn's
Twelfth Annual Fundraising Banquet

"Life Giving Love"



Charlotte Convention Center
Thursday, October 26, 2006

Featured Speaker

Patrick Madrid

Catholic Apologist

www.surprisedbytruth.com

Make a reservation to attend this important fundraising event for the pro-life ministry of Room At The Inn! Mr. Madrid's provocative presentation will address the implications of the interlocking social and moral issues of abortion, euthanasia, contraception, global aging and the worldwide reality of population implosion.

Registration/Reception: 5:30 pm

Seating for dinner: 6:40 pm

**** Reservations are FREE, but required.**

To make your reservation or to host a table of eight, contact Banquet Reservations at (704) 525-4673, ext. 10 or iroomattheinn@carolina.rr.com by October 12th.

Room At The Inn, Inc. is a pro-life Catholic maternity and after-care program in Charlotte, NC, providing an alternative to abortion for pregnant women. Please check our website www.rati.org for more information. Not affiliated with Room At The Inn of the Triad, Inc.

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Catholicism in color Changes to enhance look, feel of newspaper

By now, you may have noticed something different about this issue of The Catholic News & Herald.

Perhaps it arrived in your mailbox a bit quicker this week. If so, that was intentional and not a result of the winds drummed up by Ernesto.

And perhaps it seems a bit more colorful and, dare I say, even a bit more vibrant and cheery.

This is because we now are harnessing all the technology at our disposal. In other words, while playing online mah jong, we accidentally pressed a button on the computer we didn't notice before.

As such, we are able to bring you The Catholic News & Herald with more color — like, a whole bunch of it!

Actually, we have contracted with a new printing house and mailing service, in the hopes of enhancing the newspaper's appearance and delivery.

The process to brighten the diocesan newspaper with more color came about during an in-depth analysis of the newspaper by some of the diocese's most noted scholars — specifically, my mother's card-playing group.

It went exactly like this:

"Did you notice what a fine job my son, the editor, is doing at The Catholic News & Herald?" asked my mother. "Janet, give me your eights."

"Indeed. But the newspaper is so gray. Couldn't that editor son of yours jazz it up a bit?" replied Mary, reviewing her cards. "And go fish."

"Of course he can!" proclaimed my mother, drawing a card from the deck. "My son, the editor, can do anything! You'll see! And, Martha, do you really need to smoke that thing in here?"

Actually, I have no idea if the conversation went that way, as no man is allowed — for his own good — within 30 yards of the ladies' card games.

But allegedly Mary's daughter, Becky, who's best friends with Claire, said she overheard her sister Annette talking to Cadence — who's dating that dreamy football player at Charlotte Catholic — who, while sneaking a Dr. Pepper from the fridge, overheard her mom say during the card game that it would have been nice to see a color photo of their parish picnic in the last issue while also telling Janet to "go fish."

Clearly, we take suggestions such as this very seriously at The Catholic News & Herald.

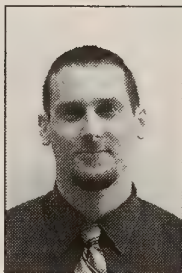
And so do many other newspapers, many of which are offering more color within their pages.

The reason? There are quite a few, excellently summarized on Wikipedia.com:

"Newspapers have been mostly

Murray's Musings

KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR



printed on off-white paper known as newsprint. Since the 1980s, the newspaper industry has largely moved away from lower-quality letterpress printing to higher-quality, four-color process, offset printing.

"In addition, desktop computers, word-processing software, graphics software, digital cameras and digital prepress and typesetting technologies have revolutionized the newspaper production process.

"These technologies have enabled newspapers to publish color photographs and graphics, as well as innovative layouts and better design."

My staff and I have puzzled over the above information for weeks and we still don't have a clue as to what any of it means. But the importance of color is evident in other aspects of our lives.

Color is one of the first things you notice when you walk into a room, according to painting giant Sherwin-Williams, and the use of color is one of the most important decorating decisions.

So it would reason that color should be important in newspaper design, as it would be one of the first things you notice when you flip through the pages.

Like a moth to the flame, color will draw your eyes to the photos and ads, keeping you suspended as you oooh and aaah over the reds, the blues, the greens.

We're so color-happy around here that we've begun wearing colors that are completely no good for our skin tones or body types, just because we can.

Tom, for example, is wearing orange argyle socks. You should see them.

And this exuberance is spreading throughout the diocese. Catholic school uniforms are going pastel. The diocesan Pastoral Center will be adorned with a giant mural. The chancery is experimenting with polka dots.

We're very excited about these changes and we hope you are, too. We at The Catholic News & Herald will continue to harness all that is available while bringing you inspiring and informative news about your diocese and the Catholic Church, only now in more color — like, a whole bunch of it.

That is, at least, until my mother's card playing buddies suggest otherwise.

The preconceived notion

Facts, prejudices and clichés abound in news stories

The other day I was a "wallpaper quote."

A wallpaper quote comes from an otherwise anonymous member of the public. Wallpaper quotes appear in print and broadcast stories where they usually give legitimacy to the central theme of a story.

You see wallpaper quotes in TV stories when a person speaking, the "man on the street," isn't named with an on-screen identifier. To qualify as a wallpaper quote, all you need is a warm body and a voice.

Out of the blue, a reporter called me the other day. As I am spokesman for the Diocese of Charlotte, I field a lot of calls from reporters. But this call came because recently I had written a note to a columnist who answers questions about traffic and road conditions.

My phone number was on the e-mail and the enterprising reporter on the other end of the line apparently looks over the shoulder of the columnist.

She was very professional and polite. Her story was about a recent press conference in which the State of North Carolina announced it was starting a program called "Swat-a-Litterbug."

Basically, the state is encouraging people to report litterbugs who dump trash from their cars by e-mailing the license plate number of the offending driver.

The reporter explained that offenders would be sent a letter by the State gently reminding them not to litter. Along with the letter comes a plastic bag for garbage or an ashtray. What, she wondered, did I think about that?

I thought this was my chance to give a gem of a quote that would lift her story to Pulitzer Prize level.

"Do you mean the state is giving out ash trays to people who flick their cigarette butts from a moving car? Wow, decorating my home is never going to be easier."

No response, but I could tell that she hadn't clicked with my attempt at humor. She went on to explain some other aspects of the program. This was a clear signal that I hadn't registered on her quote-meter.

I tried again: "Now let me see if I

Catholics & the Media

DAVID HAINS
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS



got this right. If I'm caught littering, the State is going to encourage me to take on the smelly, and perhaps deadly, habit of smoking by offering me, free of charge, a keepsake ashtray?"

Once again, I could hear that she wasn't tapping on her keyboard — the print reporter's equivalent of the silent treatment.

By now my quote bank was just about empty. But I gave it one last try. And before you could type "jackrabbit," she was gone.

This is what appeared in the newspaper the next day.

"Residents say they like the idea. 'It gives you the opportunity to do something about it,' said David Hains, who lives in Huntersville. 'Now, you can say, hey, I can report these people.'"

Pretty boring, eh?

Wallpaper quotes are usually bland and predictable. But the bigger picture is that reporters, even well meaning reporters like the one I spoke with, often have preconceived ideas of what they want in a news story — it is true when they report on something as innocuous as the Swat-a-Litterbug campaign, or as earth-shattering as a hurricane.

We need to remember when we read and watch the news that, in addition to seeing the verifiable facts of a story, we are dealing with the preconceived notions, prejudices and clichés of the individual who gathered the information.

David Hains is director of communications for the Diocese of Charlotte. Contact him at dwhains@charlottediocese.org. Podcasts of these columns are available at www.charlottediocese.org.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

Ora et Labora

Part 3 of a 7-part series on the second annual Eucharistic Congress

So far, we have recalled the memorable and monumental events of our first Eucharistic Congress, followed by an introduction to the theme of this year's Eucharistic Congress, "The Love of Christ Impels Us."

The love of Christ motivates and inspires every zealous missionary effort in the life of the Catholic Church. But what about the missionary effort of the Congress itself?

There are two basic avenues in which all of us can get involved in the preparation and the execution of our second Eucharistic Congress, which will be held Oct. 6-7 at the Charlotte Convention Center.

The first and most fundamental avenue is that of prayer. Prayer fuels and inspires all the charitable works of the church; increases our faith, hope and charity; and directs us to greater love of God and our neighbor. Therefore, the first and most important ongoing work of the Congress is to pray for its fruitful completion.

To accomplish this task, we are encouraged to pray the Prayer for the Success of the Eucharistic Congress, listed at right, also found in the Raccolta.

Our prayer enkindles our hearts and impels us toward charitable works, leading us to the second avenue in which

we can get involved in the Congress: service.

Innumerable volunteers and workers gave of themselves to bring our first Eucharistic Congress to a successful completion. Likewise, this year we need the assistance of hundreds of volunteers who are willing to donate their time and energy, their talents and gifts, to serve Christ and his church during this grace-filled two-day event.

Prayer and service, "ora et labora," are the two avenues traveled most by those who are impelled by the love of Christ. If you are willing to help in these two areas, please visit our Eucharistic Congress Web site (www.goeucharist.com) and fill out a volunteer form, either for work during these two days or to commit yourself to keeping watch with our Lord by signing up online for an hour of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Father Buettner is pastor of St. Dorothy Church in Lincoln.

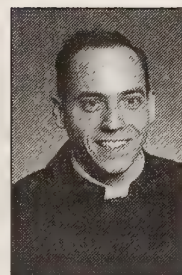
Prayer for the Success of the Eucharistic Congress

O Jesus, who art really, truly and substantially present in the Blessed Sacrament

to be the food of our souls, deign to bless

Guest Column

FATHER
MATTHEW
BUETTNER
GUEST COLUMNIST



and bring to a successful issue all Eucharistic Congresses and gatherings,

and especially the coming congress of the Diocese of Charlotte.

Be thou the inspiration of their labors, resolutions and vows;

accept graciously the solemn homage there rendered to thee;

and kindle the hearts of priests and faithful, parents and children,

so that frequent and daily Communion, as well as the early Communion of little children,

may be held in honor in all the countries of the world;

and grant that the Kingship of the Sacred Heart

over human society may everywhere be acknowledged.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, bless the Congress.

St. Paschal Baylon, pray for us.

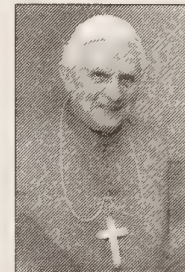
Holy Mary, Mother of God, patroness of our diocese, pray for us.

St. Patrick, pray for us.

Jesus excludes no one from his loving embrace, pope says

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY -- Jesus excludes no one from his loving embrace because he came especially to save sinners and social outcasts, Pope Benedict XVI said.

The good news of the Gospels consists precisely in Jesus' message that God offers his grace above all to those who seem furthest from being holy, the pope said Aug. 30 at his weekly general audience, continuing his series of audience talks about the apostles with a reflection on the life and Gospel of St. Matthew.

Matthew was a tax collector for the Roman occupiers in Israel and, therefore, like all the tax collectors at the time, was much hated by his fellow Jews, who considered him to be a public sinner.

But Jesus invited Matthew and other marginalized people to "follow me" and even invited them to eat with him.

To those who were scandalized by Jesus associating with the community's outcasts, the pope quoted Jesus as saying: "Those who are well don't need a physician, but the sick do. I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

"Jesus excludes no one from his friendship," said the pope. Rather, he makes a special invitation to those who have humbly acknowledged their sins and are willing to leave their old ways of life behind for a new life with Christ, Pope Benedict said.

St. Matthew, the pope said, shows that the person who seems furthest from being holy can become the first to enter the kingdom of heaven and act as an example of God's welcoming mercy.

Matthew did not hesitate to answer Jesus' call even though it meant leaving everything behind, especially his job — an occupation that had been his one sure source of income, but which was also often unjust and dishonest work, said the pope.

"Matthew understood that knowing Jesus would not allow him to continue an activity God disapproved of," he said.

"Even today it is not admissible to be attached to things that are incompatible with following Jesus, such as is the case with dishonest wealth," he said.

Just as Matthew decided to leave behind an immoral livelihood in order to follow Christ, the pope said all people are called to remove themselves from "a situation of sin" so as to embark on a new way of life and "follow Jesus completely."

A sacrament for single people?

Q. I am an older woman, baptized at birth, always a practicing Catholic. I've had huge personal responsibilities, but have never married.

The focus of the Catholic Church is mostly on marriage and families. I understand that; they form the majority of the congregations. Recently a priest in his homily referred to the sacraments of marriage and holy orders, but said there is no sacrament for single people. I don't know how to interpret that statement.

Fortunately, I believe God's love extends to every human being. That keeps me coming to Mass. But did I miss something? Do I belong in a Catholic church? (Iowa)

A. I'm somewhat surprised at the priest's remark. There is a sacrament for single people, the first and most important sacrament for any Christian. It is baptism.

Married people, priests, men and women in religious communities receive sacraments or vocations that are particular ways of living out their baptism. But single people have the same vocation to follow Christ, and extend his love, and the love of our heavenly Father, into the world.

Through the sacraments of initiation -- baptism, confirmation and the Eucharist -- every Catholic, of whatever rank or calling, is invited ultimately

by our Lord to the same responsibility of responding to God's love by loving service to others.

St. Augustine put it well in one of his sermons, "With you I am a Christian, for you I am a bishop". The basic Christian call is the same for all of us, whether married, ordained, religious or single.

By far most of the single people I know are inspiring examples of this kind of self-giving. I hope, and have the feeling, you are trying to live this Christian vocation in your life. It's the main one we have.

'Hell' in Apostles Creed

Q. I have a question about "hell" in the Apostles Creed. A clergyman recently gave a different answer than the one I was taught.

The creed says Jesus "descended into hell." According to the minister, his time in hell was part of the suffering Jesus endured for our sins. What does this part of the creed mean? (Arkansas)

A. The belief of Catholics and most other Christians is that the redemptive suffering of Jesus ended at the moment of his death. There was no extension of his passion in whatever happened after

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN
DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



he died.

The word "hell" in the creed does not stand for the "hell of the damned," its usual meaning in current English. It comes from an old Teutonic word "hela," which meant a hidden or dark place. In early English literature it was used to describe any kind of dungeon or pit.

Our word is an English translation of a Latin (and Greek and Hebrew) term for the lower, or infernal, regions, a place people went after death, with no necessary connotation of reward or punishment.

The presence of "hell" in the creed is misleading but has been traditional for so long it hardly will be changed now.

A free brochure on ecumenism, including questions on intercommunion and other ways of sharing worship, is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 5515, Peoria, IL 61612.

Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address, or e-mail: jjdietzen@aol.com.



SPECIAL EVENTS FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS!

DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7



Dear First Communicants:

This year you have celebrated your First Holy Communion. It has been a time of blessing for yourself and for your family, and for your parish family, as well.

Please join me, along with your parents or guardian, for a Eucharistic Procession on Saturday, October 7th, in Charlotte. As a First Communicant, you will lead our procession as we make this public statement of our love for Jesus.

*Please wear the special clothing you wore to your First Communion. The procession will form at St. Peter's Church at 501 S. Tryon Street at 1 pm on Saturday and it will begin promptly at 1:30 pm. Please note that you **MUST** be accompanied by a parent or a guardian to participate in the Eucharistic Procession.*

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *Peter J. Jugis*

Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
Bishop of Charlotte



**TEEN TRACK
REGISTRATION at
www.goEucharist.com**

CHILDREN'S TRACK – "Eucharist – Food for Our Souls"

The Children's Track program at the Eucharistic Congress focuses on the source and summit of Catholic life — the Eucharist — from a child's point of view.

Through a variety of dynamic and fun-filled activities at the Eucharistic Congress, children will discover how the Eucharist can influence their lives. Children will also hear a special talk on the Eucharist during a special adoration session.

Children's Track Registration

Registration for the children's track at the Eucharistic Congress IS REQUIRED and SPACE IS LIMITED. To register, go to www.GoEucharist.com and fill out the Children's Track Registration form. Or fill out the form below and mail it to:

Children's Track Registration, Diocese of Charlotte,
1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203

Registration Form — Please fill out a separate form for EACH child.

CHILDREN'S TRACK – "THE EUCHARIST, FOOD FOR OUR SOULS"

LAST name of parent or guardian _____

FIRST name of parent or guardian _____

Email address of parent or guardian _____

Circle your child's grade K 1 2 3 4 5

Name of child participant _____

Address of child _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

In the event of an emergency, please contact:

Relationship _____

Telephone number (cell phone preferred) _____

By submitting this form you are granting permission for your child to participate in the Children's Track of the Eucharistic Congress. Yes, I agree (check box) ☐

You are granting permission to those administering medical treatment to do so. Yes, I agree (check box) ☐

You are granting permission for diocesan employees or volunteers to administer first aid treatment and to seek emergency medical treatment for your child in the event that such treatment is deemed necessary. Yes, I agree (check box) ☐

You are releasing and holding harmless the Diocese of Charlotte and its employees and volunteers from any liability whatsoever when acting on your behalf in regard to medical treatment and any other treatment deemed necessary. Yes, I agree (check box) ☐

Additional comments regarding medical history, allergies, medication, or other conditions _____

Signature _____ Date _____



Perspectives

Bishop Jugis discusses
cremation in diocese;
Father Buettner writes
about holy hours

| PAGES 14-15

Revival of the Spirit



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Two men are visibly moved by the preaching of revivalist Father Tony Ricard at the Revival of the Spirit at Our Lady of Consolation Church Aug. 27. Father Ricard spoke about the influence of the devil in people's lives and how to overcome it.

Priest reveals ways to beat devil, evil

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Father Tony Ricard has seen the work of the devil first-hand.

As pastor of two churches in New Orleans, he witnessed the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. On Aug. 28, Father Ricard and hundreds of thousands of New Orleanians fled the city as the category 3 storm bore down on the Gulf Coast.

Father Ricard returned 77 days later to find his churches, rectory and school damaged by rain, wind and flood waters.

The Archdiocese of New Orleans closed one of his parishes, St. Philip the Apostle Church. But Father Ricard refused to let the devil win. On Christmas Day, he celebrated Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church for the first time since August.

Father Ricard refused to give up and give in to the devil, and he told his audience at Our Lady of Consolation Church they must do the same.

"You can't let the devil steal your joy," said Father Ricard. "There is no sin that

See REVIVAL, page 5

Faithfully enduring

Healing continues for
parents, other relatives
of Sept. 11 victims

BY JIM MYERS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Gene and Flo Yancey constantly think about their daughter, Kathryn Yancey LaBorie, a victim of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

They keep her in prayers and offer a Mass for her at their parish, Holy Apostles Church in Colorado Springs, each Sept. 11.

"It's been five years and I think of her every morning. I think of her when I go to sleep," said Flo Yancey. "She's in my thoughts and prayers. The comfort I get is I know she's with God, and she's watching over us."

"We think she's our guardian angel," added

See HEALING, page 7

Remembering a martyr

Joseph Wacławski, a parishioner of St. William Church in Murphy, recalls an encounter with St. Maximilian Kolbe at the Auschwitz death camp, where the saint gave his life for a fellow prisoner.

SEE STORY ON PAGE 8



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Joseph Wacławski holds a woodcut of St. Maximilian Kolbe created by the Wacławski's late friend, Eugene Sadowski, an architect and artist.

Out of Rwanda

Family makes harrowing
flight from war

BY JOANITA M.
NELLENBACH
CORRESPONDENT

Editor's note: This article
contains descriptions of war.

MAGGIE VALLEY — Thirteen was the luckiest number in the world for Grace Uwimfura when she greeted 13 family members at the Atlanta,

See RWANDA, page 9



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Grace Uwimfura plays with grandnephew Ian David Tabaro while Callixte Uwimfura watches in the background. Uwimfura's family emigrated from Rwanda to Atlanta via Kenya with the help of St. Margaret of Scotland Church in Maggie Valley.

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics
from around the world to your
own backyard

A BOX OF MIRACLES



CNS PHOTO BY TOM DERMODY, THE CATHOLIC POST

Msgr. Paul Showalter, vicar general of the Diocese of Peoria, Ill., applies melted sealing wax in late July to ribbon on a package containing two folders documenting an alleged miracle attributed to the intercession of the late Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, the famed radio and television host and author.

Two cases of alleged miracles claim intercession of Archbishop Sheen

PEORIA, ILL. (CNS) — Documentation of two alleged miracles attributed to the intercession of the late Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen were sent to Rome this summer as part of the promotion of his sainthood cause.

The cases claiming the archbishop's intercession involve a woman from Champaign and a baby in Pittsburgh.

The cases were investigated and documented and, following ceremonies in Peoria and Pittsburgh, documentation was sealed and prepared for delivery to the Vatican Congregation for Saints' Causes for further study.

The ceremony in Peoria was witnessed by several members of the Sheen family and officials promoting the sainthood cause. During the ceremony, folders containing more than 500 pages of witness testimony and medical data regarding the Champaign case were packaged and sealed.

The documents tell the story of the recovery of Therese Kearney, a member of Holy Cross Church in Champaign, who suffered a tear in her main pulmonary artery during surgery in December 1999. When her husband, Frank, was told there was little chance for his wife's survival, he prayed to Archbishop Sheen, whom he had long admired.

Kearney, then in her early 70s, survived, but died just five days before the Peoria ceremony. Her husband, who first shared his wife's story with those promoting Archbishop Sheen's cause,

died in February.

Msgr. Richard Soseman, whom Peoria Bishop Daniel R. Jenky appointed as delegate to the archbishop's sainthood cause, said Kearney's death at age 79, more than six years after the alleged miracle, will not impact the case.

Archbishop Sheen, a native of El Paso in the Diocese of Peoria, gained worldwide fame as a radio and television host and author. He died Oct. 3, 1979. The Diocese of Peoria officially launched his cause for canonization in September 2003.

Andrea Ambrosi, postulator for the archbishop's sainthood cause, traveled to Peoria to oversee the ceremonies and planned to hand-deliver the files to the Vatican congregation.

Ambrosi attended a similar ceremony in Pittsburgh with diocesan officials and documents surrounding the claim of a miraculous healing of a gravely ill Pittsburgh infant who recovered after his parents prayed for Archbishop Sheen's intercession.

Ambrosi said the child's disease and recovery were supported by the main physicians involved in his case and all of them "recognized that a force superior to their medical science intervened for his recovery."

After beatification, in most cases at least one more miracle must be investigated and confirmed as having occurred before the person can be canonized and referred to as a saint.

Cardinal: Failure to pass immigration fixes cannot be allowed

Rallies call for comprehensive reform

LOS ANGELES (CNS) — Los Angeles Cardinal Roger M. Mahony kicked off a week of immigration-related rallies nationwide with Labor Day letters to President George W. Bush and congressional leaders, urging them to push for comprehensive reform legislation and not let it become mired in partisan politics.

"Failure to enact comprehensive and fair immigration reform will simply continue the inequality of those living and working in our country for the benefit of all of us," said Cardinal Mahony in the Sept. 4 letter to Bush. "We simply cannot allow that to happen."

In a Labor Day homily preceding an immigrant-rights rally, the cardinal blamed Congress for adding to confusion about immigration and warned members of Congress that they "do not have the right or luxury to let four weeks go by and refuse to

deal with immigration reform."

Congress returned to work after Labor Day for a brief session before planned adjournment in October, to allow campaigning prior to November's general election.

The event in Los Angeles was one of many held around the country during the Labor Day weekend. In Chicago, several thousand people joined a rally to end a four-day, 45-mile protest march through various points around the city.

People from throughout the mid-Atlantic were expected to gather in Washington Sept. 7 for a march and rally to urge Congress to pass a legalization program.

Although they didn't draw crowds as large as for a series of rallies in the spring, weekend rallies also were held in Miami, St. Paul, Minn., Trenton, N.J., Portland, Ore., and Milwaukee.

Diocesan planner

ASHEVILLE VICARIATE

HENDERSONVILLE — The *Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima* will be visiting Immaculate Conception Church, 208 Seventh Ave. West, Sept. 14, 2-4 p.m. The custodians of the statue will show an audiovisual presentation on the Fatima message and recite the rosary. For more information and to reserve a seat, call Carmen Caprio at (828) 890-0415.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — St. Basil the Great Ukrainian Church will have a *Ukrainian Mass* in the chapel of Charlotte Catholic High School, 7702 Pineville-Matthews Rd., Sept. 17 at 11 a.m. The Mass is open to anyone who would like to attend. For more information, please contact Father Deacon Mark Shuey at mshuey2@nc.rr.com or call (919) 779-7246.

CHARLOTTE — *Blood Give-In Sunday* will be held at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy, Sept. 17, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Appointments are encouraged and will be honored. Walk-ins are welcome, but will be taken as time permits. Donors will be required to provide identification, such as a driver license or Red Cross blood donor card. For more information, call Ed Nenninger at (704) 366-6637.

CHARLOTTE — The second annual *Eucharistic Congress* will be held Oct. 6-7 at the Charlotte Convention Center, 501 S. College St. The Eucharistic Congress brings together laity, clergy, religious men and women, and well-known speakers for a day and a half of worship and lectures related to the Eucharist. For more information, visit the Eucharistic Congress Web

site, www.GoEucharist.com.

CHARLOTTE — The *Fourth Annual Red Mass* for the Diocese of Charlotte will be celebrated at St. Patrick Cathedral, 1621 Dilworth Rd. East, Oct. 10 at 6 p.m. The Bishop Peter J. Jugis will be the celebrant. The Red Mass is an annual event celebrated to coincide with the opening of the Supreme Court's judicial calendar. It is designed to provide all members of the legal community the opportunity to reflect on the God-given responsibilities associated with their profession. The celebration of the Red Mass is open to people of all faiths and beliefs, and all are invited to attend the Mass and the dinner following at Greek Isles.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

HIGH POINT — Cyber crime expert Koh Herlong will speak at Immaculate Heart of Mary School, 605 Barbee St., Sept. 21, 7-9 p.m., about *How to Keep Children Safe Online*. The lecture is free and open to the public. Herlong will outline the greatest risks children face online, how to recognize those risks and how to protect children. She will also discuss what rules to establish in the home about online usage, etiquette for the Internet, and ethical behavior while online. For more information, call Nancy Achter at (336) 887-2613.

GREENSBORO — The *Greensboro Council of Catholic Women* will open its 2006-2007 fiscal year with a luncheon Sept. 27 at Cardinal Country Club. The speaker will be Lorraine Ahearn, metro columnist for the Greensboro News & Record. For more information, please contact JoAnn Stevens-Church at (336) 540-0786.

HIGH POINT — Immaculate Heart of Mary Church 4145 Johnson St. will offer a *free Spanish course* on Thursdays 7-8:30 p.m. beginning Sept. 7. For more information or to register, call Nancy Skee at (336) 884-0522 or e-mail Larry Kwan at hikwan@lexcominc.net.

GREENSBORO — *Catholic Daughters of the*

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

SEPT. 8, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 40

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Vatican to discontinue annual Christmas concert

Controversial musicians at heart of decision

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — After a 13-year run, the annual Christmas concert at the Vatican will not be continued.

The Vatican did not say who made the decision, which was reported by Italian media Aug. 31. In recent years some church officials have viewed the concert as a distraction because of minor controversies involving performers.

Last year, church officials dropped Brazilian pop singer Daniela Mercury because they feared she would use the concert to promote the use of condoms as an anti-AIDS measure. Those who did perform were disappointed that Pope Benedict XVI did not make time for the traditional papal audience with the artists.

The annual event was taped in the Vatican audience hall in early December and rebroadcast on Christmas Eve. It

always drew a sellout crowd of about 6,000 people, including many cardinals, bishops and Vatican officials.

The concert was an initiative of the Diocese of Rome, which used proceeds to help build new churches in the city. Pope John Paul II made it a point to greet the artists, lending publicity to the event.

Over the years, Pope John Paul II chatted with artists like Jose Feliciano, Whitney Houston, Dionne Warwick, Gloria Gaynor and the late John Denver. B.B. King, who performed "Merry Christmas Baby," gave the pontiff one of his electric guitars.

In 2003, U.S. pop singer Lauryn Hill stunned the concert audience when she asked church leaders to "repent." Vatican Radio termed the outburst a "sour note" to an otherwise enjoyable show.

Americas will meet Sept. 11 at 7 p.m. in Our Lady's Cottage at Our Lady of Grace Church, 2205 West Market St. Any questions can be directed to Lawrence Kirwan at (336) 292-2776.

HICKORY VICARIATE

MORGANTON — The Cursillo Movement of the Diocese of Charlotte is hosting a diocesan-wide *Grand Ultreya* at Steele Creek Park Sept. 30, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Events include Mass, guitar music, group reunion, witness/spiritual talks and hiking/nature trails for children. Please bring a covered dish and a 2-liter drink. For more information, call Kathy Hack at (704) 548-1834 or e-mail hackhouse@bellsouth.net.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

SALISBURY — *Elizabeth Ministry* is a peer ministry comprised of Sacred Heart Church parishioners who have lost babies before or shortly after birth. Confidential peer ministry, information and spiritual materials are offered at no cost or obligation to anyone who has experienced miscarriage, stillbirth or the death of a newborn. For details, call Renee Washington at (704) 637-0472 or Sharon Burges at (704) 633-0591.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

MURPHY — A *Charismatic Prayer Group* meets Fridays at 3:30 p.m. in the Glenmary House of St. William Church, 765 Andrews Rd. join us for praise music, witness, teaching, prayers and laying on of hands for those in need. For more details, call Gery Dashner at (828) 494-2683.

FRANKLIN — The *Women's Guild* of St. Francis of Assisi Church, 299 Maple St., meets the second Monday of each month at 1 p.m. in the Family Life Center. The meetings feature guest speakers and special events periodically. For more information, call Claire Barnable at (828) 369-1565.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

KERNERSVILLE — The *Catechism of the Head and Heart* religious education series for adults

will be held this fall in the library at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School, 1725 NC Hwy 66 South. The topic will be the creation stories. Classes will meet at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 14, Oct. 12, Nov. 30, Jan. 11, Feb. 8, March 29 and April 19. For more information, call Loretta Bedner at (336) 564-1040.

WINSTON-SALEM — The Spirit of Assisi hosts a *Wednesday Lunch & Speaker Series* each Wednesday, 12:30-1:15 p.m., at the Fatima Chapel, 211 W. Third St. Laura Graban will speak on "Reconciliation: the Sacrament of Healing" at the Sept. 13 program. The sacrament of reconciliation will be offered at 12 p.m. in the chapel. For more information and to RSVP, call Sister Kathy Ganiel at (336) 624-1971 or e-mail kganiel@triad.rr.com. Walk-ins are welcome.

WINSTON-SALEM — St. Benedict the Moor Church, 1625 East 12th St., hosts a 12:15 p.m. prayer service, *Veni Sanctus Spiritus*, the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. All are welcome to reflect on God and refresh the spirit in the middle of a day. For more information call Sister Larretta Rivera-Williams at (336) 725-9200.

KERNERSVILLE — Holy Cross Church, 616 S. Cherry St., hosts a *Senior Coffee House* the first and third Mondays of each month, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., in Salesian Hall in the Child Development Building. Call the church office at (336) 996-5109 ext. 12 for directions or information.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlotte-diocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Pope says visit to Germany to be personal, chance to thank people

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI's September pilgrimage to southern Germany features 14 liturgies or religious encounters and only three public secular events.

That fact alone says a lot about the pope's homecoming visit and about his entire papacy to date.

From Sept. 9 to 14, the 79-year-old pontiff will return to his Bavarian roots, stopping in Markt am Inn where he was born, in Altötting where he used to pray at a local shrine, in Regensburg where he taught and in Munich where he was a bishop.

Along the way, he will preside over a string of public Masses, prayer services, processions and blessings. The visit is predominantly personal and religious, and the pope explained why in a recent interview with German TV and radio.

"I want to see again the places where I grew up, the people who touched and shaped my life. I want to thank these people," the pope said.

Naturally, the pope added, he also wants to express a message that goes

beyond his native state of Bavaria. But when asked what the themes or issues would be, the pope said he hadn't really chosen any — it would be the liturgy that would suggest them.

"The basic theme is that we have to rediscover God, not just any God, but the God that has a human face, because when we see Jesus Christ we see God," he said.

Starting from that awareness, he said, people find a way to meet each other in the family, among generations and among cultures. The path to peaceful coexistence in today's world is essential, he said, but "we won't find it if we don't receive light from above."

The pope said he wanted to correct a widespread public opinion that Christianity is "a collection of prohibitions." The faith is above all a positive spiritual invitation, and that's the point he wants to get across, he said.

From his own words, then, it would appear the pope is going not to chastise his native culture but to awaken it.

Fashioning a revival



CNS PHOTO BY MAX ROSSI, REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI, wearing a Roman "galero," greets the faithful at his general audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican Sept. 6. A pope had not worn the "galero" since Pope John Paul II wore one during his 1979 trip to Mexico.

PASTORAL ASSIGNMENT

Bishop Peter J. Jugis announces the following pastoral assignment, effective Sept. 5, 2006:

Augustinian Father Russel A. Ortega, as parochial vicar of St. John Neumann Church, Charlotte.

Popemobile used in 1982 sells for \$70,000 at Scottish auction

LONDON (CNS) — An armored popemobile used by Pope John Paul II during his 1982 visit to Great Britain has been sold at an auction for 37,000 pounds (US\$70,000).

The converted bulletproof British Leyland vehicle, which had just more than 11,000 miles on the clock, was sold Sept. 2 in Dumfries, Scotland.

The popemobile was one of more than

2,000 items from the town's Albion truck museum, founded by local resident Mick Hayton. He bought the vehicle in 1998 for his museum, which has now closed.

A spokeswoman for the auction house Thomson Roddick & Medcalf told reporters Sept. 2 that no details of the buyer were available but added that interest had been "overwhelming," with inquiries coming from around the world.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Sept. 9 — 1:30 p.m.
"Fostering Justice Worldwide"
St. Joseph Church, Newton

Sept. 12 — 11 a.m.
Presbyteral Council meeting
Pastoral Center, Charlotte

Sept. 16 — 5 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
Basilica of St. Lawrence, Asheville

Sept. 19 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Charlotte

FUNDING THE FAITH



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Jim Kelley, director of diocesan development, presents grant checks to Sandra Murdock director of the African American Affairs Ministry, and Franciscan Father Jude Duffy, pastor of Our Lady of Consolation Church in Charlotte at Our Lady of Consolation Church in Charlotte Aug. 27.

Foundation presents two grant checks

Funds will be used to provide spiritually-based workshops

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Our Lady of Consolation Church will be able to improve the quality of life for many of its parishioners, thanks to the Foundation for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte.

Jim Kelley, director of diocesan development, presented two checks to Franciscan Father Jude Duffy, pastor of Our Lady of Consolation Church in Charlotte, and Sandra Murdock, director of the African American Affairs Ministry, Aug. 27.

One grant, for \$4,000, will be used to provide a spiritually-based economic development series of workshops. The second grant, for \$1,865, will be used to support the Kabaka Dancers

and Drummers.

The Kabaka Dancers and Drummers perform a traditional West African style of dancing and drumming as a way to preserve West African culture. Their presentations, given throughout the Carolinas, educate people of all races and cultures about African heritage.

The Foundation for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte has more than 140 endowments, all but three of which have been established for specific parishes, schools and agencies. The three general endowments provide income to fund grants such as those presented to Our Lady of Consolation Church.

The ministry for the diocesan development office takes its development staff to visit more than 50 churches and schools each year.

"Our funding will assist you in doing your good work," said Kelley to the congregation at Our Lady of Consolation Church. "May God bless your efforts and may God bless each of you here today."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

THE DIOCESAN FOUNDATION DISTRIBUTED \$66,973 AMONG 24 GRANTS IN 2006

Our Lady of the Americas Church, Biscoe
Hispanic Ministry Materials \$5,000

St. Andrew the Apostle Church, Mars Hill
Hispanic Outreach Project \$1,500

St. Eugene Church, Asheville
Hispanic Outreach and Materials \$2,000

St. Elizabeth Church, Boone
Hispanic Pastoral Services \$4,000

Our Lady of Consolation Church, Charlotte
Education Programming \$4,000

Our Lady of Consolation Church, Charlotte
African-American Cultural Enrichment \$1,865

St. Joseph Vietnamese Church, Charlotte
Vietnamese Youth Enrichment \$2,000

Charlotte Catholic High School
Creative Writing Lab \$5,000

Our Lady of Assumption Church, Charlotte
Cross-Cultural Youth Ministry Program \$1,500

Belmont Parish Nurse Ministry
African-American Health Project \$1,635

Our Lady of the Angels Church, Marion
Hispanic Outreach \$5,000

Hmong Catholic Youth, Diocese of Charlotte
Hmong Youth Outreach \$2,000

International Friendship Center of Highlands
Hispanic Outreach \$2,500

St. Leo School, Winston-Salem
Phonics Program for Special Needs Students \$1,973

Divine Redeemer Church, Boonville
Hispanic Outreach \$2,000

Ministerio Catolico Hispano, Greensboro Vicariate
Hispanic Outreach, Evangelization Efforts and Office Equipment \$2,000

Ministerio Catolico Hispano, Winston-Salem Vicariate
Hispanic Outreach and Evangelization Efforts \$2,000

Office of Economic Opportunity, Catholic Social Services
Economic Outreach for the Poor \$4,000

African American Ministry, Diocese of Charlotte
African American Education Scholarships \$2,500

University of NC at Asheville and Mars Hill College
International Mission Work \$500

Office of Hispanic Ministry, Diocese of Charlotte
Hispanic Ministry Outreach Planning \$2,000

Volunteers for Wilkes Literacy, North Wilkesboro
Summer School for Hispanics and other at-risk children \$4,000

Hurlburt-Johnson Friendship House, Murphy
Homeless Shelter Ministry \$3,000

Helping Empower Local People (H.E.L.P.), Charlotte
Multicultural Outreach \$5,000

A day of golf to help local charities!

CHARITY GOLF CLASSIC

hosted by Knights of Columbus Council 8509

Holy Cross Church, Kernersville

honoring our deceased friend and former knight

"Big Dave" Reinhart



PINE KNOLLS GOLF CLUB
KERNERSVILLE

Saturday, October 14th

Captain's choice with shotgun start at 1 pm

Includes: lunch catered by Jimmy the Greek's

Restaurant at 12:30 pm, dinner catered by the Sagebrush Restaurant — plus prizes and raffles!

FREE beverages during tournament and complimentary gift bag!

Team prizes: First place \$400 - Second place \$200 - Third place \$100

PLUS — Individual ladies'/men's prizes, closest to pin, longest drive, straightest drive, cash raffle, door prize and promotional items

Fee: \$65 per player for 18 holes

Team Handicaps - 40 or higher per team

Purchase 2 tee busters for \$5 each and 2 Mulligans for \$5 each

To register or for info: Lance — (336) 416-8200

Guy — (336) 406-1998

Last year's event raised \$2,000 to benefit Crisis Control Ministries, the Shepherd Center, Room at the Inn, Food Bank of Forsyth County and Peace Goods



It's news and
inspiration about
the Diocese of Charlotte!

Subscribe today
— it's FREE!

Check it out at
www.CharlotteDiocese.org

FROM THE COVER

Priest reveals ways to beat devil at annual revival

REVIVAL, from page 1

God is not willing to pull you out of ... that is unforgivable, except rejecting the Holy Spirit."

Even in the midst of despair and destruction, people can find true joy and peace, he said.

Father Ricard was the preacher for "Revival of the Spirit 2006" at Our Lady of Consolation Church in Charlotte Aug. 25-27. The annual event is sponsored by the diocesan African American Affairs Ministry.

The revival, this year themed "Who Invited the Devil?", was designed to be reminiscent of the early days of outdoor preaching and was an opportunity to worship publicly in the spirit of the black church.

In addition to his pastorate of Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, Father Ricard, who first preached at the revival in Charlotte in 2002, is the director of Knight Time

THE DIOCESAN AFRICAN AMERICAN AFFAIRS MINISTRY:

— makes recommendations to the bishop regarding the needs, hopes and concerns of African Americans;

— articulates the needs of the African-American community to diocesan agencies, schools and organizations and assists them in the planning, coordination and implementation of programs and activities that involve the African-American community.

Ministries; serves as an administrator, campus minister and religion teacher for the MAX Satellite School of New Orleans; and has spoken across the United States and in 13 other countries.

"The Revival of the Spirit continues to be a method of bringing people from all over the Diocese of Charlotte together to hear the 'Good News,'" said Sandra Murdock, director of the diocesan African American Affairs Ministry.

"It is a time of renewal for those who attend, as our revivalist always presents us with ways to enhance our spiritual growth and view different perspectives of the various teachings of the church," she continued.

The battle for power

"There is a power that will draw us away from all that God offers," said Father Ricard. "Until we acknowledge that there are evil forces in this world, we can't overcome them."

"Once you recognize that there is an ultimate evil in the world, you then know there must be an ultimate good ... that God exists," Father Ricard said.

What should a person do to overcome evil?

"Pray, pray and pray some more," Father Ricard said. "Continue to ask God repeatedly for the strength to make it through the day."

It is possible for the entire world to reject the power of evil and to choose to live for the ultimate good — God, he said.

Father Ricard said he does not think the people of the world will ever defeat evil. However, he does believe the day will come when the good will win out.

"That will be the day when the kingdom of heaven is ushered in," Father Ricard said. "I don't think we are destined to have a day when everything is great — that's why we have a heaven."



PHOTOS BY KAREN A. EVANS

Above: An unidentified woman claps along with the music as the choir sings during Mass Aug. 27.



Left: Father Tony Ricard preaches to the congregation at Our Lady of Consolation Church Aug. 26. The weekend-long revival is designed to be reminiscent of the early days of outdoor preaching in the black church.



Below: The Perpetual Hope Gospel Choir sings during the Mass concluding the Revival of the Spirit Aug. 27.

www.andersonfamilymed.com

Anderson Family Medicine

...Healthcare with a heart.

Dr. E. Kelly Anderson is available to help with all of your family's healthcare needs. A graduate of the Yale University School of Medicine and the residency program at Carolinas Medical Center - Union, Dr. Anderson is now accepting patients of all ages.

Dr. E. Kelly Anderson
Parishoner
Our Lady of
Consolation, Charlotte

HOURS:
Mon, Tue, Th, Fri. 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Wednesday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, (by appt.)

704-283-8888

An NFP-only practice

ABBOTSWOOD SENIOR LIVING



For more than 17 years, Abbotswood at Irving Park has built a reputation on providing exemplary retirement living services to independent seniors. Residents enjoy the largest 1 and 2 bedroom floorplans in Irving Park, delicious meals, a full-time wellness director and month-to-month rental with NO BUY-IN FEES. Optional in-home health care services are available. Call today to schedule your personal tour.

(336) 282-8870

ABBOTSWOOD
at Irving Park



The only full service retirement living address in the heart of Irving Park
3504 Flint Street • Greensboro, NC 27405 • www.kiscoseniorliving.com

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



INTRODUCING...
IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES WEST —
St. Barnabas in Arden —
open after all Masses of 2nd and 4th weekends each month

Visit our others satellite stores, too:
St. Charles Borromeo in Morganton
St. Gabriel in Charlotte
St. Therese in Mooresville

Come in and check out our GREAT SUMMER READING selections!!

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

Fiesta and faith



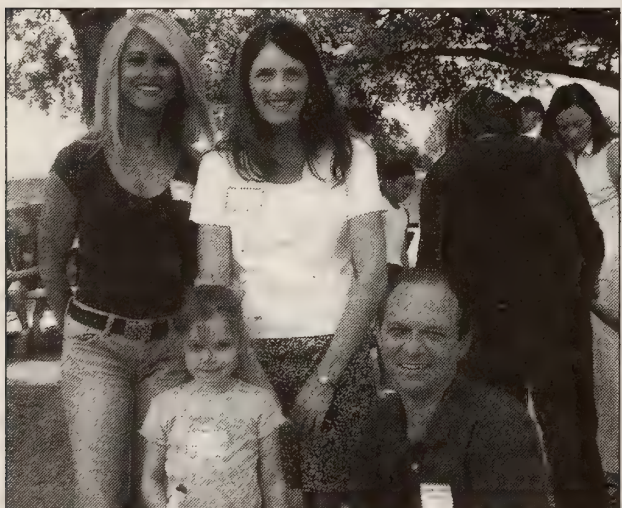
COURTESY PHOTO

Father Carmen Malacari, pastor of Holy Spirit Church in Denver, is pictured Aug. 4 with participants of the parish's Vacation Bible School, themed "Fiesta, where kids are filled with Jesus."

More than 80 children and 30 teen and adult volunteers participated in the July 31-Aug. 4 event, which featured Bible stories, crafts, games and songs.

The children also took part in a collection to benefit the East Lincoln Pregnancy Counseling Center. Parishioners donated diapers, bottles and other baby items.

Playground, popsicles at St. Pius X



COURTESY PHOTO

Principal Mark Akerman of St. Pius X School in Greensboro is pictured with his wife Angie, daughter Emma, and kindergarten teacher Laura Collins (left) on the school playground Aug. 21. The 50 new kindergarten students and their parents were invited for "popsicles on the playground" as a fun way to meet and greet each other and their teachers before school started Aug. 28. Emma Akerman is in the kindergarten class.

Week of work and faith



COURTESY PHOTO

Parishioners of St. Charles Borromeo Church in Morganton, including youth minister Denise Hussey (far left), are pictured in the parish's Murray Hall Aug. 9. The youths and adult leaders are participants in the parish's workcamp, inspired by the Orlando, Fla.-based Catholic Heart Workcamp that provides teens with a week of faith-powered community mission work.

The Aug. 7-13 parish workcamp, organized by Hussey, involved extensive yard work around the church; cleaning the inside of the church; praying the rosary and teachings on the rosary led by Father Kenneth Whittington, pastor; and afternoon chores at a local hospice facility.

A number of youth groups from parishes around the Diocese of Charlotte participated in Catholic Heart Workcamps around the country.

ATTENTION READERS! HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?

Do you have a story to share with The Catholic News & Herald? Do you know of people who are living the tenets of their faith? Do you have photos of a parish- or ministry-based event?

If so, please share them with us.

Contact Staff Writer Karen Evans at (704) 370-3354 or kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

Celebrating 25 or 50 years of marriage this year?

*If you were married during 1956 or 1981,
you and your family are invited to the*

Annual Diocesan Anniversary Mass

at

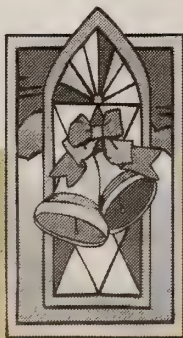
St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in Charlotte

Sunday, November 5th — 2 pm



Please note: In order to be registered and receive an invitation, you must call your parish office by **Friday, September 29th**.

Family Life Office of Catholic Social Services



Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels. 

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooreville
704-663-1065

Healing continues for families after Sept. 11

HEALING, from page 1

Gene Yancey.

LaBorie was a flight attendant on United Airlines Flight 175, the second airliner to hit the World Trade Center Sept. 11, 2001. She was one of 56 people, including five hijackers, who died aboard the Boeing jet that morning.

"I just could not believe what was happening," said Flo Yancey. "It was surreal. It still is to me."

In the past five years, the Yanceys have drawn strength from their Catholic faith and the help of those around them.

"I don't think I could be where I am today if it wasn't for my faith," said Flo Yancey. "I know (Kathryn) is safe now."

Holy Apostles Church, as well as the community at large, was there in the Yanceys' time of need. Father Paul Wicker, pastor, visited with the Yanceys every day for a week after the terrorist attacks.

People offered prayers, condolences and assistance where they could.

Holy Apostles Church held a memorial Mass for LaBorie in late September 2001. The Yanceys also attended various memorial events that first year, including one at ground zero.

The first year was a flurry of activity, but the family has not heard much from the airline or government since, Flo Yancey said. The couple also expressed frustration in how the world situation has progressed since Sept. 11.

"I'm sad that after five years there doesn't seem to be any resolution. (Osama) bin Laden still has not been found," she said.

Her husband added that he was distressed by "lives we're losing every day in Iraq and Afghanistan."

Fighting back

In St. Paul, Minn., Tom Burnett Sr. and his wife also draw strength from their faith and the courage of their son, Tom Burnett Jr., who died aboard United Airlines Flight 93 in Shanksville, Pa., Sept. 11.

Their son was one of the passengers who led a revolt that brought down the hijacked plane.

The Burnetts say they feel their son's absence every day.

The father noted that amid his loss he doesn't like the word "closure" because he will never be able — and does not want — to put his son behind him. But the intense pain that he once felt has softened a bit over time.

"Things have changed," he added. "Our sorrow, our grieving have taken



CNS PHOTO BY JIM MYERS, COLORADO CATHOLIC HERALD

Flo and Gene Yancey of Holy Apostles Parish in Colorado Springs, Colo., hold a photo of their daughter, Kathryn Yancey LaBorie. LaBorie was a flight attendant on United Airlines Flight 175, which was hijacked by terrorists and crashed into the World Trade Center Sept. 11, 2001.

several twists and turns, and it's come to the point where I look at things a bit differently than I used to."

The couple, who attend St. Dominic Church in Northfield, said that during the past five years they have prayed more than ever. Beverly Burnett, 74, said she refuses to believe that God had a hand in her son's death.

"God did not kill our son," she said emphatically. "The terrorists did."

They also take comfort in the belief that their son is in heaven. They planned to visit the crash site in Shanksville this Sept. 11 for a memorial service, as they have done every year since their son's death.

The story of Tom Burnett Jr. lives on in the book "Fighting Back," written by his wife, Deena Burnett, and a Minneapolis public relations specialist, Anthony Giombetti.

Deena Burnett, who became a Catholic after she married, said her faith

played a major part in helping her to cope with his death. She said she spent many hours in church praying for strength and came to understand that "God is a God of love instead of one of retribution and condemnation," which kept her from "becoming angry after Tom's death."

The book's title refers to how she "fought back to find purpose and joy" in her life again. Simply by writing it, she said she was able to take stock of her blessings.

"I knew I had lost Tom, and it was incredibly heart-wrenching," Deena Burnett said. "But what I had left were three beautiful children."

"And more than that, I had the support and gratitude of a nation. I had an incredible network of friends and family. I had the comfort and peace that God intends for us," she said.

Contributing to this story was Julie Carroll in St. Paul.



**Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center**

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

Providing help. Creating hope. Changing lives.

Catholic Social Services — The Diocese of Charlotte

Executive Director: Elizabeth Thurbee (704) 370-3227

Associate Director: Gerard Carter (704) 370-3250

Refugee Office: Cira Ponce (704) 370-6930

Family Life: Gerard Carter (704) 370-3228

Justice and Peace: Joe Purello (704) 370-3225

OEO/CSS Murphy Satellite Office (828) 835-3535

Charlotte Region: 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203

Area Director: Geri King (704) 370-6155

Western Region: 50 Orange Street, Asheville, NC 28801

Area Director: Debra Braese (828) 255-0146

Piedmont-Triad: 621 W. Second St., Winston-Salem, NC 27108

Area Director: Gerard Carter (Interim) (336) 727-0705

Greensboro Satellite Office (336) 274-5577

Latino Family Center (336) 884-5858

For information on specific programs, please call your local office.

1123 South Church Street, Charlotte NC 28203

www.cssnc.org

Catholic Heritage Society

Please join us

Honoring the generosity of Catholic friends who provide for the future of the Church through a planned gift to the Diocese of Charlotte or a diocesan parish, school, agency, or diocesan foundation.

Become a member by making:

- a gift from a retirement plan
- a gift of life insurance
- a bequest in your will
- a gift of real estate
- a gift of a trust
- a gift of life estate
- a gift of an annuity

The Foundation
of the
Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte

To receive the free booklet "Better Estate Planning" contact Judy Smith, Director of Planned Giving, 704-370-3320; 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203. jsmith@charlottediocese.org.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Remembering a martyr

Polish POW recalls encounter with saint, daring escape

BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH
CORRESPONDENT

Editor's note: This article contains descriptions of war and imprisonment.

MURPHY — "Reflecting on Maximilian Kolbe in the presence of Joe is like writing the Scriptures in the presence of God," Father George Kloster said.

Father Kloster is pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hayesville and St. William Church in Murphy, where Joseph Waclawski and his wife, Irene, are parishioners.

The Waclawskis live near Murphy in a home with a view of green hills.

Sixty-five years ago, though, Joseph Waclawski's view was limited to Auschwitz's drab concentration-camp gray. A Polish army lieutenant, he had been arrested by the Gestapo in March 1940 and sent to Auschwitz in May 1941.

"My daily routine of very hard menial labor, the inhumane treatment together with the unheard-of living conditions that left me numb to the environment," he wrote in 1991 in a memoir. "What was left of my energy was directed to the thought of survival."

"But during these particular days I was shaken and stunned by the courage and selfless brotherly love of inmate No. 16670 from our block (barrack)," he said. "At the time I did not know, but I was told by other inmates that the special person was Franciszek Gajowniczek, a Polish army sergeant, the man moaned, 'Oh, God! What will happen to my wife and children?'"

"At this moment, inmate No. 16670 stepped forward and said in a clear voice that he wanted to take the other man's place. The Lagerfuehrer stopped for a second, looked at the man who was willing to give his life for another and asked him if he knew what he was doing. 'Yes, sir,' was the short answer. 'Inmate No. 16670 remained in front and the man he saved was ordered to step back,'" Waclawski said.

The 10 condemned prisoners were locked in the bunker to starve to death. Most died within a few days, but Father Kolbe lived for about two weeks. He was finally killed when a block elder in the camp hospital injected him with

carbolic acid on Aug. 14, the feast of the Assumption of Mary.

By the end of the war, Waclawski had been in two other concentration camps: Mauthausen, July to October 1942; and Sachsenhausen, October 1942 to early 1945.

Four months before the war ended, Waclawski was assigned to a "bauzig," a sort of railroad concentration camp, whose inmates repaired rail and electrical lines.

Waclawski's bauzig was working in the Austrian Alps shortly before the war ended in May 1945.

"I escaped at the top of a mountain," Waclawski said. "I walked through Austria, more than 100 miles. I was free."

He made it to Italy, where he met and married his wife, Irene, who is also from Poland. She was not interned in the camps, but some of her uncles died in Auschwitz.

The Waclawskis moved to England; Joseph studied chemistry. They immigrated to Detroit, where he worked for a paint company. For years, Joseph Waclawski never spoke of what had happened to him. He wanted to erase it from his mind, but he couldn't forget.

Eventually the Waclawskis retired and moved to Port Charlotte, Fla. On Aug. 14, 1991, the 50th anniversary of St. Maximilian Kolbe's death, ground was broken for St. Maximilian Kolbe Church there.

Waclawski wrote his account, printed on the program for the groundbreaking, of a man offering his life for another.

"It is probably the most difficult of all the commandments to live," Father Kloster said during the Mass on Aug. 14. "We have within ourselves that sense of self-preservation."

Soldiers going into battle hope that they'll survive.

"To willingly give up our lives and to do it so intentionally — in this situation, when (Father Kolbe) made that decision so intentionally, he knew he was giving his life," Father Kloster said.

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail jnell@dnet.net.



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Father George Kloster, pastor of St. William Church in Murphy, celebrates Mass at the home of Joe and Irene Waclawski (at right) on the feast of St. Maximilian Kolbe Aug. 14. Other attendees include Rosemary and Delmont Light (left) and Mike Kauffman.

bar. Jesus becomes the standard for how we should live our lives," said Father Kloster.

One day in August 1941, Auschwitz inmates were told that a prisoner in Waclawski's cellblock had escaped.

"After an unsuccessful search by the SS-men, the inmates from the other blocks were dismissed and our block remained standing in the rain while further checking and searching went on," Waclawski wrote.

"We stood wet, hungry and half dead until morning," he continued. "The roll call was taken again and all other inmates were ordered to proceed to their work and our block remained standing in files 5-men deep."

"The 'Lagerfuehrer' (camp commandant) announced that since one man was missing, 10 inmates would be chosen as hostages and placed without water or food in the 'bunker' (isolation cells underground) until the missing prisoner was found dead or alive."

Waclawski has forgotten nothing of those moments when his life hung in the balance: "I can still see the Lagerfuehrer with his index finger up and slowly moving down to point to the inmates selected by him. It was a death verdict."

"As he walked in front of us, he looked at each one of us. We were dying a thousand deaths at this moment. As he passed, we were as if reborn and a glimmer of hope lightly touched our souls," Waclawski said.

"God Almighty in his mercy saved us and just maybe we could come out alive from this nightmare. In terror we looked at the selected victims who were

ordered to step forward," he said.

Grateful to be spared, Waclawski was even more overwhelmed by what happened next. As the Lagerfuehrer pointed to Franciszek Gajowniczek, a Polish army sergeant, the man moaned, "Oh, God! What will happen to my wife and children?"

"At this moment, inmate No. 16670 stepped forward and said in a clear voice that he wanted to take the other man's place. The Lagerfuehrer stopped for a second, looked at the man who was willing to give his life for another and asked him if he knew what he was doing. 'Yes, sir,' was the short answer."

"Inmate No. 16670 remained in front and the man he saved was ordered to step back," Waclawski said.

The 10 condemned prisoners were locked in the bunker to starve to death. Most died within a few days, but Father Kolbe lived for about two weeks. He was finally killed when a block elder in the camp hospital injected him with



THE ORATORY

434 Chandler Avenue, P.O. Box 1156
Rock Hill, SC 29733-1586

(803) 327-2097

Enneagram & Spirituality

7:30 pm Friday, Oct. 13 to 4 pm Saturday, Oct. 14

Father Paul Maier

A prayerful and spiritual look at the Enneagram experience for personal spirituality. Newcomers and veterans in Enneagram will benefit. Prayer and Eucharist are included.

Cost: \$65 overnight \$35 commuters

Aging and Religion

Fridays – October 13, 20, and 27

Father Roger Prokop

This series is for all who want to explore their own experience of aging as well as for those who minister to them. Each session is independent of the others.

Cost: \$10 per session \$25 whole series

Attention: Homeowners...Have a plumbing problem? Don't Panic!...

"How To Get A Top Talent Plumber To Show Up On-Time So You Don't Waste Time"

You have a busy schedule and value your time. Most plumbing companies won't give you a real appointment time and keep you waiting all day for a plumber to show up. Now there's a new way to get your plumbing problem fixed, save money, and get a precise Appointment Window so you don't have to waste time waiting.

Three-Way Plumbing Services, Inc.

We're The Good Guys Your Friends Told You About®

(704) 535-4795 Charlotte (704) 795-9349 Concord

Serving The Entire Charlotte Diocese Area

www.3wayplumbing.com

Proud member of St. James Church

Month **7**

"My heart started beating today!"

An ultrasound is now proving the doctors' assessment
 correct: it has seen evidence of life, which is
 present from the first stage of life. In fact,
 this pregnancy has a good heartbeat all right from
 the beginning. During the first trimester, doctors
 of the hospital expect to 10,000
 times the size of embryos.
 By the end, with the
 baby's heart
 beating in time!

CSSS
 Catholic Social Services
 Diocese of Charlotte

Respect Life Office 704-370-3229

20 in.
 19 in.
 18 in.
 17 in.
 16 in.
 15 in.
 14 in.
 13 in.
 12 in.
 11 in.
 10 in.
 9 in.
 8 in.
 7 in.
 6 in.
 5 in.
 4 in.
 3 in.
 2 in.
 1 in.
 1/2 in.

Photo: Charles Smith Photography. Photo: David and Lynn Savage.

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Uniting teachings and Scripture

Diocesan priest authors book on Catholic beliefs, practices

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

FOREST CITY — Father Herbert Burke, pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in Forest City, has written a book that delves into the scriptural aspects of the Catholic faith.

Bishop Peter J. Jugis provides the forward for Father Burke's "A Scriptural Catechism: Expanded Edition." Bishop Jugis also gave the book an imprimatur, or ecclesiastical approval certifying the work is in conformity with Catholic understanding of Scripture.

"As the title of the book suggests, the unique contribution of 'A Scriptural Catechism' is to provide the scriptural basis for the beliefs and practices of the Catholic Church," said Bishop Jugis in his forward.

"It seeks to unite the basic teachings of the church on the Creed, the sacraments, the commandments and prayer, with Scripture quotations, references and practical reasons," said the bishop. "Thus the reader is able to see the harmony between Catholic beliefs and sacred Scripture."

The expanded edition is the fourth edition of the book, which was 14 years in the making.

Father Burke noticed that many people studying for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) were not reading the lengthy class materials.

"We needed something short but thorough that covered the faith. Other books did a good job, but didn't really teach Scripture and the faith," he said.

Father Burke's book combines apologetics and the catechism. Apologetics is the branch of theology having to do with the defense and proofs of Christianity.

"There's not really anything else available on the market that combines both," said Father Burke.

Fully indexed to the "Catechism of the Catholic Church," "A Scriptural Catechism" covers topics including

the Mass, the Eucharist and eucharistic adoration, as well as science and relativism, sanctifying grace and why God allows evil.

"I wanted it to be brief but thorough, so that people would be ready and able to defend their faith," said Father Burke.

He wrote the book with four groups in mind.

In addition to those in RCIA, the book is good for youth groups, especially those preparing for confirmation; for those who want a quick review of Catholicism and Scripture; and for college students "so they don't lose their faith," said Father Burke.

"It is also a useful tool for religious educators, priests, religious and all involved in education and evangelization," said Bishop Jugis.

The book has received excellent feedback. The last version sold 17,000 copies in a year and a half.

Both Abbot Placid Solari of Belmont Abbey, who granted the book a nihil obstat (Latin for "nothing stands in the way," a judgment by an official church representative that a book contains no errors of faith or moral teaching), and Bishop Jugis offered "helpful ideas and corrections," said Father Burke.

The expanded edition, he said, features even more information, and a Spanish-language edition is due out within the next six months.

Bishop Jugis said he hopes the book will contribute to the spread of the Gospel and the salvation of souls.

"May it inspire the reader to grow in friendship with Christ, and to share the Lord's love and truth with others," he said.

The book is reaching people near and far. Father Burke noticed his book for sale at the Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine in Orlando, Fla. It was displayed next to "Understanding the Mystery of the Mass," written by Father Matthew Buettner, pastor of St. Dorothy Church in Lincolnton.

"Tourists get to see two books written by priests of the Diocese of Charlotte," he said.

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: SEPT. 17, 2006

Sept. 17, Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Isaiah 50:5-9a
Psalm 116:1-6, 8-9
- 2) James 2:14-18
- 3) Gospel: Mark 8:27-35

Jesus is with us in suffering

BY BEVERLY CORZINE
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

I see my friend lying in a bed filled with pillows, surrounded with a web of plastic tubing. The clicks and whirrs of medical machinery fill the otherwise silent hospital room.

Years of suffering have elapsed, but now she is on the cusp of leaving us behind. Once she was a young bride, always a lover of Christ. Now she is a wife, mother and grandmother whose suffering has been horrific but whose faith has never wavered.

The night just passed has been filled with the struggle to breathe. Now the merciful drip flows through the plastic tubing to allow a respite from pain and to let her pass into the welcome realm of blessed sleep.

Standing quietly by her bedside is

enough; I do not wish to make a decibel of noise. One of her relatives sits quietly in the corner.

We exchange a familiar wave and nod that means, "I'll tell her you were here when she wakes up."

At that moment my friend opens her eyes. "Beverly," she says. "I thought I was dying last night." Then she closes her eyes and falls asleep again.

During my next visit my friend's husband is the sentinel, sitting quietly in the corner. However, my friend is awake. The three of us share a lighthearted conversation.

The deep love that these two have for each other is palpable in their gentle jokes that skirt the extreme situation that being a long-term resident on the oncology floor presents.

In Mark's Gospel we hear Jesus begin to reveal his identity to his disciples. He confirms that he is the long-awaited Christ, but he must suffer and die.

To help Peter make some sense of this mysterious teaching, Jesus comforts them by saying, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. ... Whoever loses his life for my sake ... will save it."

Leaving, I pass other doors on the oncology floor. I know that this teaching of Jesus is the bedrock of faith for my friend and countless others as they struggle to live or face the end of their lives with the promise of Jesus on their lips.

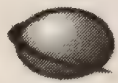
WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF SEPT. 10-16

Sunday (Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time), Isaiah 35:4-7, James 2:31-37, Mark 7:31-37; **Monday**, 1 Corinthians 5:1-8, Luke 6:6-11; **Tuesday (Holy Name of Mary)**, 1 Corinthians 6:1-11, Luke 6:12-19; **Wednesday (St. John Chrysostom)**, 1 Corinthians 7:25-31, Luke 6:20-26; **Thursday (The Exaltation of the Cross)**, Numbers 21:4-9, Philippians 2:6-11, John 3:13-17; **Friday (Our Lady of Sorrows)**, 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-27, Luke 2:33-35; **Saturday (Sts. Cornelius and Cyprian)**, 1 Corinthians 10:14-22, Luke 6:43-49.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF SEPT. 17-23

Sunday (Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Isaiah 50:5-9, James 2:14-18, Mark 8:27-35; **Monday**, 1 Corinthians 11:17-26, 33, Luke 7:1-10; **Tuesday (St. Januarius)**, 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27-31, Luke 7:11-17; **Wednesday (St. Andrew Kim Taegon, St. Paul Chong Hasang and Companions)**, 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13, Luke 7:31-35; **Thursday (St. Matthew)**, Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13, Matthew 9:9-13; **Friday**, 1 Corinthians 15:12-20, Luke 8:1-3; **Saturday (St. Pio of Pietrelcina)**, 1 Corinthians 15:35-37, 42-49, Luke 8:4-15.



AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles
Licensed & Insured
FREE ESTIMATES
www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185

Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic
Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Charlotte 704-334-6421

Pineville 704-544-1412

Mint Hill 704-545-4864

Derita 704-596-3291



**Let stairs be our
problem... not yours!**

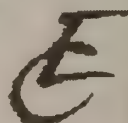
Ask about our Stairway lifts.

- Easily attached to steps (not walls)
- Folds out of the way
- Fits most stairways (straight & curved)
- Very affordable (rent or buy)
- We install

Chair & Equipment Rentals & Sales, Inc.

800 Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC • (800) 333-8431

Member of St. Thomas Aquinas



Retired. Not retiring.

Sara and Marge each have their own idea of wellness.

Sara likes tai chi. Marge prefers crossword puzzles and an occasional massage. Both love sharing dreams, memories and laughs. Living here will make them feel good.

Because here, wellness is a way of life.



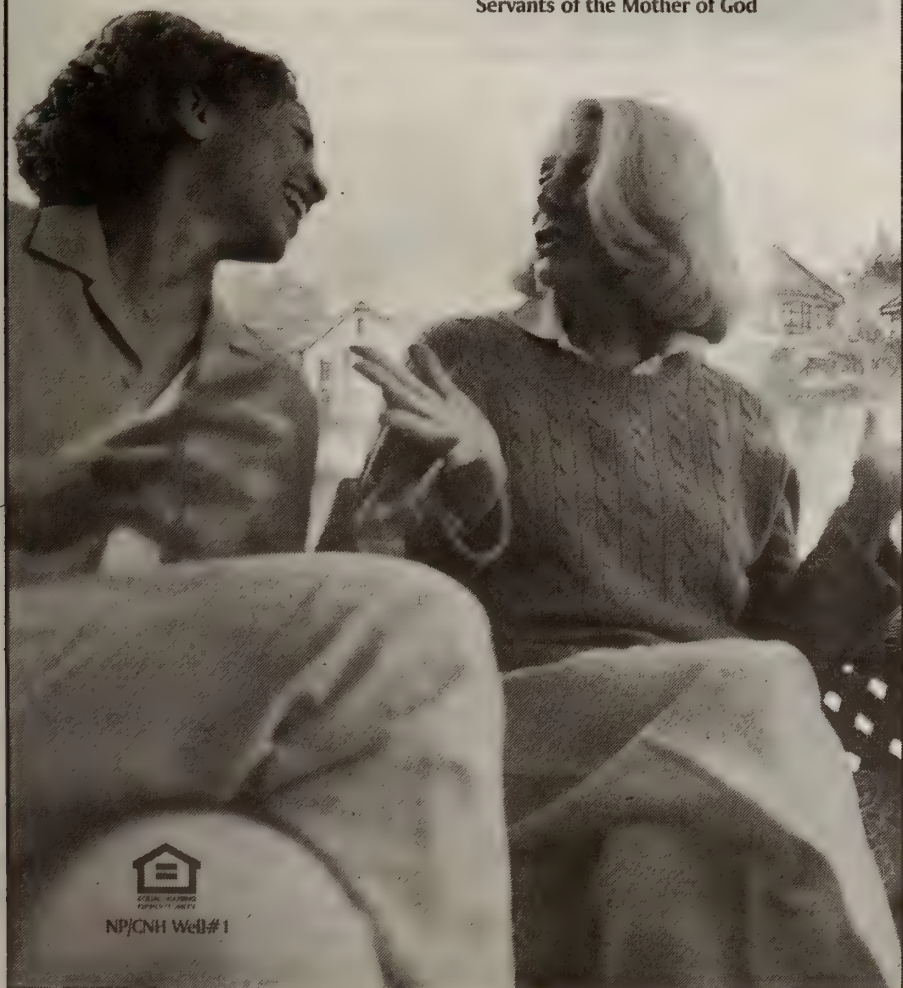
PENNYBYRN
at MARYFIELD
A Continuing Care Retirement Community

www.PennybrynAtMaryfield.com

(336) 886-4103 or (866) 627-9343

1315 Greensboro Rd, High Point, NC 27260

Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor
Servants of the Mother of God



Hard to beat 'Invincible'



CNS PHOTO BY DISNEY

Mark Wahlberg (right), stars in "Invincible," an inspirational and feel-good sports drama based on the true-life story of unlikely football star Vince Papale (Wahlberg), a bartender who tries out for his hometown Philadelphia Eagles and makes the team. Some mildly crude language, intense football violence, and a presumed off-screen premarital situation, limiting its appropriateness to older adolescents and up.

The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

Vatican awards cinema prize to Chinese filmmaker Zhang Yuan

VENICE, Italy (CNS) — The Vatican awarded its annual cinema prize to Chinese filmmaker Zhang Yuan, saying his movies have depicted people's search for spiritual meaning.

U.S. Archbishop John P. Foley, head of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications, presented the Bresson Prize to Zhang at the Venice Film Festival Sept. 5.

The 43-year-old filmmaker said he was honored and hoped that the award would be "the first building block of a bridge" that connects the cultures of the Vatican and China.

Archbishop Foley said Zhang was chosen because his films showed great sensitivity to "the difficult course that every person must face in the search for the spiritual sense of existence." He said Zhang's work expressed realism and hope.

The archbishop praised his 1999 film, "Seventeen Years," which told the story of a parole visit home by a woman convicted of killing her stepsister and showed the crime's emotional effects on the protagonist and her family.

A more recent film, "Little Red Flowers," was a poetic parable about children, offering lessons about life that are also valid for adults, Archbishop Foley said.

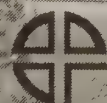
Zhang's films have been censored in China.

The Bresson Prize, named after French director Robert Bresson, was established in 2000 to recognize artists who "give significant witness" in the spiritual meaning of life. The award is organized by the Italian Magazine of Cinematography and the pontifical councils for Culture and for Social Communications.

TAKE YOUR EVENT somewhere unusual...

The Catholic Conference Center offers the exuberance of nature in a celestial environment unlike any you've ever been to before. Eight meeting rooms. Fifty hotel-style lodging rooms. Bountiful dining and a staff ready to serve you in style! All this and more on 172 beautifully landscaped acres offering that special "retreat" environment in a modern conference setting.

1551 Trinity Lane, Hickory, NC 28602
(828) 327-7441 or Toll-free (888) 536-7441



**The Catholic
Conference
Center**

Check out our website
www.catholicconference.org
info@catholicconference.org

Rising in the Spirit



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of Y.E.S. (Youth Echoing the Spirit), the youth group at St. John Neumann Church in Charlotte, are pictured after "Family '60s Night," a concert they performed to raise funds for the parish, Aug. 12.

Under the direction of youth minister Irene Kilzer, various members of Y.E.S. researched the fashions and songs of the 1960s, gathered and made era-appropriate costumes, decorated the parish hall, sold tickets and snacks and performed more than 40 songs during the concert. The concert raised \$2,500 for the parish. In addition to the concert, the youths have also helped with landscaping around the church.

"I witnessed young people working hard, having a good time and building community," said Connie Milligan, parish director of religious education. "This is every parent's dream — to know that your teen is voluntarily involved in a wholesome Christian environment with others who share their faith and values. This is what church is all about — living our faith."

Ministering to the 'Millennials'



COURTESY PHOTO

Grey Nun of the Sacred Heart Sister Eileen Spanier, director of young adult ministry for the Diocese of Charlotte, and Auxiliary Bishop Jaime Soto, chairman of the U.S. bishops' Subcommittee on Youth and Young Adults, are pictured during a national leadership forum for professionals and volunteers ministering to those in their 20s and 30s, sponsored by National Catholic Young Adult Ministry Association, in San Francisco, Calif., Aug. 2-4. The forum's theme, "Meet the Millennials," focused on understanding and developing effective strategies to minister to young adults (the "millennial generation").

PARISH MUSIC DIRECTOR

Holy Spirit Church in Denver, NC is looking for a music director versed in Catholic liturgy. Salary is negotiable. Contact Father Carmen Malacari at 704-483-6448 if interested.

Classifieds

FOR RENT

AUTUMN AT TAYLOR'S PEAK CABIN: Blue Ridge Mtns. Near Boone. Gorgeous surroundings. Beautiful Blessed Mother Grotto. Available 9/23-10/7. Reasonable. 828-264-0054

FOR SALE

HOME: Lake Wylie, SC (near Charlotte). 3 BD/2BA home, excellent school district, nice neighbors, community pool and playground, new Catholic church being built nearby. \$196,000. www.homesbyowner.com/28338

Classified ads bring results! Over 135,000 readers! Over 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

Plans and prayers



COURTESY PHOTO

The Catholic Campus Ministry 2006-07 Leadership Team at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte is pictured at the Catholic campus ministry house in Charlotte during a weekend retreat July 7-9. They gathered seven weeks before classes started to discuss and plan activities and events to address the spiritual, social and service components of campus ministry. They also attended Mass at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Charlotte.

Pictured are: (back row, from left) Ryan Harris; Aynnie Cole; Grey Nun of the Sacred Heart Sister Eileen Spanier, director of diocesan young adult ministry; Luis Villavicencio; Elizabeth Coradini; and Mary Wright, UNC-Charlotte campus minister and director of diocesan campus ministry; (front row, from left) Brendan Janssen; Katie Moore; Stephanie Auger; and Brighton, canine mascot. Not pictured is Mark Cecil.

Fundraising Representative

Local company needs rep in all areas of North Carolina. Perfect opportunity for those with sales or school volunteer experience. Ideal for those who prefer working from home and want a flexible schedule. This is a commission-based opportunity with bonus plan.

Call 336-288-4424.



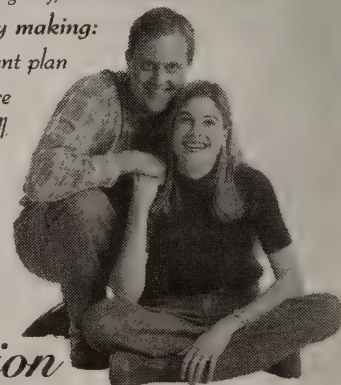
Catholic Heritage Society

Please join us

Honoring the generosity of Catholic friends who provide for the future of the Church through a planned gift to the Diocese of Charlotte or a diocesan parish, school, agency, or diocesan foundation.

Become a member by making:

- a gift from a retirement plan
- a gift of life insurance
- a bequest in your will
- a gift of real estate
- a gift of a trust
- a gift of life estate
- a gift of an annuity



The Foundation
of the
Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte

To receive the free booklet "Better Estate Planning" contact Judy Smith, Director of Planned Giving, 704-370-3320; 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203. jmsmith@charlottediocese.org.

His melodies prompt memories

Piano student entertains and builds a future toward stardom

BY LEE MCCrackEN
UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

CHARLOTTE — The elderly residents at The Laurels in Highland Creek delight in 15-year-old Brandon Brown's visits. They comment on how he's grown over the years and what a polite young man he is.

But Brandon doesn't go to the assisted living center to see a grandparent or great-aunt. He's the star attraction one Monday evening a month when he sits at the piano and plays melodies that bring to mind days gone by.

"They always request 'Somewhere My Love,' and they like 'Send in the Clowns' and 'Moonlight Sonata,'" said Brandon. "I always end with a patriotic song — they like to sing along."

Learning jazz, improv

Brandon, a sophomore at Charlotte Catholic High School, is the son of Jim and Michelle Brown of Highland Creek. He began taking piano lessons in the neighborhood at age 5.

Teachers Debbie Barry and later Judy Barravecchia taught him the fundamentals.

Now, he's learning to put his own style into pieces with current teacher Noel Freidline, who also lives in Highland Creek and is an accomplished jazz musician who came to Charlotte from Las Vegas.

"I've had students who have had



COURTESY PHOTO BY RICHARD RUDISILL

Brandon Brown, a sophomore at Charlotte Catholic High School, learns to play jazz pieces under the direction of Noel Freidline.

talent, but no discipline, and vice versa — not much talent, but willing to work hard," said Freidline. "Certainly those who have some self-discipline always do better."

"When you get a young man like Brandon, you get to see the wonderful combination of talent, commitment and passion. That truly is a rare and wonderful thing," he said.

Not only is Brandon learning to inject his own style into music, but he also has begun writing music. For his own enjoyment, Brandon plays jazz

and Ray Charles and Beatles tunes. He practices about 20 minutes a day (or every other day).

"It's sheer enjoyment for him," said mom Michelle Brown. "I've never had to tell him to practice. The first thing he'll do when he comes home from a lesson is sit down at the piano."

His mother says Brandon's talent came from her side of the family.

"It skipped me — I took lessons but never had the passion," she said. "Brandon's grandmother and great-grandfather played the organ in church. His great-great-grandfather was a cathedral choral director and organ player in Poland. He was pretty famous in his time."

Sharing his time, talent

Besides The Laurels, Brandon's other gigs include occasionally playing at The Speedway Club. He auditioned when he was 12. Although he doesn't get paid, Brandon said he sometimes gets tips.

His first paid gig was this past spring at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Charlotte. Brandon provided dinnertime entertainment for the Young at Heart club.

In April, he was the youngest performer at John Tosco's third annual Beatles Tribute Music Party at Spirit Square.

"Brandon already has more public playing experience at the age of 15 than I had in my first year of college," said Freidline. "I see no reason why he would not be able to pull off a regular four-hour gig by the time he is a junior or senior in

high school.

In many ways, he is still a diamond in the rough, but what is so impressive is the speed at which he picks up new things ... and his ability to season and mature," he said.

At The Laurels, the faces of Brandon's loyal audience light up and their toes tap to the music. Brandon is at peace as his fingers dance over the keys and he shares his talent. After each concert, he spends time shaking hands and chatting with the residents, many of whom he knows by name.

At his Christmas concert, Brandon gave out goody bags.

"It wouldn't be right for me not to show up," he said. "They look forward to me coming. They've almost become a part of my family."

Reprinted with permission from University City Magazine/August 2006.

Sunde achieves rank of Eagle Scout

Jonathan Sunde, 17, a rising senior at Charlotte Catholic High School, recently achieved the rank of Eagle Scout after completing a landscaping project for St. Ann Church in Charlotte.

The project involved removing a decayed wall, building a new wall of keystone, tilling the slope, planting bushes and liriopie, mulching, as well as fertilizing and trimming the grounds.

Eagle Scout is the highest rank in Boy Scouts.

Apply to the Abbey for fall 2007!

Scholarships, financial aid, and housing available.



Inquire and apply online at:
BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

For more information call 1.888.222.0110 or email: admissions@bac.edu



BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

The hour of power

Part 4 of a 7-part series on the second annual Eucharistic Congress

One of the landmark events of the Diocese of Charlotte's Eucharistic Congress involves a holy hour of eucharistic adoration.

Last year, the holy hour was directed by Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin of Charlotte. Likewise, the Eucharistic Conference held in Asheville June 24, 2006 featured a holy hour led by Bishop Peter J. Jugis as an integral part of its brief schedule.

This year, the Eucharistic Congress will host another holy hour led again by Bishop Curlin, along with the opportunity for participants to make private holy hours throughout the day.

The holy hour is certainly a familiar and foundational event in our Eucharistic Congress. But what is the significance of this holy hour of adoration and how does it contribute to the fruit of our Eucharistic Congress?

To understand the significance of the holy hour, we need to return to the first holy hour, which was led by our Lord, accompanied by his apostles in the Garden of Gethsemane. It is no coincidence that on the night that our Lord instituted the sacraments of the holy Eucharist and holy orders at the Last Supper, Jesus invited his apostles into the garden for a time of intense prayer.

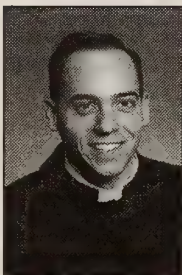
It is also no coincidence that on the night that our Lord instituted the sacrament of the holy Eucharist, which signifies his real and abiding presence in the world, Jesus would invite his disciples into an hour of prayer and communion. Thus began the practice of the holy hour.

From its inauguration, the holy hour is, in fact, a response to a personal invitation by Jesus to come away with him from the mundane events of our day. Every holy hour is mysteriously a return to that first holy hour. Our Lord summons his disciples to this hour that we might enjoy divine communion, respite from our worries and anxieties, consolation from our sorrows and rest from our labors.

But he also beckons us to communicate

Guest Column

FATHER MATTHEW BUETTNER
GUEST COLUMNIST



and, indeed, to share his agonizing passion, as did his first disciples (between moments of slumber!). Consequently, the holy hour signifies comfort and affliction, peace and penance, prayer and passion, slumber and suffering.

Indeed, the holy hour unites us with our Lord and strengthens our friendship with Christ.

Thus, the holy hour produces an abundance of spiritual fruit within the soul of the faithful disciple that, in turn, generates the very fruits anticipated by the Eucharistic Congress.

This year, the bishop has taken as our congress theme, "The Love of Christ Impels Us." Indeed, the faithful disciple who responds to Christ's invitation to communion with him in the holy hour receives an abundance of divine love, which then impels him to communicate that love to his neighbor. Love generates love.

The holy hour impels us to serve God and our neighbor; the holy hour is power. It is certainly no wonder that the holy hour would assume such an intimate and foundational role in our Eucharistic Congress.

The Lord asked his first disciples the question that continues to echo throughout time, "Could you not keep watch for one hour?"

Father Buettner is pastor of St. Dorothy Church in Lincolnton.

If you would like to pre-register for an hour of adoration during the Eucharistic Congress, please sign-up online at www.charlottediocese.org/adorationsign_up.html.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

'Who do you say that I am?'

Catechetical Sunday a chance to reflect on Jesus' teachings

"Who do you say that I am?"

That simple question from Jesus was so timely. Even though he was well aware of his identity and mission, it was essential that his hearers understand and appreciate the uniqueness of his person.

Within the pages of the Gospel, Jesus asks that people accept him, identify with him and then accept his message. It should not be surprising that he would be eager that his hearers share their understanding of him in order to appreciate the authority on which his teachings rest.

This Scripture is the first of four encounters between Jesus and Peter that enable Peter to gradually clarify his recognition of the identity and mission of Jesus. In this instance there is the acknowledgement on Peter's part that Jesus is the Christ, the Messiah.

He did not state on this occasion that Jesus was divine. This encounter then was an important step along the way of growth and understanding.

On another occasion, when Jesus spoke about the Eucharist and many disciples ceased following him, he asked, "Aren't you going to leave me, too?" Peter's immediate response was, "Lord, where can we go?"

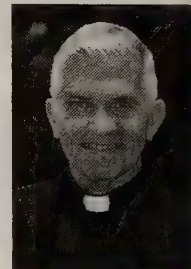
Within this proclamation, Peter acknowledges that Jesus Christ is his Lord and Savior. His awareness of the identity and mission of Jesus is expanding.

Recall the Last Supper event during which Jesus indicates that he, as servant, wishes to wash the feet of Peter as a sign of his everlasting love. This event on Holy Thursday would point to Calvary's hill upon which Jesus would "give his life for our salvation."

At the Last Supper, even though Peter initially rejected the offer of Jesus, upon being challenged, he immediately welcomed this manifestation of Jesus' love and service. During the Last Supper, then, Jesus offered to Peter a vision of service.

Guest Column

FATHER JAMES HAWKER
VICAR OF EDUCATION



After the resurrection, the risen Lord queried Peter about the depth of his love, and having received from his apostle a pledge of loving fidelity, Jesus shared the invitation, "Follow me."

Peter, enlightened by the gift of faith and instructed by these encounters with Jesus, came to grasp the truth that Jesus was the Christ, his Lord, his teacher, his guide. Although Peter would make mistakes and, at times, not follow Jesus as best he could, Peter would strive to be faithful to his Lord and God.

As we celebrate Catechetical Sunday Sept. 17, we are invited once again to reflect prayerfully upon the meaning of our response to the question directed not only to Peter, but to each of us, "Who do you say that I am?"

We might consider the extent to which we act upon the truth that Jesus is our messiah, our Lord and God, our teacher, our guide. We should evaluate the degree to which we accept each dimension of his teaching with integrity and implement his message faithfully.

In this diocese, we are blessed beyond measure by the selfless service of so many men and women, both in parishes and schools, who minister as catechists. These friends, disciples and witnesses of Jesus, by their example and assistance, enable children, youths and other adults to respond in faith to the question, "Who do you say that I am?"

Father Hawker is vicar for education in the Diocese of Charlotte and pastor of St. Luke Church in Mint Hill.

Letters to the Editor

Simple House makes big difference

It was gratifying to read the article on A Simple House lay mission apostolate ("A Simple House is a spiritual, material outreach to poor," Sept. 1).

Among others, my daughter and other recent graduates of Catholic University of America are involved in helping Clark Massey build this outreach and evangelization process for some of the most disadvantaged sections of our nation's capitol. They have found it a transformative experience.

People can find out more at A Simple House's Web site, www.asimplehouse.org.

— Jim McCullough,
director of religious education
Our Lady of Grace Church, Greensboro

Gibson should be chastised

After reading David Hains' column on the media and Mel Gibson ("Mel Gibson's revelation," Aug. 18), I was angered by what seemed to be a misplaced response to a serious offense. Hains wrote, "Hey, Mel, 'forget about it.'" I think not.

Regarding Gibson's operating of a motor vehicle while intoxicated, I cannot make excuses for anyone that would put people's lives in grave danger. They should be chastised in the press. We all know that a car becomes a weapon when driven by a drunk. We need to think about the victims.

Furthermore, anti-Semitic remarks affect us all in a negative way. Alcohol should not be an excuse. Mr. Gibson should not forget.

— Mary Vorlicek
Hendersonville

Burial of the body or cremation?

Moratorium a chance to study uses and cemeteries in diocese

This is the will of my Father, says the Lord, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, and that I should raise it up on the last day.

(Alleluia Verse from the Funeral Rite, from John 6:39)

On Jan. 17 of this year, our diocese entered into a moratorium on the construction and expansion of columbaria within the diocese. During the moratorium, a study is being done regarding the use of columbaria and cemeteries in our diocese.

When decisions are being made regarding the final arrangements for the body after death, the choice of burial of the body or cremation of the body are often presented as equal alternatives by our American culture.

The Catholic Church, however, does not consider the burial of the body and cremation of the body to be equally weighted alternatives. The Church prefers the burial of the body of the deceased over cremation of the body.

The Order of Christian Funerals, revised after Vatican Council II and promulgated in 1969, is the rite that is used for the celebration of funerals of the faithful departed. In 1997, the Vatican approved an Appendix to the Order of Christian Funerals which contained texts to be used for the celebration of funeral rites in the presence of the cremated remains of the deceased.

Of great interest in this appendix is the affirmation by the American bishops that cremation does not enjoy the same value as burial of the body. The preferred arrangement for the human body after death is burial of the body.

This preference for burial of the body is expressed in the following words: "The Church clearly prefers and urges that the body of the deceased be present for the funeral rites, since the presence of the human body better expresses the values which the Church affirms in those rites."

"The Church's teaching in regard to the human body as well as the Church's preference for burial of the body should be a regular part of catechesis on all levels, and pastors should make particular efforts to preserve this important teaching." (nn. 413-414)

Reasons for burial

What are the reasons for the Church's preference that the body of the deceased be present for the funeral rites and that the body be buried rather than cremated? The Order of Christian Funerals gives three reasons.

The first reason for the preference that the body of the deceased Christian be buried and not cremated is that the Lord himself willed to be buried. This is expressed in the following way:

"The funeral is to be celebrated according to the model in use in the region. It should be carried out in a

way, however, that clearly expresses the Church's preference for the custom of burying the dead, after the example of Christ's own will to be buried" (n. 15)

The second reason for the Church's preference is that values on the natural level are affirmed by the presence of the body at the funeral rites and the burial of the body. The presence of the body at the funeral rites expresses in a natural way the manner we had been accustomed to relate to the person while he or she was alive, namely through a human body.

The rite uses the following words to express this:

"The Christian faithful are unequivocally confronted by the mystery of life and death when they are faced with the presence of the body of one who has died. Moreover, the body which lies in death naturally recalls the personal story of faith, the loving family bonds, the friendships, and the words and acts of kindness of the deceased person."

"Indeed, the human body is inextricably associated with the human person, which acts and is experienced by others through that body. It is the body whose hands clothed the poor and embraced the sorrowing." (n. 411)

The third reason for the Church's preference is that values on the supernatural level are affirmed by the presence of the body at the funeral rites and the burial of the body. The presence of the body at the funeral rites expresses Jesus' teaching regarding the supernatural dignity and destiny of the human body.

The rite expresses this in the following words:

"The body of a deceased Catholic Christian is also the body once washed in baptism, anointed with the oil of salvation, and fed with the Bread of Life. Thus, the Church's reverence for the sacredness of the human body grows out of a reverence and concern both natural and supernatural for the human person."

"The body of the deceased brings forcefully to mind the Church's conviction that the human body is in Christ a temple of the Holy Spirit and is destined for future glory at the resurrection of the dead. This conviction in faith finds its expression in a sustained and insistent prayer that commends the deceased person to God's merciful care so that his or her place in the communion of the just may be assured."

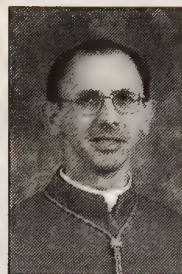
"A further expression is the care traditionally taken to prepare the bodies of the deceased for a burial that befits their dignity, in expectation of their final resurrection in the Lord." (n. 412)

These three reasons influence the Church's reverence for the sacredness of the human body in death, and explain the Church's preference for the presence of the body at the funeral rites and burial of the body over cremation.

The Order of Christian Funerals presents cremation as an exception to the normal situation of burial of the body. The rite allows the Christian faithful

From the Bishop

BISHOP
PETER J. JUGIS
BISHOP OF CHARLOTTE



to have recourse to cremation "when extraordinary circumstances make the cremation of a body the only feasible choice." (n. 415)

Circumstances which go far beyond the usual or regular situation may make cremation the only feasible choice in certain individual cases. For example, an infection by a fatal communicable disease or deadly bacterial agent which does not die with the death of the body might be one such extraordinary circumstance to recommend cremation of the body, in order to prevent the outbreak of an epidemic.

Our American culture asserts that since the human body eventually decomposes anyway, cremation should be employed in order to hasten the inevitable natural process. The Order of Christian Funerals, however, proposes that the burial of the body is to be preferred because the Lord Jesus himself willed to be buried. (n. 15)

Our American culture asserts that the human body is of no use once we die, so we should not fuss so much over it. The Order of Christian Funerals, however, proposes that the burial of the body is to be preferred because the human body of the Christian is a temple of the Holy Spirit and is destined for future glory at the resurrection of the dead. (n. 412)

Pastoral planning

A moratorium is a time of study. It is an opportunity to engage in pastoral planning regarding the use of columbaria and cemeteries in our diocese.

To be addressed during this period of study is the observation that the Church is now apparently promoting cremation over burial of the body, since it provides columbaria on-site at some parish churches but does not offer at those locations the option of burial of the body.

With utmost love, God in his Providence cares for each one of us during our pilgrimage on earth, and when we die He receives our body with tenderness and grants us a period of rest until the day of resurrection. Jesus himself experienced this great providential love of the Father.

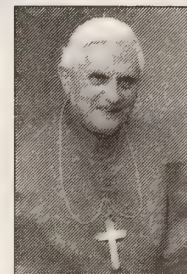
The Gospel writers tell us that Jesus commended his spirit into the Father's hands and entrusted his human body into the hands of his disciple to be cared for after his death: Joseph of Arimathea took Jesus' body down from the cross, and with Nicodemus tenderly dressed the body, prepared it for burial, and then reverently placed the body in his own tomb.

Because of the witness of the New Testament Scriptures, the death of a Christian is often referred to as a falling asleep in the Lord, awaiting the day of resurrection (Mark 5: 35-43; 1 Thess. 4: 13-18)

Being Christian means knowing Jesus personally as a friend, pope says

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Being Christian is not just about listening to God's word and understanding his teachings, it is also about getting to know Jesus as a friend and personally discovering who he really is, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Jesus "in fact is not only a teacher but is a friend, indeed, a brother. How can we know him from afar? Intimacy, familiarity, routine" are what help people discover who Jesus really is, the pope said during his Sept. 6 weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square.

To shade himself from Rome's intense sunlight, Pope Benedict wore a Roman "galero," the wide-brimmed red hat often worn by Popes John XXIII and Paul VI. The last time a pope wore the hat was when Pope John Paul II visited Mexico in 1979.

In his address, the pope continued a series of talks on the apostles, this time focusing on the life and example of Philip.

Even though Jesus had told the apostles, "Whoever has seen me has seen the Father," Philip still asked Jesus to show them God the Father so as to know and see him, the pope said.

Jesus assured Philip that "I am in the Father and the Father is in me," adding his surprise that "you still do not know me, Philip?" Pope Benedict said.

Jesus invited all the apostles not just to listen to him, but to be with him, to take part in his life and become his friends so that they would know God.

The pope said, "The important thing is to learn Christ, not only and not just by listening to his teachings, but even more so by knowing him in person, that is, his humanity and divinity, his mystery, his beauty."

This friendship with Jesus and truly getting to know him is like any real friendship in that "it necessitates closeness, it even exists in part" on being close to each other, the pope said.

But Christians are also called to share with others and show the way that leads to Jesus, he said.

When bystanders asked Philip to show them Christ, he did not just "announce the Gospel like a theory," the pope said, but he invited the others to experience Jesus in person.

"This teaches us to also always be ready both in welcoming questions and requests from wherever they come and in directing (people) toward the Lord, the only one who can fully satisfy" people's needs, said the pope.



SPECIAL EVENTS FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS!

DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7



Dear First Communicants:

This year you have celebrated your First Holy Communion. It has been a time of blessing for yourself and for your family, and for your parish family, as well.

Please join me, along with your parents or guardian, for a Eucharistic Procession on Saturday, October 7th, in Charlotte. As a First Communicant, you will lead our procession as we make this public statement of our love for Jesus.

Please wear the special clothing you wore to your First Communion. The procession will form at St. Peter's Church at 501 S. Tryon Street at 1 pm on Saturday and it will begin promptly at 1:30 pm. Please note that you MUST be accompanied by a parent or a guardian to participate in the Eucharistic Procession.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *Peter J. Jugis*

Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
Bishop of Charlotte



TEEN TRACK
REGISTRATION at
www.goEucharist.com

CHILDREN'S TRACK – "Eucharist – Food for Our Souls"

The Children's Track program at the Eucharistic Congress focuses on the source and summit of Catholic life — the Eucharist — from a child's point of view.

Through a variety of dynamic and fun-filled activities at the Eucharistic Congress, children will discover how the Eucharist can influence their lives. Children will also hear a special talk on the Eucharist during a special adoration session.

Children's Track Registration

Registration for the children's track at the Eucharistic Congress IS REQUIRED and SPACE IS LIMITED. To register, go to www.GoEucharist.com and fill out the Children's Track Registration form. Or fill out the form below and mail it to:

Children's Track Registration, Diocese of Charlotte,
1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203

Registration Form — Please fill out a separate form for EACH child.

CHILDREN'S TRACK – "THE EUCHARIST, FOOD FOR OUR SOULS"

LAST name of parent or guardian _____

FIRST name of parent or guardian _____

Email address of parent or guardian _____

Circle your child's grade K 1 2 3 4 5

Name of child participant _____

Address of child _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

In the event of an emergency, please contact: _____

Relationship _____

Telephone number (cell phone preferred) _____

☐ By submitting this form you are granting permission for your child to participate in the Children's Track of the Eucharistic Congress. Yes, I agree (check box)

☐ You are granting permission to those administering medical treatment to do so. Yes, I agree (check box).

☐ You are granting permission for diocesan employees or volunteers to administer first aid treatment and to seek emergency medical treatment for your child in the event that such treatment is deemed necessary. Yes, I agree (check box)

☐ You are releasing and holding harmless the Diocese of Charlotte and its employees and volunteers from any liability whatsoever when acting on your behalf in regard to medical treatment and any other treatment deemed necessary. Yes, I agree (check box)

Additional comments regarding medical history, allergies, medication, or other conditions _____

Signature _____ Date _____



Spreading a message of love, faith

A Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima recently visited a home in Greensboro as part of a cross-country tour to promote the messages of the Blessed Mother as well as positive values of tradition, family and property.

SEE STORY ON PAGE 6



PHOTO BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY

The Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima is pictured on display in home of George and Norma Bean in Greensboro Sept. 7.

Values, virtue and vogue



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Whitney Milby (right) helps Katie Washington put the final touches on her outfit for the Values in Vogue fashion show in Salisbury Sept. 10. The Values in Vogue program taught Catholic girls ages 8 to 18 the importance of modesty in dress and behavior, while letting the girls wear stylish and comfortable clothes.

PROGRAM PROMOTES MODESTY, VIRTUE FOR YOUNG CATHOLIC WOMEN

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

SALISBURY — Thirty-seven young Catholic girls. A sparse stage in a historical theater in downtown Salisbury. Dozens of dresses, skirts, wrap sweaters, sparkling purses and shoes. Short skirts paired with leggings. Spaghetti straps covered by stylish shrugs.

Fashionable outfits any girl would want to wear, and parents would be proud for their daughters to wear to church, school or the mall.

Values in Vogue, a summer-long program, culminated in a fashion show at the Meroney Theater Sept. 10.

Adapted from a fashion show first held in Spartanburg,

See **VOGUE**, page 8



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin greets parishioners after Mass celebrating the 65th anniversary of the dedication of St. Joseph Church in Bryson City Sept. 10.

Small church big in faith *St. Joseph Church celebrates 65 years in Bryson City*

BY JOANITA M.
NELLENBACH
CORRESPONDENT

BRYSON CITY — "Sixty-five years ago, Bishop Eugene McGuinness came out here when the roads weren't that good to dedicate two churches," Father Shawn O'Neal, pastor of St. Joseph Church in Bryson City, told his congregation Sept. 10.

Bishop McGuinness of the Diocese of Raleigh,

which then comprised all of North Carolina, dedicated St. John the Evangelist Church in Waynesville Sept. 7 and St. Joseph Church Sept. 10 in 1941.

To celebrate the 65th anniversary this year, parishioners and visitors filled St. Joseph Church's wooden pews, with the overflow seated beneath a canopy just outside

See **CELEBRATE**, page 5

The divine importance

*In scholarly lecture,
pope reflects on crisis of
faith, reason*

BY JOHN THAVIS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

REGENSBURG, Germany — In a lecture at the German university where he once taught theology, Pope Benedict XVI used a historical critique

See **CRISIS**, page 12

S-9 P-1 *****3-DIGIT 275
42003
NC COLLECTION
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
UNC
CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001

Around the Diocese
Students remember 9-11;
program aids refugees

| PAGE 4

Culture Watch
Book on Vatican's world
role; Catholic game show

| PAGES 10-11

Perspectives
C.S. Lewis meets YouTube;
the church and the U.N.

| PAGES 14-15

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

PLAYING FOR A HIGHER POWER



CNS PHOTO BY TIM SHAFFER, REUTERS

New York Giants kicker Jay Feely, a Catholic, said that a 1998 encounter with a 10-year-old boy dying of a brain tumor was an epiphany that made him realize how he could use football to affect people's lives in a positive way. Feely is seen celebrating his game-winning field goal against the Eagles in Philadelphia during overtime NFL action in Philadelphia Dec. 11, 2005.

For Catholic NFL players, faith is more than a pre-game prayer

PITTSBURGH (CNS) — Pittsburgh Steelers strong safety Troy Polamalu is not an NFL superstar who happens to be a man of faith. Just the opposite; in his heart, he is simply "a Christian with a passion for Jesus."

Football, Polamalu said, "gives me confirmation of how I can carry out my faith. It's my way to glorify God."

And while he views his team's 2006 Super Bowl win as "really beautiful and a blessing," Polamalu notes that "success in football doesn't matter. Success in anything doesn't matter. As Mother Teresa said, God calls us not to be successful but to be faithful."

"My prayer is that I would glorify God no matter what, and not have success be the definition of it," he said.

"Since his arrival in Pittsburgh, (Polamalu) has been a permanent fixture at Mass. Even with all of the fame and success, Troy remains committed to the Christian faith," said Father David Bonnar, who has celebrated Mass for 10 years before home games with Steelers players and coaches.

"And if he has changed in any way, he has just become even more humble and spiritual. I have found him to have both the strong contemplative sense

of Mary and the fierce active sense of Martha," said Father Bonnar.

For New York Giants kicker Jay Feely, it was an unmistakable moment of clarity that solidified his Catholic faith and revealed his true mission in life.

Feely's epiphany occurred Jan. 1, 1998, in Pasadena, Calif., just hours after his college football team, the University of Michigan Wolverines, won the Rose Bowl.

The post-game celebration at the team's hotel was just a noisy backdrop for Feely's encounter with a 10-year-old boy who was dying of a brain tumor. The boy's mother had brought him to meet Feely after the game.

"He knew he was very ill," said Feely. "I told him God had a purpose for him; that God has a plan for everyone."

Feely recalled seeing a visible, remarkable difference in the boy's appearance and expression — evidence that Feely's words somehow had touched a chord.

"I think about the impact I had on that little boy," said Feely. "That was my moment of clarity. It solidified my faith. That was when I understood my life as a man, how I could use football to affect people's lives in a positive way. God gives us different gifts."

Unity walk brings together religious leaders, others who want peace

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Hundreds of participants in Washington's second 9/11 Unity Walk Sept. 10 processed past places of worship as varied in style and religious tradition as the walkers themselves.

Men in yarmulkes carrying babies in backpack-style carriers, clerics wearing collars and women in veils joined leaders of the Interfaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington in remembering the fifth anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Stops along the way included the Washington Hebrew Congregation, the Washington National Cathedral and the Vatican Embassy. The route also took participants past the Church of Christ Washington, Annunciation Catholic Church, St. Alban's Episcopal Church, St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral and St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Cathedral.

Speaking from the steps in front of the Islamic Center in Washington,

Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl called on hundreds of walkers to represent the light of their faith traditions.

"The light in God's spirit will not be overcome in the darkness," he said.

Other religious leaders in the walk included Rabbi Bruce Lustig, a senior rabbi from the Washington Hebrew Congregation; Imam Abdullah Khoury, director of the Islamic Center; and Episcopal Bishop John Bryson Chane of Washington.

"We're blessed when we recognize we're one human family," Archbishop Wuerl said. "Each of us and the tradition we represent is a community of light. The solidarity that we seek is already rooted in the gift of our life that we share."

Archbishop Wuerl noted the many bridges and overpasses that the walkers crossed to make their journey possible.

"The bridges we build — of human solidarity, of kindness — are the bridges that bring us together in a world of peace," he said.

Diocesan planner

ALBEMARLE VICARIATE

HAMLET — St. James Church, 1018 W. Hamlet Ave., will host a free *Music Extravaganza* Sept. 29 at 7 p.m. Lourdes Montgomery will perform with the parish English and Spanish choirs and musicians and singers from Sacred Heart Church in Wadesboro. For more information, call (910) 582-8776.

HAMLET — St. James Church, 1018 West Hamlet Ave., will host a free *Bilingual Music Workshop* Sept. 30. A workshop devoted to bilingual liturgical celebrations will be offered in Spanish, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.; followed by a workshop in English, 1-3 p.m. A light lunch will be provided on Saturday at 12 p.m. Register by Sept. 27 by calling (910) 582-8776.

ASHEVILLE VICARIATE

ASHEVILLE — *Speak the Truth in Love*, a free series of classes addressing Catholic Church's teachings on life, love and marriage meets at Basilica of St. Lawrence, 97 Haywood St. Classes will meet Sept. 16, Oct. 21, Nov. 18, Jan. 20, Feb. 17, March 17 and April 21. Each class will address a topic such as history and heroes, contraception, euthanasia and theology of the body. For more information, call Nina at (828) 299-7618 or Helen at (828) 683-9001 or e-mail geodrc@aol.com

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — *Blood Give-In Sunday* will be held at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy, Sept. 17, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Appointments are encouraged and will be honored. Walk-ins are welcome, but will be taken as time permits. Donors will be required

to provide identification, such as a driver license or Red Cross blood donor card. For more information, call Ed Nenninger at (704) 366-6637.

CHARLOTTE — St. Basil the Great Ukrainian Church will have a *Ukrainian Mass* in the chapel of Charlotte Catholic High School, 7702 Pineville-Matthews Rd., Sept. 17 at 11 a.m. The Mass is open to anyone who would like to attend. For more information, please contact Father Deacon Mark Shuey at mshuey2@nc.rr.com or call (919) 779-7246.

CHARLOTTE — St. Ann Church, 3635 Park Rd. will present a *Polka Mass* Sept. 30 at 4:30 p.m. Father Frank Perkovich based the music for this Mass on Polish, Slavic and German folk songs. Please join us for this exciting family worship experience, complete with accordions. For more information, call the church office at (704) 523-4641.

MINT HILL — St. Luke Church, 13700 Lawyers Rd., and the N.C. Council of Churches and Interfaith Power and Light, are sponsoring with viewing of "An Inconvenient Truth" Oct. 5 6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center of the church. "An Inconvenient Truth" is an examination of global warming and its solutions. Climate change is a problem shared by all of us of every political persuasion, and its solutions are in our hands. Learn what you can do to reduce the rate and extent of global warming. Discussion will follow the film. Childcare will be provided. If you would like to attend, please contact Amber Ockerbloom at (704) 649-8179.

CHARLOTTE — The second annual *Blanket Banquet for the Homeless of Uptown Charlotte* will take place in front of St. Peter Catholic Church, S. Tryon St., immediately following the 4:30 p.m. Mass to close the Eucharistic Congress Oct. 7. Donations of blankets and men's socks and undergarments are needed. For more information or to volunteer to help with the meal, please call

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

SEPT. 15, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 41

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

In Geneva, Vatican calls for moratorium on use of cluster bombs

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Vatican called for a moratorium on the use of cluster bombs, saying past and future victims of conflicts "cannot wait for years of negotiations and discussions."

Archbishop Silvano Tomasi, Vatican representative to Geneva-based U.N. agencies, told governmental experts Sept. 1 that the maiming and death of tens of thousands of people as a result of the bombs' submunitions necessitate immediate, concrete action.

"For that, a moratorium on the use of such arms is essential," he said during an Aug. 20-Sept. 6 meeting in Geneva on the Convention of Conventional Weapons.

Cluster bombs eject multiple submunitions or bomblets, and their use during the recent war in Lebanon, Archbishop Tomasi said, "tragically demonstrates to us evidence of a humanitarian tragedy unfolding before

our eyes."

"The images and the testimonies reaching us are alarming," he said.

U.N. experts so far have discovered 100,000 unexploded bomblets scattered throughout hundreds of different sites in Lebanon, many of them in residential areas.

Cluster bombs and submunitions are not banned by any international treaty, and many governments still consider them legitimate weapons.

"All arms are called legitimate before being prohibited or regulated," said Archbishop Tomasi.

Typically, cluster bombs open in midair and scatter dozens or hundreds of submunitions over a wide area. A percentage of duds do not explode and can remain a threat for many years. They pose a particular danger to children, as they are easily attracted to the bomblets' bright colorful casings, mistaking the volatile explosives for toys.

Greg or Cindy Platko at (704) 375-0901 or e-mail gplatko@carolina.rr.com.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

HIGH POINT — Cyber crime expert Koh Herlong will speak at Immaculate Heart of Mary School, 605 Barbee St., Sept. 21, 7-9 p.m., about *How to Keep Children Safe Online*. The lecture is free and open to the public. Herlong will outline the greatest risks children face online, how to recognize those risks and how to protect children. She will also discuss what rules to establish in the home about online usage, etiquette for the Internet and ethical behavior while online. For more information, call Nancy Achter at (336) 887-2613.

GREENSBORO — The Greensboro Council of Catholic Women will open its 2006-07 fiscal year with a luncheon Sept. 27 at Cardinal Country Club. The speaker will be Lorraine Ahearn, metro columnist for the News & Record. For more information, please contact JoAnn Stevens-Church (336) 540-0786.

GREENSBORO — If you have a special need for prayers, or would like to offer your time in prayer for others' needs, please call the *Prayer Chain* at Our Lady of Grace Church. The Prayer Chain is a sizable group committed to praying for your needs and the needs of your family and friends on a daily basis. To request a prayer or to participate in the Prayer Chain, call the church office at (336) 274-6520, ext. 10 and leave your name, address and phone number.

HICKORY VICARIATE

MORGANTON — The Cursillo Movement of the Diocese of Charlotte is hosting a diocesan-wide *Grand Ultreya* at Steele Creek Park Sept. 30, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Events include Mass, guitar music, group reunion, witness/spiritual talks, and hiking/nature trails for children. Please bring covered dish and a 2-liter drink. For more information, call Kathy Hack at (704) 548-1834 or e-mail hackhouse@bellsouth.net.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

WINSTON-SALEM — The adult education committee of St. Leo the Great Church will host a presentation about the *Causes of the Protestant Reformation*. The speaker will be history professor Bill Partin and will be held Oct. 3 at 7 p.m. in Conference Room B at St. Leo the Great Church, 335 Springdale Ave. For more information, call the church office at (336) 724-0561.

KERNERSVILLE — The *Catechism of the Head and Heart* religious education series for adults will be held this fall in the library at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School, 1725 NC Hwy 66 South. The topic will be the creation stories. Classes will meet at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 12, Nov. 30, Jan. 11, Feb. 8, March 29 and April 19. For more information, call Loretta Bedner at (336) 564-1040.

WINSTON-SALEM — The Spirit of Assisi hosts a *Wednesday Lunch & Speaker Series* each Wednesday, 12:30-1:15 p.m., at the Fatima Chapel, 211 W. Third St. Mark Redmond will speak on the "Value of Spiritual Reading" Sept. 20. The sacrament of reconciliation will be offered at 12 p.m. in the chapel. For more information and to RSVP, call Sister Kathy Ganiel at (336) 624-1971 or e-mail kganiel@triad.rr.com. Walk-ins are welcome.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Vatican Observatory head rebuts suggestions that he was fired

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Jesuit Father George Coyne, who headed the Vatican Observatory for more than 28 years, said suggestions that he was forced out of the post by Pope Benedict XVI are "simply not true."

The Vatican announced Aug. 19 that Father Coyne, 73, would be stepping down as head of the Vatican's scientific research organization and that his replacement would be Jesuit Father Jose Funes.

Some news reports suggested Father Coyne was replaced by the pope in reaction to comments the Jesuit astronomer made over the last year supporting evolution and criticizing "intelligent design" as the explanation for how the universe was created.

At the time, Father Coyne was on vacation and, he said in a Sept. 8 note to Catholic News Service, purposely avoiding the news.

Upon his return from vacation, Father Coyne responded to queries from CNS and others with a written statement Sept. 8 explaining that he had for several years been requesting a replacement as head of the observatory.

"For some years I have, upon realizing that a scientific research institute such as ours requires a continuous input of new initiatives, suggested to Jesuit superiors that they search for a new director of this

work," Father Coyne wrote.

"In May of this year upon my repeated request, they finally agreed to begin a search for a new director, resulting, rather rapidly to my delight, in the appointment of Jose Funes.

"This is truly a wonderful and blessed choice," he said. "Jose is a well-established international scholar, an excellent teacher and lecturer, very devoted to the intellectual life of the church and he will have new ideas and initiatives."

Father Funes, 43, an Argentine, has been on the staff of the observatory since 2000.

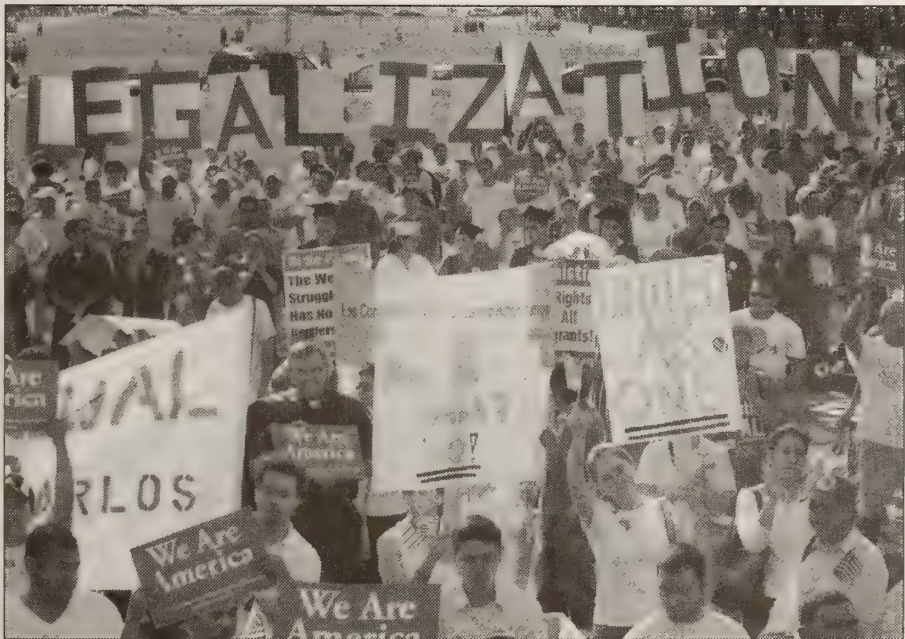
Father Coyne, who will remain president of the Vatican Observatory Foundation, said he learned about the speculation surrounding the transition only when he returned from vacation.

Media reports that he was dismissed by the pope are "simply not true," his note to CNS said.

Father Coyne went on to say he had been granted a sabbatical year, which he would spend as a parish priest at St. Raphael the Archangel Church in Raleigh, N.C.

In September 2007 he plans to return to work at the Vatican Observatory. The observatory is based at Castel Gandolfo, south of Rome, and at the University of Arizona in Tucson, Ariz.

Rallying for reform



CNS PHOTO PAUL HARING

A sign calls for the legalization of undocumented immigrants during a pro-immigration rally in Washington Sept. 7. The rally was one of several around the country near Labor Day aimed at building support for comprehensive immigration reform, though passage of legislation this term seemed unlikely.

Meanwhile, ongoing programs to register immigrant voters have been slow to bear fruit, according to an Associated Press review of registration figures from a handful of major cities.

Leo Anchondo, national manager of the Justice for Immigrants campaign of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said voter registration is not specifically part of the church's immigration campaign. Where immigration is concerned, the church's efforts instead will continue to focus on educating Catholics and the general public about the whole range of concerns, he said.

CORRECTIONS

In the Sept. 1 issue, information regarding the establishment of the Priests' Retirement and Benefits Collection was incorrect. In 1994, on the recommendation of a committee of priests and laymen, then-Bishop William G. Curlin re-instituted an assessed collection. A retirement collection had been in place since the mid-1960s.

In the Sept. 8 issue, Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen's date of death was incorrect in a Catholic News Service article. The correct date was Dec. 9, 1979.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Sept. 16 — 5 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
Basilica of St. Lawrence, Asheville

Sept. 19 — 7 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Charlotte

Sept. 22 — 8:30 a.m.
Mass for Sacred Heart School
Sacred Heart Church, Salisbury

Sept. 23 — 5 p.m.
Sacrament of Confirmation
St. John Baptiste de la Salle Church,
North Wilkesboro

Aiding the workforce

CSS agency assists refugees, businesses with employment needs

CHARLOTTE — Businesses in the Diocese of Charlotte seeking reliable, hardworking employees have been turning to a local nonprofit agency sponsored by Catholic Social Services to find workers without paying an employment fee.

Refugee Employment Services (RES) is part of Catholic Social Services' Refugee Resettlement Office. For nearly 31 years, RES has provided area employers with workers filling skilled and unskilled positions.

Refugees are a diverse labor pool of people who are eager to work, according to Bill Hamelau, former executive director of the American Red Cross Midway-Kansas Chapter and member of the RES advisory council, which is comprised of local business people.

"These individuals have fled their home countries because of persecution due to race, religion, political beliefs or identification with a social group. They come to the United States in search of safety, freedom and a way to provide for themselves and their families as they start their lives over," he said.

Refugees are screened by the U.S. government, which also conducts security clearances. After that, they receive proper documentation, conferring all the rights and privileges of residents, and they are legally authorized to work in the United States.

RES staff first meets with new arrivals to determine language capability and any job skills and work experience. Next, the staff matches those skills to a particular industry or employer.

This may involve contacting companies currently using RES's services, checking the classified ads to see who is hiring or perhaps making cold calls to businesses they feel might be a good fit.

Once a company agrees to hire a refugee client, the RES staff assists with all related employment paperwork, coordinates transportation and, if needed, provides interpreters to sit in on orientation and training.

At intervals over a three-month period, the RES staff follows up with employers to see how the refugee workers are doing and provides assistance as needed.

"RES sends people who want to work, and they are always there when you need help."

— David Miller, operations manager, Krispy Kreme

"We have been very pleased with the workers and RES support," said David Miller, operations manager for Krispy Kreme.

"RES sends people who want to work, and they are always there when you need help," he said.

Feedback from participating businesses indicates that by employing refugees, companies can reduce turnover rate, improve efficiency, enhance quality and increase production.

"Our experience is that refugees are eager to work and have high standards for the work they do," said Mike Reardon, senior vice president of BB&T Processing Services.

Other employers have indicated that refugee employees are punctual, reliable, quick to learn and extremely grateful for a chance to be productive and earn a living, according to Hamelau.

"They are pleased with how easily these employees fit in and how their presence enriches the cultural diversity of their workplaces," he said.

"Our refugee workers are our best asset," said Jerry Henson, vice president of Charlotte operations for Cabinetcraft. "It has been a tremendous experience."

In the past eight years, RES has worked with more than 150 different participating businesses and has placed about 1,200 refugee clients.

"Because of its ability to successfully match a company's needs with the right employees, Catholics Social Services' Refugee Resettlement Office is one of Charlotte's best-kept secrets for employers," said Hamelau.

WANT MORE INFO?

To learn more about Refugee Employment Services, call Linda at (704) 370-3257 or Kelly at (704) 370-3285 Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Or visit <http://www.cssnc.org/refugee.html>.

Remembering the fallen



COURTESY PHOTOS



Students at St. Michael School in Gastonia (above) and St. Leo the Great School in Winston-Salem (left) participate in prayer and memorial services Sept. 11. Services were held across the United States marking the fifth anniversary of the terrorist attacks in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania that claimed the lives of 2,973 people.

Religious leaders of Islam, Judaism, Buddhism, Sikhism and several Christian denominations, including the Catholic Church, gathered at St. Paul's Chapel in New York City Sept. 11. The chapel, a center for mourners and relief workers in the aftermath of the attacks, once again served as a key gathering place in 2006 for a memorial service to commemorate the anniversary.

NOTICE

THE HOLY LAND

The diocesan-sponsored pilgrimage to the Holy Land scheduled for this month has been postponed due to the unstable political situation there. The new date is

NOVEMBER 6 – 16, 2007

This fully-escorted tour with Father James Hawker, diocesan vicar of education and pastor of St. Luke Church, will take us to the holy places and acquaint us further with the life of Our Lord while we deepen our understanding of our faith.

If you are interested in receiving a brochure with full information when it becomes available, please call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald – (704) 370-3332.



It's news and inspiration about the Diocese of Charlotte!

Subscribe today — it's FREE!

Check it out at www.CharlotteDiocese.org.

FROM THE COVER

St. Joseph Church celebrates 65 years

CELEBRATE from page 1

the door into the church.

Father O'Neal thanked his concelebrants: Bishop Emeritus William Curlin and retired Father James Cahill, "my mentor for so many years; may I never take his wisdom for granted."

The day's second reading, from the Letter of St. James, admonished all to "show no partiality" and to make no "distinctions among yourselves."

Father O'Neal said in his homily that members of St. Joseph Church have always tried to offer hospitality to everyone.

Family of faith

St. Joseph Church welcomed Hazel Colville, who joined the parish in 1952.

"I guess she was the first one around here to convert," her son, Stephen, recalls. "She was driving to Waynesville (some 40 miles away). It was about a two-hour drive. That was the only place where there was a priest all the time."

Hazel Colville went to Waynesville for instruction in the Catholic faith. Her husband, Reeves, taught Sunday school at Bryson City United Methodist Church.

"When something was going on at the Catholic church, we all went to the Catholic church," Stephen Colville said. "When it snowed, we shoveled the sidewalks and steps at both churches."

Stephen Colville lived in Waynesville for a while, but often returned to Bryson City to take his mother to Mass.

"I got to paying attention" to the homilies, he said, and became a Catholic in 2000.

Barbara and Tom Reidmiller joined St. Joseph Church after they moved to Bryson City around 1976.

"I like the people and the interaction of the people and how, if something needs to be done, they work together and get it done," Barbara Reidmiller said.

She told how the church began its thrift shop.

"I think it's been the best ecumenical thing that could have happened," she said.

When the church bought land adjacent to its existing property some 30 years ago, it acquired a small building that may have been a hamburger stand.

"The ladies got together and asked if they could open a thrift shop," Barbara Reidmiller said. "They were told, 'yes,' if they could make it self-sufficient."

The St. Joseph Thrift Shop has indeed become self-sufficient, operating for several hours, four days a week.

"It's a place where people can bring their good stuff," Barbara Reidmiller said. "If someone (in the community) gets burned out or needs something, they can have it for free. When the church needs something, we buy it; we just bought a new stove for the kitchen."

Cass Kelly, 79, known as the thrift-store "commandante," moved to Bryson City from West Palm Beach, Fla., in 1987. Active in the store, she's also a lector.

"She's the matriarch," parishioner Doris Kearns said of Kelly. "Everybody takes care of her, and she takes care of everybody."

The parish, Kelly said, "not only has more people" than when she first moved there, "but we have more classes for the children" and more people come to the weekly social hour after the 11:15 a.m. Sunday Mass.

At Mass on Sept. 10, Father O'Neal and Bishop Curlin blessed two of those young people — Sean Murphy and Beau Schneider — who will be confirmed on Oct. 22.

"Father Shawn makes us feel



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

During the Mass celebrating the 65th anniversary of St. Joseph Church's dedication, Father Shawn O'Neal, pastor, and Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin give a special blessing to Beau Schneider (left) and Sean Murphy, who will be confirmed next month.

important," Kelly said. "He shows his support for everything we do."

Serving with spirit

In addition to the thrift shop, St. Joseph Church also reaches out to the community as part of the Swain County Ministerial Association, which has a fund to help transients and an auxiliary that works in conjunction with Swain County Human Services to assist those in need.

"You might think we're out of the way here," Father O'Neal said, "but being on Main Street we've had people stop in while we're eating (during social hour) and ask for the leftovers or for a

tank of gas."

The church always helps out.

"It might be a small church in size, but it's a big church in faith," Bishop Curlin said at the end of Mass.

"I was watching during Mass; your reverence, the way you pray and sing, shows what's in your hearts. You're not just people, you're God's special people," he said. "I congratulate you. I commend you for your wonderful, beautiful faith."

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail jnell@dnet.net.

Faith in action



COURTESY PHOTO

Children participate in the Sock-A-Thon obstacle course at Holy Family Church in Clemmons in March. The event, organized by the parish's fifth-grade faith formation class, was open to children and adults and collected 327 pairs of socks and 217 articles of clothing for local nursing home residents and rehabilitation patients.

Each year, faith formation students participate in hands-on activities to help them learn and grow closer to God, according to Laura Sheets, fifth-grade faith formation teacher.

The Sock-A-Thon, inspired by a class discussion on "Welcome to the World of I Believe," was another example of the children living their faith.

"This was more than we expected for our first major event," said Sheets. "We found it to be a huge success and the kids learned that a simple phrase, 'I believe,' can lead them to what God calls us to do and help those in need."

www.andersonfamilymed.com

Anderson Family Medicine

...Healthcare with a heart.

Dr. E. Kelly Anderson is available to help with all of your family's healthcare needs. A graduate of the Yale University School of Medicine and the residency program at Carolinas Medical Center - Union, Dr. Anderson is now accepting patients of all ages.

Dr. E. Kelly Anderson
Parishoner
Our Lady of
Consolation, Charlotte

HOURS:

Mon, Tue, Th, Fri. 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Wednesday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, (by appt.)

704-283-8888

An NFP-only practice



Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center

Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023

www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma

Owner/Director

Privately, Locally Owned

Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

Spreading a message of love and faith

Couple hosts Fatima statue in Greensboro

BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY
CORRESPONDENT

GREENSBORO — A statue of Our Lady of Fatima traveling throughout the southeastern states recently came to a home in Greensboro.

Ten men and women gathered around the statue in the home of George and Norma Bean Sept. 7 to learn more about Our Lady's message and to pray the rosary in reparation of sins and sacrileges committed against the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

"We did this to gain whatever the Lord wants us to gain, and for whatever the Lord can accomplish for Christ through his beloved mother, Our Lady of Fatima," said George Bean.

"This is only a small part of the process of developing ourselves so that we might more easily move towards God," said Norma Bean.

The traveling statue is part of the "America Needs Fatima" campaign by the American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property.

Founded in 1973, the society was formed to "resist, in the realm of ideas, the liberal, socialist and communist trends of the times and proudly affirm the positive values of tradition, family and property," according to its Web site.

More than 10,000 homes in every state except Alaska have hosted replicas of the Pilgrim Virgin statue, fashioned after one of three original statues based on sketches by Carmelite Sister Lucia dos Santos. She was one of three Portuguese children who saw visions of Mary at Fatima, Portugal, in 1917.

Statue "custodians" crisscross the country with 11 replicas, visiting churches and homes to promote these home-enthronement programs, which include crowning of the statue, a short audiovisual about Fatima and praying of the rosary.

The site says other aspects of the America Needs Fatima campaign include pro-life rallies, anti-blasphemy protests, flier distributions and audio-video presentations to draw people, both

churched and unchurched, "closer to God and his Blessed Mother."

The Beans responded to an invitation to open their home to the statue of Our Lady of Fatima. Their guests found the experience rewarding.

"We were able to gain more ways to share the faith. I am certainly willing to share this life through both word and action, and by communicating with those who do not believe," said Jan Meris Oliver.

"This is being done not as a show of ego but to demonstrate a better way of life," said Oliver. "It is important to know that each person has to avail himself in order to make some kind of decision to grow in the faith."

"I really appreciate being able to share the Pilgrim Statue of Fatima here in this house," said Kathleen Kulla. "Now, I can share this knowledge with everyone."

Our Lady of Fatima

On May 13, 1917, in the village of Fatima, Portugal, three peasant children — Lucia, 10, and her two cousins, Francisco, 9, and Jacinta Marta, 7 — were watching their sheep near their home when they claimed to have seen the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The apparitions continued once a month, each on the 13th day of the month, until October 1917 and later were declared worthy of belief by the Catholic Church.

In 2000, Pope John Paul II beatified Sister Lucia's cousins, who died as children.

During the July 13 apparition, the children's vision included black demons and charred souls burning in pain and despair in the depths of hell. Then they were given the hope that many souls would be saved and peace achieved through devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

The children were also assured that World War I would soon end, but, if people did not stop offending God, an even worse war would begin during the reign of Pope Pius XI (1922-1939), for God would punish the world for its sins



PHOTO BY DEACON GERALD POTKAY

Norma Bean venerates the Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima in her Greensboro home Sept. 7.

through war, hunger and persecutions of the church and the Holy Father.

Mary asked for the consecration of Russia to her Immaculate Heart and the reception of Communion of reparation on five first Saturdays. Finally, the children were given the very special

hope that Mary's "Immaculate Heart will triumph."

Contact Correspondent Deacon Gerald Potkay by calling (336) 427-8218 or e-mail gpotkay@triad.rr.com.

ABBOTSWOOD SENIOR LIVING



For more than 17 years, Abbotswood at Irving Park has built a reputation on providing exemplary retirement living services to independent seniors. Residents enjoy the largest 1 and 2 bedroom floorplans in Irving Park, delicious meals, a full-time wellness director and month-to-month rental with NO BUY-IN FEES. Optional in-home health care services are available. Call today to schedule your personal tour.

(336) 282-8870

ABBOTSWOOD
at Irving Park

The only full service retirement living address in the heart of Irving Park
3504 Flint Street • Greensboro, NC 27405 • www.kiscoseniorliving.com

Celebrating 25 or 50 years of marriage this year?

If you were married during 1956 or 1981,
you and your family are invited to the

Annual Diocesan Anniversary Mass

at

St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in Charlotte

Sunday, November 5th — 2 pm



Please note: In order to be registered and receive an invitation, you must call your parish office by **Friday, September 29th**.

Family Life Office of Catholic Social Services





Good News Ministries

presents TWO EXCITING EVENTS!
Same place! Same time!

Mens' Rally -
Ordinary Faith is Not Enough Today
AND
High School Age Men's Rally -
Life on the Run!

Saturday, October 28th - 8 am to 4 pm
(registration: 7:30 am)
Charlotte Catholic High School
7702 Pineville-Matthews Road

Men's topics include: Transforming Fire/God's Love * Becoming Men of
Faith/Daily Spiritual Life * Receiving God's Gifts

Young men's topics include: Ready, Set, Go! * In the Running/Sustaining
Endurance * The Finish Line



Bishop Jugis,
Celebrant

Fourth bishop of Charlotte, **Bishop Peter J. Jugis** was ordained by Pope John Paul II at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. He has served throughout the Charlotte diocese as pastor, vicar and judge for the diocesan tribunal.

Rally Speakers

Mark Nehrbas is Executive Director of Christian Outreach and Evangelization at Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio. A popular conference speaker on the family, men's spirituality and the Holy Spirit, Mark is married and the father of nine children.



Deacon Ralph Poyo has been actively involved in ministry for more than 25 years. Currently, he is a director of faith formation in Raleigh and speaks at many youth, young adult and men's retreats; rallies and church missions. Ralph and Susan have five daughters.



Bob Rice received his master's degree in theology from Franciscan University of Steubenville where he teaches youth ministry, leads praise and worship, and works with the FUS summer conferences. Married, he is the father of four children.

PRE-REGISTRATION TICKETS INCLUDE FREE LUNCH!

Name _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Parish _____

___ Adult Men @ \$25 = \$___

___ H.S. Young Men @ \$25 = \$___ *** NOTE: all youth under age 18
MUST have permission form (available at door or call (704) 521-9949)

CLERGY/RELIGIOUS - no charge but please register. Please check ___ if
available for confession in morning.

Disability seating: ___ adult ___ high school

Check one: Tickets ___ pick up/will call; or ___ send confirmation

Return form and payment (payable to Good News Ministries) BEFORE
OCTOBER 18 to: Good News Ministries, 5121 Baker Drive, Charlotte NC
28210.

Info: (704) 521-9949 and Carolinaevents2@aol.com

MACS foundation helps bring quality education to students

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — For the past 75 years, students in Mecklenburg County have benefited from a Catholic education.

As a result of the success of the 2005-06 Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools Education Foundation annual giving campaign, more students will have that opportunity, and they will benefit in more ways.

After setting an ambitious goal of \$500,000, Susan Cameron, director of diocesan Catholic schools development, said she was thrilled to have received \$501,000 in pledges and gifts as of Sept. 13.

"Last year, 1,200 households donated \$425,000 to the education foundation, well over the goal of \$370,000," said Cameron. "This year, we have about the same number of contributors; many have increased their pledges this year."

The mission of the MACS Education Foundation is to enrich children's education by providing funding for

programs within the MACS system.

Programs funded by the foundation focus on one of three areas: excellence in teaching, academic enrichment and spiritual development.

"These are programs that would not operate in their entirety without support from the foundation," Cameron said. "Most are not supplemented by the school's operating budgets, but are stand-alone programs."

Programs that were instituted using foundation grant funds have had long-reaching effects. For example, the Learning Enrichment Activities Program (LEAP) was originated at Our Lady of the Assumption School in Charlotte through a Grant for Educational Excellence.

The program, which allows students to participate in enrichment activities once they have mastered a skill, is now being used by five of the six MACS elementary schools.

"Because of the foundation, we're able to provide additional supplemental income for innovative programs, such as LEAP," said Cameron.

TRACS foundation exceeds lofty goal

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — More than ever before, students in the Triad area — Greensboro, High Point and Winston-Salem — will benefit from a Catholic education following the 2005-06 Triad Catholic Schools Foundation annual giving campaign.

The campaign exceeded its goal of \$417,500, said Susan Cameron, director of diocesan Catholic schools development. More than \$418,000 in pledges and gifts had been received as of Sept. 13.

The goal for 2004-05 was \$410,000; \$430,000 was raised, including a one-time gift of nearly \$20,000.

Each Triad school sets its own goal and decides how to spend the money that is raised.

The Triad Catholic Schools

Foundation provides funds for tuition assistance, teacher excellence and program enhancement.

More than half of the money raised provides tuition assistance. Nearly \$240,000 in assistance was distributed during the 2005-06 school year.

"Over the five years since the foundation was established, nearly \$700,000 has been given out as tuition assistance," said Cameron. "With assistance, students who might not otherwise have a Catholic education can now be part of that community."

Funds are also used to provide and upgrade technology equipment, for professional development and for teacher bonuses.

"The schools can attract and retain good teachers," said Cameron. "Also, students will benefit from the programs that are developed as a result of these fundraising efforts."

Live Your Faith

Be affirmed in your present ministry.

Upgrade your certification as a catechist and religion teacher. Fulfill
the prerequisite for the Permanent Diaconate.

Grow in your faith.

*If you have these desires, the Diocesan Office of Lay Ministry
offers a two-year program designed to help you understand more
fully your baptismal call to minister to your family, to others in
the Church, and to those in your daily life.*

LAY MINISTRY
TRAINING PROGRAM

Classes held in Bryson City.

For more information call

Frank Villaronga,
704-370-3274 or E-mail
favillaronga@charlottediocese.org

Values in Vogue program promotes modesty, v

VOGUE, from page 1

S.C., the program was designed to combine the virtues of modesty, chastity and self-respect for girls ages 8 to 15.

"I was unhappy with some of the fashion choices my daughter (11-year-old Mary Scott) was making," said Leigh Ann Norris, a parishioner of Sacred Heart Church in Salisbury and one of the Values in Vogue volunteer coordinators.

Norris' sister, Peggy Fisher, had seen the Values in Vogue fashion show in Spartanburg, and the two sisters thought it would be worthwhile to bring to Salisbury.

"We realized we needed an entire program, not just a fashion show," said Norris.

A group of Catholic mothers put their heads together and designed a comprehensive program that met six times over the summer. Topics included how a girl can dress appropriately for her age and the occasion; dressing for success, with six businesswomen speaking to the girls about their careers; and skin care.

Although several of the girls admitted that they originally participated because their mothers wanted them to, they were all glad they took part in the program.

"It was so much fun," said Katie Washington, an eighth-grader at Sacred Heart School in Salisbury.

Katie said she has changed the way she dresses since starting Values

"Christ teaches us that part of being a woman and part of being virtuous is dressing modestly, which is integrally related to the virtue of chastity."

— Stephanie Wood,
fashion show emcee

in Vogue.

"I used to wear short shorts, and people would look at me weird," she said. "Now I wear Bermuda shorts, and people smile at me. Boys treat me better, too."

Values in Vogue organizers made learning about proper, modest dress fun. One session covered dressing for Mass.

Eleven girls were told to dress for Mass, but only two were given a set of guidelines to follow. The girls critiqued each other's dress, but no one could find fault in the dress of the two girls who were given the guidelines.

"I don't wear flip-flops to church anymore," said ninth-grader Maggie Grathwohl.

The fashions in the Values in Vogue show were chosen much like any girl's wardrobe — with input from both mother and child.



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Middle- and high-school age girls show off their special-occasion wear at the conclusion of the Values in Vogue fashion show Sept. 10.

"We started from the girls' own closets, and put together outfits that were appropriate and that the girls liked," said Danette Stohlsorth, mother of 10-year-old Bailey and one of the

show's volunteers.

Goody's clothing store also helped by loaning clothing for the show. The girls went to the store and picked out clothing they liked — clothing they liked

**Retirement isn't
what it used to be.
PLAN accordingly.**



Les Davaz
Financial Advisor
Member, St. Patrick's Church

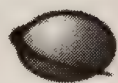
100 N. Tryon St., Suite 3300
Charlotte, NC 28202

(704) 331-2233 or
(800) 438-0397

<http://fc.smithbarney.com/davaz>

citigroup
SMITH BARNEY

© 2006 Citigroup Global Markets Inc. Member SIPC. Smith Barney is a division and service mark of Citigroup Global Markets Inc. and its affiliates and is used and registered throughout the world. CITIGROUP and the Umbrella Device are trademarks and service marks of Citigroup Inc. or its affiliates and are used and registered throughout the world.



AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles
Licensed & Insured
FREE ESTIMATES

www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065

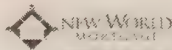
Do you know everything you need to know about your home mortgage options?

No? Call me, I can help!

Jayne McGonnell
Mortgage Loan Originator
(704) 516-9682

jaynecgonnell@mortgagemaps.com

Let me be your mortgage advisor!



Equal Housing
Lender



ue for young women

so well, several of the girls bought their show outfits.

But Values in Vogue is about much more than fashion, even modest fashion.

Father John Putnam, pastor of Sacred Heart Church, spoke to the girls about how to behave in church. Stephanie Wood, emcee for the fashion show, spoke about the need to dress and act modestly.

Wood is the coordinator of NextWave Faithful, a youth and young adult division of Family Life Center International. She speaks to young adults about the main focus areas of love, life, purpose and truth.

"Christ teaches us that part of being a woman and part of being virtuous is dressing modestly, which is integrally related to the virtue of chastity," said Wood.

Girls benefit from modesty by gaining true self-respect, a true sense of self-worth, she said.

"(Young women) who dress and behave modestly are going to attract the kind of man who is going to love them as a person and be virtuous himself," said Wood. "He is looking for virtue and true beauty, not just physical beauty."

Wood said boys want girls to dress modestly.

"They want to value them, and it's a battle for them (when girls dress immodestly)," said Wood.

Norris said the Salisbury Values in

Vogue program was designed to be easily adapted by any parish.

In fact, the Charlotte Catholic Women's Group has begun plans to host a similar program, Pure Fashion, beginning in September 2007.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

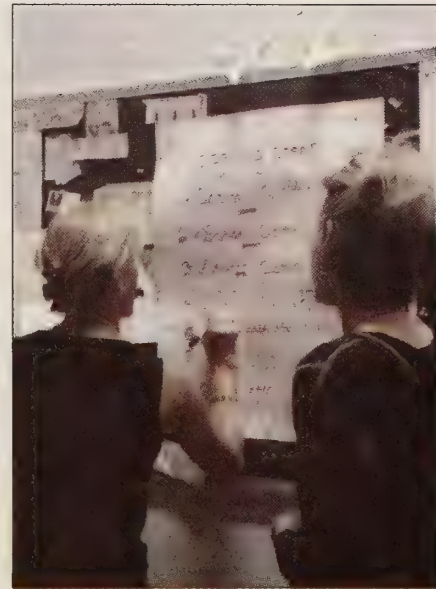
WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on Values in Vogue, contact Peggy Fisher at (704) 633-3594 or e-mail leejfisher9@bellsouth.net. For information about the Pure Fashion program in Charlotte, e-mail Kathy Comer at kcomer@carolina.rr.com.



PHOTOS BY KAREN A. EVANS

Onstage, Values in Vogue participants cheer, accompany a Christian pop song with sign language and model clothes, while two mothers make last-minute changes to the show schedule backstage.



You're Invited!
to

Room At The Inn's
Twelfth Annual Fundraising Banquet

"Life Giving Love"



Charlotte Convention Center
Thursday, October 26, 2006

Featured Speaker
Patrick Madrid
Catholic Apologist
www.surprisedbytruth.com

Make a reservation to attend this important fundraising event for the pro-life ministry of Room At The Inn! Mr. Madrid's provocative presentation will address the implications of the interlocking social and moral issues of abortion, euthanasia, contraception, global aging and the worldwide reality of population implosion.

Registration/Reception: 5:30 pm
Seating for dinner: 6:40 pm

**** Reservations are FREE, but required.**

To make your reservation or to host a table of eight, contact Banquet Reservations at (704) 525-4673, ext. 10 or iroomattheinn@carolina.rr.com by October 12th.

Room At The Inn, Inc. is a pro-life Catholic maternity and after-care program in Charlotte, NC, providing an alternative to abortion for pregnant women. Please check our website www.rati.org for more information. Not affiliated with Room At The Inn of the Triad, Inc.

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



FULLY STOCKED AND READY FOR FALL!

We're brimming over with the latest in Catholic books, new Bible study materials, spiritual gifts for special occasions, Bibles, artwork, rosaries — a wide inventory awaits you at both locations!

AND, come visit us at our Eucharistic Congress booth, October 6 and 7, at the Charlotte Convention Center.

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

Groce
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

Asheville & Arden
The Catholic Funeral Directors
828-252-3535

Diocese of Charlotte
EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS

Friday & Saturday, Oct. 6 & 7

For schedule and info:
www.charlottediocese.org

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Tasked with saving souls

Retiring secretary of state's book illustrates Vatican's world role

BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Nearly one week before Italian Cardinal Angelo Sodano was to retire, he published a book highlighting key addresses he made during 15 years of service as the Vatican secretary of state.

Titled "The Leaven of the Gospel: The Presence of the Holy See in the Lives of Peoples," the 138-page hardcover volume is a sort of memoir meant to show the Vatican as an advocate promoting and protecting human dignity and trying to save souls.

The book is written in Italian and contains 12 speeches the Italian cardinal made representing the pope and the Vatican at various national and international venues, including the United Nations.

The book is dedicated to Popes John Paul II and Benedict XVI, the popes under whom Cardinal Sodano, 78, served. The author also gives a word of welcome to his successor, Italian Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, who takes over Sept. 15.

Cardinal Sodano writes in the book's

preface, "The time has come to hand over, like in the Olympic Games, the appointment" he received in 1990.

At a Sept. 7 press conference, Msgr. Gabriele Caccia, councilor for general affairs of the Vatican Secretariat of State, said there have always been questions about the Vatican's role on the world stage.

Does the church "only have a pastoral mission or also a political function?" he asked.

While the book does not give a black and white answer, he said, it does show that all the Vatican's diplomatic activity, through its various nunciatures and papal representatives, is still carrying out the church's fundamental pastoral task: the saving of souls.

The Gospel message can and should be brought to all spheres of life and can make all human activity more enlightened and noble, he said.

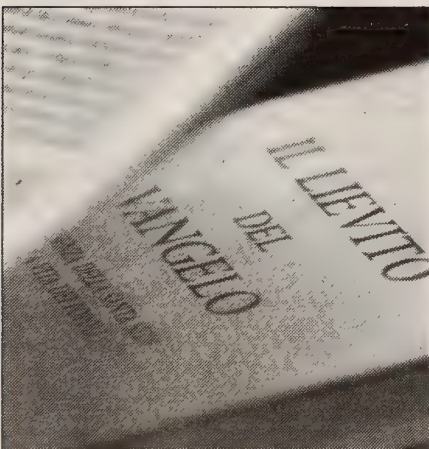
The Vatican is often the only state on the world stage whose agenda is not based on promoting the "particular interests of a person or peoples," Msgr. Caccia said.

Msgr. Pietro Parolin, undersecretary of state for foreign relations, said at the same press conference that the Vatican's nuncios and papal representatives play an important role "in defending the human being" and in strengthening the local churches, especially in regions where Christians face poverty, discrimination or other hardships.

When a political or social crisis threatens or erupts in a country or region, the Vatican's diplomatic corps springs into action, looking for peaceful solutions to the problem or coordinating needed aid in the event of a tragedy.

Msgr. Caccia said that while the church and the Vatican do "not magically solve every problem," their visible efforts of helping people demonstrate that "there's a community that cares and can band together" to help anyone in need.

Msgr. Parolin added that the Vatican's presence around the world shows people that the church and the pope are always near, that Christians — no matter how small their numbers — are not alone in the world.



CNS PHOTO BY DANIELE COLARIETI, CATHOLIC PRESS PHOTO

Cardinal Angelo Sodano's book, "The Leaven of the Gospel: The Presence of the Holy See in the Lives of Peoples," is seen at a press conference at the Vatican Sept. 7. The book highlights key addresses Cardinal Sodano made during his 15 years of service as the Vatican secretary of state. Cardinal Sodano is set to retire in mid-September.

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: SEPT. 24, 2006

Sept. 24, Twenty-fifth
Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Wisdom 2:12, 17-20
Psalm 54:3-8
- 2) James 3:16-4:3
- 3) Gospel: Mark 9:30-37

Serving others is most rewarding trait

BY JEAN DENTON
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

My young friend Ryan was accepted by several highly selective universities last spring. I thought this must be quite an ego trip, considering all the hype that surrounds college admissions these days.

Plus he lives in a community that overly touts the achievements of its high schoolers.

Ryan seemed oblivious to all that. I'd known him for several years before I found out that he was a top-ranked student in the most difficult academic curriculum.

All I knew was that his conversation about spiritual matters always ran deep and that a serious, mature relationship with God was at the heart of his love of social ministry projects.

So the prestigious Catholic university with its stimulating environment for intellectual, spiritually engaged young people seemed the perfect fit for Ryan.

He turned it down. He couldn't afford to go there.

Instead he now attends a state university — not even a high-ranking one — that offered him full tuition and housing.

At first, I was dismayed that he was unable to go to the hotshot Catholic school, although Ryan himself didn't seem disappointed. Then I began to tell my husband about Ryan: Of course, he'll do extremely well at the college he's chosen.

One thing about it that excited him is that it has a medical school, and he hopes to become a pediatrician. And he should, I told my husband. He's just the kind of person society needs as a doctor, compassionate, a servant-leader type — and he loves children!

Also he'll be happy in a large city where he can serve the poor through campus ministry. By the time I'd finished describing the whole imagined scene I was excited that Ryan would be where he belongs.

The servant-leader and child-loving aspects of Ryan's character are what reminded me of him when I read this week's Gospel. Jesus' closest disciples were on a group ego trip about their individual accomplishments.

Obviously embarrassed, they got a brief lesson on servant leadership. Then Jesus embraced an unassuming child in their midst, the one, he noted, who will bless those who accept him.

Ryan likely will hear these readings at Mass this Sunday. But he won't recognize himself. He'll be busy with the concerns of everyone else.

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF SEPT 17-23

Sunday (Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Isaiah 50:5-9, James 2:14-18, Mark 8:27-35; Monday, 1 Corinthians 11:17-26, 33, Luke 7:1-10; Tuesday (St. Januarius), 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27-31, Luke 7:11-17; Wednesday (St. Andrew Kim Taegon, St. Paul Chong Hasang and Companions), 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13, Luke 7:31-35; Thursday (St. Matthew), Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13, Matthew 9:9-13; Friday, 1 Corinthians 15:12-20, Luke 8:1-3; Saturday (St. Pio of Pietrelcina), 1 Corinthians 15:35-37, 42-49, Luke 8:4-15.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF SEPT 24-30

Sunday (Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Wisdom 2:12, 17-20, James 3:16-4:3, Mark 9:30-37; Monday, Proverbs 3:27-34, Luke 8:16-18; Tuesday (St. Cosmas and St. Damian), Proverbs 2:1-6, 10-13, Luke 8:19-21; Wednesday (St. Vincent de Paul), Proverbs 30:5-9, Luke 9:1-6; Thursday (St. Wenceslaus, St. Lawrence Ruiz and Companions), Ecclesiastes 1:2-11, Luke 9:7-9; Friday (Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael), Revelation 12:7-12, John 1:47-51; Saturday (St. Jerome), Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:8, Luke 9:43-45.

Attention: Homeowners... Have a plumbing problem? Don't Panic!

"How To Get A Top Talent Plumber To Show Up On-Time So You Don't Waste Time"

You have a busy schedule and value your time. Most plumbing companies won't give you a real appointment time and keep you waiting all day for a plumber to show up. Now there's a new way to get your plumbing problem fixed, save money, and get a precise Appointment Window so you don't have to waste time waiting.

Three-Way Plumbing Services, Inc.

We're The Good Guys Your Friends Told You About®

(704) 535-4795 Charlotte

(704) 795-9349 Concord

Serving The Entire Charlotte Diocese Area

www.3wayplumbing.com

Proud member of St. James Church

The International

Hit Comedy!



Coming to St. Matthew Church
Friday, September 29th, 7 p.m.

The uproariously funny off-Broadway
production of...

Late Nite Catechism

\$30 tickets still available (rows 11-21) best available at time of purchase

For more information and/or to purchase tickets online go to:
www.kofc-stmatthew.org or call 704-341-2060.

St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., Charlotte, NC.
Production sponsored by the St. Matthew Knights of Columbus.



**YOUR CLOSET.
ONLY BETTER.**

Custom storage solutions for every room in your house.

- Closets, offices, garages, entertainment centers etc.
- Handcrafted designs that fit your needs and style
- Professionally trained designers and installers

25% OFF With This Ad
FREE INSTALLATION

We Will Beat Any Competitor's Offer!

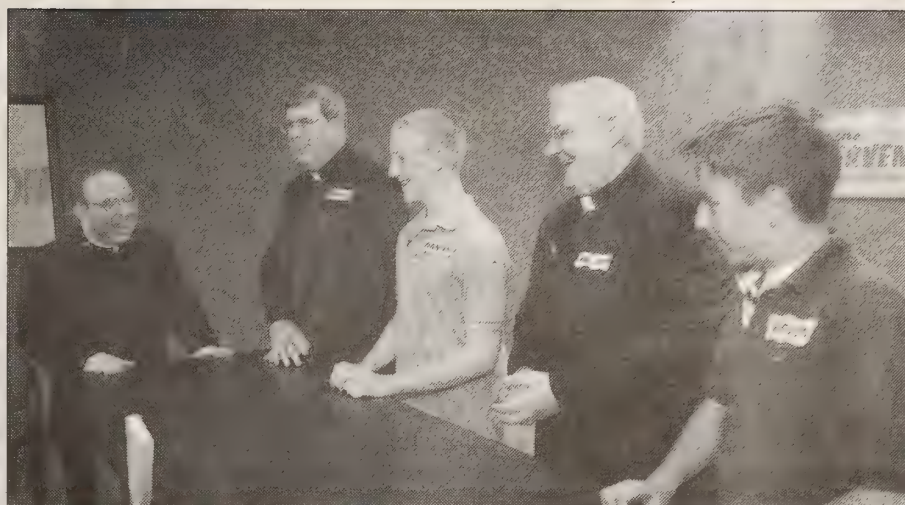
Call for a FREE design consultation

704.676.5000

closetfactory

www.closetfactory.com

CNH-1



CNS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SHERITZ, LONG ISLAND CATHOLIC

Father Joseph DeGrocco, host of "Divine Intervention," jokes with contestants (from left) Father Robert Hayden and Danny Rivera, both of St. Aidan Church in Williston Park, N.Y., and Father Jim Mannion and Kevin Hunker, both of Holy Family Church in Hicksville, N.Y., during a taping of the game show at Telecare studios in Uniondale, N.Y., in late August.

TV show tests contestants' knowledge of Catholic faith

UNIONDALE, N.Y. (CNS) — Lightning recently struck Father Joseph DeGrocco multiple times.

Although he quivered behind his podium, the priest seemed to enjoy it. After all, it was all part of the show.

"Divine Intervention," a game show that tests contestants' knowledge of Catholic and pop trivia, is a new addition to the fall lineup of Telecare, the TV system for the Rockville Centre Diocese.

The Catholic game show is filmed on a celestial-themed set, where contestants wait their turn in "purgatory" and an unseen source tosses lightning bolts at Father DeGrocco whenever a contestant chooses the "divine intervention" square in search for an answer.

The game show is similar to "Jeopardy" but with a twist: The contestants must recall where the answers are on the game board and they are revealed only for five seconds prior to the start of the game. Although the game is lighthearted, it offers real information about the Catholic faith.

"This is just another tool of evangelization," said Father DeGrocco, a professor at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington.

The priest hopes viewers will learn a little about their faith and have fun and also tune into other shows on the Catholic cable network.

"I love this show," said Ann DellaMonica, a recent audience member and a parishioner of St. Frances de Chantal in Wantagh. "I loved it so much, I want to be on the show myself."

Other new shows on Telecare this season include "Real Food" — a cooking show with Father Jim Vlaun and guest chefs; "Building Bridges," a show about Latin American Catholics hosted by Msgr. Robert Brennan, vicar general; and a show that will provide live coverage of diocesan events.

With the success of popular game shows on television, Father Vlaun, who heads up Telecare, hopes this show will appeal to current viewers of Telecare and bring in new ones.

During the final round of "Divine Intervention," the two winning contestants earn prizes from local businesses by finding the angels hidden under the numbered squares and trying to avoid the devil.

"Just like in real life," quipped Father DeGrocco.

Escape Colder Weather And
Join Your Spiritual Director Fr. Page Polk

Hawaii Cruise

15-Day Vacation Departs March 21, 2007

Escape colder weather back home and travel with other Roman Catholics including your YMT Chaplain Father Page Polk. Depart March 21, 2007 and be met by "your man" at the Honolulu airport on this 15-day vacation including an 11-day cruise on NCL's *Norwegian Wind* with three hotel nights in Waikiki, with an included Honolulu city tour. In Hawaii visit Kauai, Maui, and on the "Big Island" both Hilo and Kona. As a bonus you'll also spend a day on exotic Fanning Island; see what the South Pacific was like over 100 years ago! Complete prices start from only \$2398 (per person/double occupancy) and includes an aloha flower-lei greeting, airport / hotel / ship transfers, the 11-day cruise, three nights hotels, baggage handling, round trip airfare from Charlotte, and all taxes. This will be Father Polk's second trip as a YMT Chaplain. He is Director of the Chaplain Corp in the Archdiocese of Galveston, Texas. Mass will be celebrated once in Honolulu and most days on ship. \$100 deposits now due. Family & friends welcome.

For information reservations, brochure and Fr. Polk's letter call 7 days a week:

'YOUR MAN' TOURS 1-800-968-7626

North America's First Choice for travel since 1967!

Pope reflects on crisis of faith, reason

CRISIS, from page 1

— of Islamic violence to introduce a reflection on the crisis of faith and reason in the West.

The pope began his address Sept. 12 by highlighting a 600-year-old discussion on Islamic "jihad" or holy war, quoting at length a Christian emperor who condemned Islam for spreading the faith "by the sword."

But instead of critically assessing Islam, the pope focused his attention on what he said was the West's centuries-old tendency to "exclude the question of God" from the realm of reason.

This tendency to devalue religious thought, he said, makes it more difficult for the West to engage in the urgently needed dialogue of cultures and religions.

"A reason which is deaf to the divine and which relegates religion to the realm of subcultures is incapable of entering into the dialogue of cultures," he said.

Nature of God and soul

The pope looked happy and relaxed as he returned to the University of Regensburg, where he taught dogmatic theology from 1969 to 1977.

About 1,500 of Germany's leading academics greeted the pontiff with warm applause as he walked through the university's great hall and took his place on a gilded chair in the center of the stage.

To introduce the theme of his lecture, the pope quoted from an account of a dialogue between the Byzantine Emperor Manuel II Paleologus and an unnamed Muslim scholar, sometime near the end of the 14th century.

The pope said the account was marginal to his theme, but that he found it interesting — particularly when the emperor touched upon the subject of Islamic holy war.

The pope cited what the emperor told the Islamic scholar: "Show me just what Mohammed brought that was new, and there you will find things only evil and inhuman, such as his command to spread by the sword the faith he preached."

Twice, the pope emphasized that he was quoting someone else's words.

The pope said the emperor must have known of the early Islamic teaching that "there is no compulsion in religion," but was no doubt also aware of later instructions in the Koran about holy war.

In the account, the emperor goes on to explain why spreading the faith through violence is unreasonable, because violence is incompatible with God and with the nature of the soul.

The pope then pointed to a key question about Islam that is raised by the narrative: whether God is absolutely transcendent for Muslims, and therefore not bound up with "any of our categories, even that of rationality."

The pope did not offer an answer to that question. Instead, he went on to explore, in great detail, why Christian theology has come to affirm that faith is indeed based on reason and that acting unreasonably contradicts God's nature.

Dangerous state of affairs

Asked by reporters about the papal text, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, the Vatican spokesman, said the pope had no intention of giving "an interpretation of Islam as violent."

"I think everyone understands that even inside Islam there are many different positions and there are many positions that are not violent," Father Lombardi said.

He noted that the pope's speech was primarily a historical analysis.

The pope's main point, developed in an academic style, was that in the Western world the growing separation between faith and reason has resulted in a "dangerous state of affairs for humanity," in which society tries to construct a



CNS PHOTO BY WOLFGANG RATKE, POOL VIA REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI blesses a baby during his visit to the Bavarian town of Regensburg, Germany, Sept. 13.

system of ethics without taking religion seriously and individuals try to make moral choices based solely on the subjective conscience.

He said this was partly the result of a long process of "de-Hellenization" of Christian theology, in stages marked by an overemphasis on Scripture, a reduction of the Gospel to a "humanitarian moral message" and the creation of a gulf between theology and scientific empiricism.

'Dialogue of cultures'

The pope said his broad-brush "critique of modern reason" did not aim to turn back the clock or ignore the progress made and the new possibilities opened for humanity. But the church also sees dangers, he said, and believes they can be overcome "only if reason and faith come together in a new way."

When the West invites others to a "dialogue of cultures," it should do so

with the understanding that religion is an essential part of its own culture, he said.

But in fact, he said, it is widely held in the Western world that the only authentic knowledge is scientific knowledge, and that religion is a purely subjective experience.

"The world's most profoundly religious cultures see this exclusion of the divine from the universality of reason as an attack on their most profound convictions," he said.

The pope said the West needs to recover the rightful place of philosophy and theology, so that it can say — like the Byzantine emperor who debated the Muslim scholar — that "not to act reasonably ... is contrary to the nature of God."

The Vatican underlined the academic character of the pope's address by noting on the text handed out to journalists that a later version would be issued, complete with footnotes.

PARISH MUSIC DIRECTOR

Holy Spirit Church in Denver, NC is looking for a music director versed in Catholic liturgy. Salary is negotiable. Contact Father Carmen Malacari at 704-483-6448 if interested.

Fundraising Representative

Local company needs rep in all areas of North Carolina. Perfect opportunity for those with sales or school volunteer experience. Ideal for those who prefer working from home and want a flexible schedule. This is a commission-based opportunity with bonus plan.

Call 336-288-4424.



Diocesan Development Office: Director, Catholic Schools

Full-time director of development for Catholic schools needed. Candidate must be a college graduate with a degree in marketing, communications or related field; have at least two years of experience in fund raising and marketing; and have experience with Microsoft Office.

Responsibilities include: managing two regional annual giving campaigns; handling all aspects of newsletters and annual report production; and serving as liaison to regional schools, foundation boards, and parish-based schools.

Please submit resume by October 6 to: Jim Kelley at jkkelley@charlottediocese.org or Diocesan Office of Development, 1123 S. Church Street, Charlotte NC 28203-4003.

For additional job information, call Jim Kelley at 704-370-3301.



Growing in faith



PHOTO BY CAROLE MCGROTTY

Father Wilbur Thomas (center), pastor of the Basilica of St. Lawrence in Asheville, stands with Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Daughters of the Americas outside the basilica Aug. 27.

Catholic Daughters welcome members, officers to court

BY CAROLE MCGROTTY
CORRESPONDENT

ASHEVILLE — The Catholic Daughters of the Americas' Court Asheville 412 recently installed new members and officers.

Seventeen new members were installed during the ceremony that took place at the Basilica of St. Lawrence in Asheville Aug. 27.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information about the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, go online to www.catholicdaughters.org.

Flanked by Knights of Columbus, members processed toward the altar, where Father Wilbur Thomas, pastor of the basilica, installed Marjorie Maxwell as regent.

Other new officers were Pauline Lees, vice regent; Lisa Ross, secretary; Diane Wright, financial secretary; and Marge Sposata, treasurer.

The Catholic Daughters — founded in 1903 by the Knights of Columbus — is currently the largest organization of Catholic lay women in the Americas.

The Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Daughters often support each other in a variety of their charitable efforts.

Council of faith and charity



COURTESY PHOTO

Officers of the Greensboro Council of Catholic Women (GCCW) are pictured in this undated photo. Founded in September 1971, GCCW is a charitable organization open to Catholic women in Greensboro.

Goals of the group are to share and enrich the spiritual lives of its members, reach out to the larger community beyond members' parishes and to share a variety of social and educational activities.

Activities include luncheons with speakers, Christmas tea socials, Lenten mini-retreats and memorial Masses for deceased members, family and friends of the group.

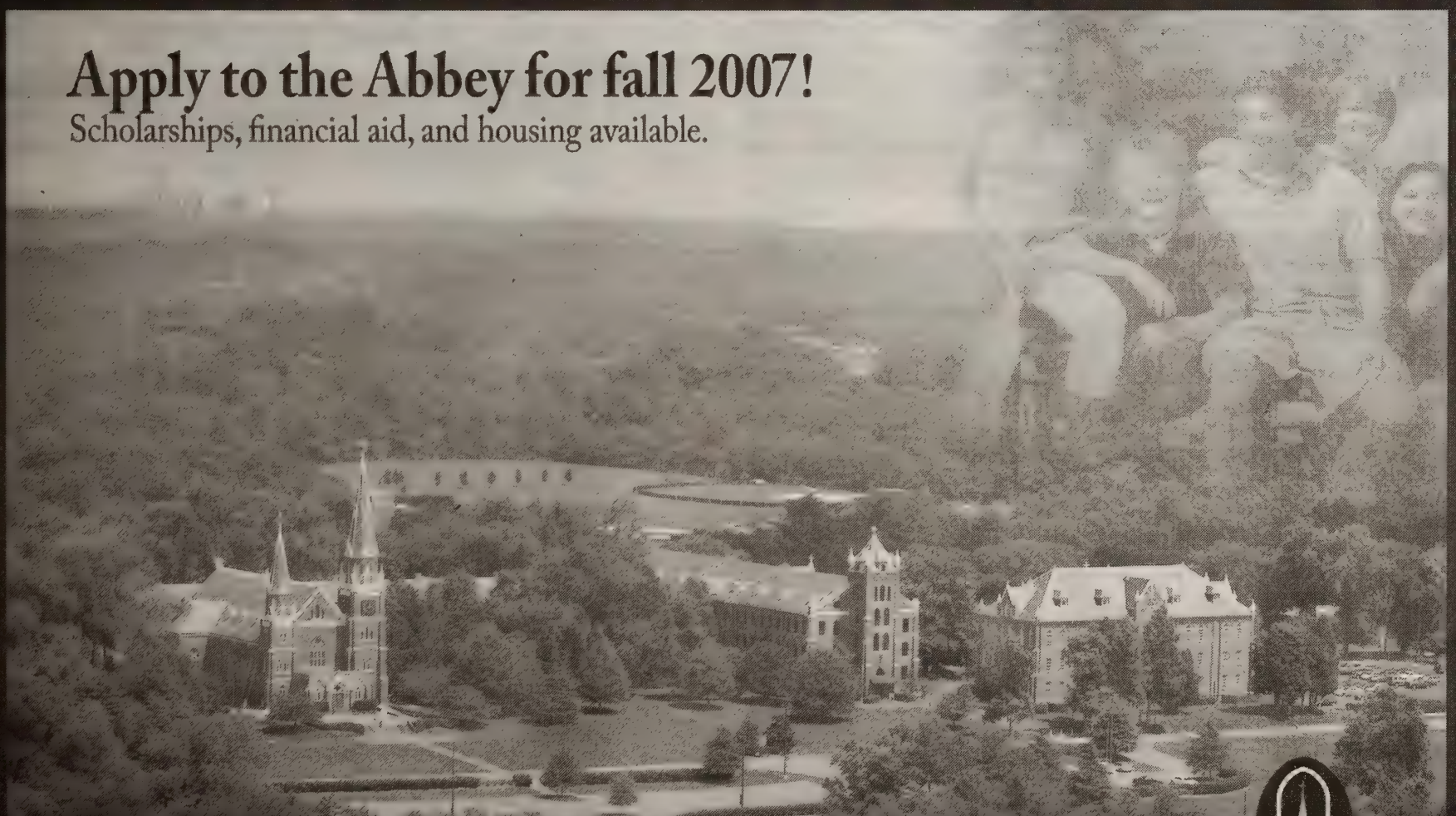
Pictured (clockwise from left): Phyllis Regan, first vice president; JoAnn Stevens-Church, president; Carmen Wood, second vice president; Mary Lou Knowles, treasurer; and Barbara Nalevanko, secretary.

ATTENTION READERS! HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?

We are looking for articles and photos of events from your parish, ministry, organization. Please contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.


Apply to the Abbey for fall 2007!

Scholarships, financial aid, and housing available.



Inquire and apply online at:
BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

For more information call 1.888.222.0110 or email: admissions@bac.edu


**BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE**

IN ALL THINGS, GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

C.S. Lewis meets YouTube

Filtering necessary to find important media messages

"The scholar has lived in many times and is therefore in some degree immune from the great cataract of nonsense that pours from the press and microphone of his own age."

— C.S. Lewis

It seems an odd admission, because I used to make my living in broadcasting, but whenever commercials come on the radio or the television, I change channels.

Part of the reason is that the commercials are usually annoying, but it is more than that. The commercials interrupt the flow of the program. How can you listen to Mozart or a serious discussion about Iraq one minute, only to be told in the next minute that you need a new vacuum cleaner, a bigger car or whiter teeth?

What I am doing with my endless surfing of the dial is filtering. All of us filter media as we go through the day. We pay attention to some messages, avoid others and tune out the majority.

My personal filter is set to receive more programs of history, nature and sports and fewer "reality" shows and commercials.

There is such an engulfing wave of media surrounding the world that we cannot sit passively and let it wash over us, lest we all end up like commercialized characterizations of real people. Why are the names Paris and Britney going through my mind right now?

C.S. Lewis, the great Christian apologist and author of "The Chronicles of Narnia," seemed to understand this need for filtering. I thought of Lewis and filtering as I recently clicked through YouTube.com. YouTube is the current hot Web site. Like the Web itself, it can be a purveyor of beauty or a vast wasteland. It depends on how you set your filter.

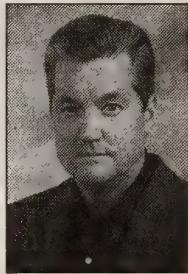
YouTube houses millions — yes, millions — of short videos. According to Wikipedia, an online encyclopedia, in a little more than a year YouTube has become the 13th most popular Web site in the world. The site records 20 million visits per month. Every day a staggering 65,000 new videos are uploaded.

As you might expect with those kinds of numbers, much of what can be seen on YouTube is silly, incomprehensible to anyone not in junior high or simply a waste of time; the "great cataract of nonsense" to which Lewis refers.

The site features endless whiny diatribes from teenagers whose parents don't seem to understand. Amateur lip sync videos are another staple, as are sporting-event highlights. Renditions of

Guest Column

DAVID HAINS
COMMUNICATIONS
DIRECTOR



the head-butting incident at the World Cup soccer game are still being viewed.

But there are some real gems, and thanks to search technology that allows you to filter out the unwanted, you don't have to look very hard to find them.

I entered the phrase "Catholic faith" and found a handful of terrific, short videos. One called "Father Jock" tells the story of a college football player who became a priest. Another, "Father Jeffrey," is a series of short talks on subjects ranging from the late Steve Irwin to the shallowness of the MTV awards.

Other videos present sacred images set to lovely music or a thought-provoking encounter among a pair of Catholic college students and an evangelical Christian.

If you enter "Catholic religion," you get a different set of videos that are just as interesting and inspiring. The word "Catholic," however, by itself brought up several samples from the irreverent cartoon show, "South Park."

Avoiding the garbage on YouTube means selecting your search terms carefully. And if a video somehow gets through your filter, you can always send it to the oblivion of cyberspace by clicking the stop button. How easy is that?

Father Jeffrey recognizes, as Lewis did, that much of the media is nonsense, but in one of his videos he states that we can't write off the media because we find some of it offensive. Amen!

Water from the ocean may be undrinkable, but that doesn't stop us from fishing.

David Hains is director of communications for the Diocese of Charlotte. Contact him at dwhains@charlottediocese.org.

A podcast of this column is available on the diocesan Web site at www.charlottediocese.org.

Walking with the Lord

Part 5 of a 7-part series on the second annual Eucharistic Congress

One of the most memorable parts of our first Eucharistic Congress was the eucharistic procession. Last year, Bishop Peter J. Jugis, accompanied by thousands of the faithful, carried the Blessed Sacrament in procession through the streets of uptown Charlotte for the first time in the history of our diocese.

Many participants remarked on the unexpected display of reverence shown by construction workers, police officers and other passersby. And just a few months ago, a similarly unprecedented event took place along the streets of downtown Asheville during the diocesan Eucharistic Conference.

Clearly, eucharistic processions are among the most unforgettable and significant features of the Eucharistic Congress and, indeed, the practice of our Catholic faith. But what is the meaning of these eucharistic processions?

A book by Pope Benedict XVI released not long ago is a compilation of talks and sermons given by then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger and offers a few insights into this mystery of our faith.

"God Is Near Us: The Eucharist, the Heart of Life" contains a sermon that the pontiff delivered many years ago on the feast of Corpus Christi. He described the hallmark Corpus Christi procession of the Blessed Sacrament as "standing before the Lord, walking with the Lord and kneeling before the Lord."

Standing before the Lord. The mystery of standing before the Lord begins with the recognition that the holy Eucharist is the true Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, not merely a symbol or representation.

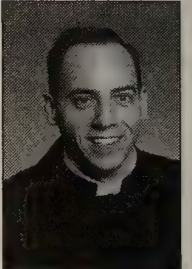
To stand before the Eucharist is indeed to stand before the Lord. But the Holy Father states this realization: "The Eucharist is not a private business, carried on in a circle of friends, in a club of like-minded people, who seek out and get together with those who already suit them; ... thus the [Mass] is the public worship of all those whom the Lord calls, irrespective of their personal make-up."

"It is particularly characteristic of him, as he demonstrated in his earthly life, to have men of diverse groupings, social backgrounds, and personal views brought together in the greater whole of his love."

Pope Benedict concludes, "We are standing for the Lord. And the more we

Guest Column

FATHER
MATTHEW
BUETTNER
GUEST COLUMNIST



stand for the Lord and before the Lord, the more we stand with one another, and our capacity to understand one another grows again, the capacity to recognize each other as people, as brothers and sisters."

Walking with the Lord. Standing before the Lord unites us into marching formation, preparing us for the mystery of walking with the Lord.

The Holy Father continues, "The Lord who has become our bread is thus showing us the way, is in fact our way, as he leads us ... thus [the eucharistic procession] expounds the meaning of our whole life, of the whole history of the world: marching toward the promised land, a march that can keep on in the right direction only if we are walking with him who came among us as bread and Word."

Kneeling before the Lord. Finally, kneeling before the Lord brings to completion the great mystery of Christ truly among us in the holy Eucharist.

The Holy Father concludes, "The one whom we adore is not some distant power. He has himself knelt down before us to wash our feet."

"And that gives to our adoration the quality of being unforced, adoration in joy and in hope, because we are bowing down before him who himself bowed down, because we bow down to enter into a love that does not make slaves of us but transforms us."

Standing before the Lord, walking with the Lord and kneeling before the Lord compose the mystery that expresses the truth that "God is near us."

Join us Oct. 6-7 at the second Eucharistic Congress, where we will once again be walking with the Lord in procession through the streets of uptown Charlotte.

Father Buettner is pastor of St. Dorothy Church in Lincolnton.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letters or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

The church and the United Nations

Q. What is the teaching of the Catholic Church about the United Nations? The attitude we hear often today is that it is a travesty, an effort to take away our national pride and independence. It has done many good things, but some of its actions have been far from perfect. Has the church ever condemned this organization? (Pennsylvania)

A. Your feelings are perhaps understandable. Anything human is imperfect. And any effort to place nearly 200 nations representing 6 billion people around a table to wrestle with the most complex issues of international justice and peace is bound to be about as imperfect and frustrating as one could imagine.

While the faults of the United Nations, therefore, are many, the position of the Catholic Church has been clear from the beginning. The United Nations is the only world organization attempting not only to "facilitate mere coexistence among nations," but to "organize the brotherly collaboration of the world's peoples."

This purpose reflects "the ideal of which mankind dreams on its pilgrimage through time." The quotes are from Pope Paul VI, speaking at the United Nations.

"The edifice you have constructed," he said, "must never fail. ... You mark a stage in the development of mankind

from which retreat must never be admitted."

This has been the Catholic position since the United Nations was founded. Popes Pius XII, John XXIII, Paul VI and John Paul II have recognized its weaknesses, but insist it is still the best hope for world peace and order.

This supportive attitude is confirmed by the presence of a permanent Vatican observer at the United Nations, and the unflagging encouragement and support the church has offered to major U.N. agencies since its founding after World War II.

No one was a more fervent champion of the United Nations than the late Pope John Paul II. Speaking to the U.N. General Assembly in October 1995, for example, he declared, "My words are meant as a sign of the interest and esteem of the Apostolic See and of the Catholic Church for this institution."

"They echo the voices of all those who see in the United Nations the hope of a better future for human society."

A major obstacle to this hope is, of course, a perverted form of national autonomy, a subject to which Pope John Paul returned several times.

"Nationalism, particularly in its most radical forms, is thus the antithesis of true patriotism," he said. "Today we must ensure that extreme nationalism does not continue to give rise to new forms of the

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN
DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



aberrations of totalitarianism."

The United Nations, he continued, is capable of being a "moral center" developing a shared awareness of the world as a family of nations, a family of mutual trust and respect. In this, as in any "authentic family, the strong do not dominate; instead the weaker members, because of their very weakness, are all the more welcomed and served."

The mere reading of those words is a painful reminder of how far this nation and others, and the United Nations, have yet to go on the journey toward an orderly and just world.

But the stand of our church is certain. There exists no other institution on earth to give us hope that, as Pope John Paul said, "with the help of God's grace we can build in the next century (our current century) and the next millennium a civilization worthy of the human person, a true culture of freedom."

Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address, or e-mail: jjdietzen@aol.com.

Keeping up with life's changes

Guest Column

JUDY SMITH
GUEST COLUMNIST



As the seasons change from summer to fall, it can be a good time to reflect on estate plans and other arrangements that provide for family members and other loved ones.

The foundation of most estate plans is a will, used either alone or in conjunction with a living trust, life insurance policies, retirement accounts, joint ownership arrangements, or other financial management plans.

When planning a will, it is best to work with professional advisors who are experienced in estate planning so that your goals and objectives will be met with a minimum of fees, concerns and delays.

Once your plans are in place, it is also important to review them every few years. Minor changes can usually be accomplished through simple adjustments to existing plans. Major changes, on the other hand, sometimes require a fresh look at your overall arrangements.

A variety of factors — some obvious, some not — can affect your estate plan, including:

- Births, marriages or deaths within your family;
- A change in your marital status;
- Significant increases or decreases in your financial status;
- The inability or unavailability of the named executor, personal representative or trustee to settle your estate;

- Moving to another state or acquiring property in a different state;
- Selling or giving away property;
- Changes in federal and/or state tax laws; and

- A desire to include charitable gifts as part of your estate plan.

You may also wish to include your parish, Catholic school, agency, the diocese or the diocesan foundation as a beneficiary to receive a portion of the assets remaining in your estate. You simply stipulate whether you wish for the entire balance, a specific amount, or a percentage of your estate to be designated as your gift.

Keep in mind that you can provide that a gift be made only if your other beneficiaries are unable to receive the funds. This way you can assure that your heirs' future security is not jeopardized in any way.

Up-to-date plans ensure that your wishes will be followed and bring you, and those who rely on you, added peace of mind.

Judy Smith is director of planned giving for the Diocese of Charlotte. Call her at (704) 370-3320 or e-mail jmsmith@charlottediocese.org.

Neighborhoods near and far

Love, kindness can create better world for all

"When Jesus said to 'love your neighbor,'" said my friend, holding her hands over her ears to block out the noise of her neighbor's chain saw next door, "he surely didn't mean that guy."

We've all felt that way at one point or another. Sometimes we are that neighbor. Sometimes we both share the blame.

Certain branches of the single tree in my backyard hang over onto our neighbor's property. He doesn't like how berries from the tree drop into his yard in late summer and has requested that we chop it down.

We love the tree, though, so we told him we'd look into having someone professionally trim down the offending branches. That's when the misunderstanding happened: He cut the tree branches himself.

Last week we had yet another disagreement about the tree and afterward stalked back into our respective houses feeling terrible about the situation, no doubt uttering sentences such as my friend's above.

For many people, living in a neighborhood — whether in cul-de-sac suburbia or close-packed city — no longer resembles a 1950s-type model of care and cooperation.

For some, "neighborhood" is an

alien world. For others, it's a hostile atmosphere, a war zone.

It's not easy, these days, to live as neighbors.

My grandmother tells me of the days when the grass in each backyard on her street was completely unencumbered by the maze-like wood and chain-link fences that now divide house from house.

Tight-knit neighbors used to share everything from stories to lawn tools on summer nights.

Now, she says, her neighbors don't even know each other's first names.

If you're a teen growing up today, being in a close-knit neighborhood is often more the exception than the rule. It isn't as easy to love your neighbors as you want it to be — especially not when they're noisy, rude, unfriendly or any number of things.

In college I'd regularly hear thudding rap beats from the basement and crashing rock riffs from the guys next door when I was trying to sleep at midnight.

Growing up, the mere touch of my dog's feet to a nearby lawn while I was walking him earned us screaming verbal abuse from the lawn's owner.

My friend's neighbor wakes up at 6 a.m. on Saturday to tackle noisy home improvement projects. And that's only

Coming of Age

KAREN DIETLEIN
OSBORNE
CNS COLUMNIST



the beginning of the "neighbor stories" I've heard or experienced.

It would be easy to be annoyed at these people — to put up fences of our own, to turn up the volume and stay in our own yards, blocking them out. It would be easy, but I don't think it would be right.

The world the teens of today are inheriting is a world growing smaller every year, growing more interdependent, tied together by technology and other forces. If you can imagine the world as one big modern neighborhood, you can also imagine what might be going on between people in the "houses."

The fences countries put up between themselves, the angry misunderstandings and fights both small and large, attitudes of entitlement that advance one's own "improvement projects" at the cost of neighbors' happiness show that it's time to turn all this around.

Jesus did mean "that guy" — the one my friend felt should be excluded from being loved. The effort we make in loving him — chain saw and all — shows us how we can love our neighbors on a larger level and create a world in which we all will want to live.



JOIN US FOR THE SECOND DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS FRIDAY AND SATURDAY — OCTOBER 6 & 7

FRIDAY: 7 pm — Sacred Music Concert followed by speaker **Raymond Arroyo** (EWTN host of "The World Over Live") presenting "The Big Way of Mother Angelica." Nocturnal Adoration will follow at St. Peter Catholic Church, Tryon St. at 1st Street.



SATURDAY: 8 am-5:30 pm — Lauds; programs and speakers for adults, Hispanics, teens and children; Eucharistic Procession through uptown; and closing Mass. Also, the Congress will include Eucharistic Adoration, sacrament of Reconciliation, culture hour in several native languages, and vendors offering books, CDs, sacred objects and many more unique items. See schedule below.

CHARLOTTE CONVENTION CENTER — COLLEGE ST. & STONEWALL
NO ADMISSION FEE — ALL ARE WELCOME! SIGNING AVAILABLE

CONGRESS SPEAKERS



Bishop Peter J. Jugis

Leading the Eucharistic Procession and celebrating Mass



Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin

Eucharistic Holy Hour Homily



Maureen O'Boyle

WBTV News Anchor

Master of Ceremonies

General Track



Mary Beth Bonacci — "The Mission to Raise Chaste Teens" — Internationally known speaker and writer, her work appears frequently in Catholic journals and newspapers. She will address key issues facing young people — and, in fact all of us — regarding faith, chastity and our culture.



Jeff Cavins — "The Mission of Peer Evangelization" — After 12 years as a Protestant pastor, Jeff Cavins returned to the Catholic Church where he is recognized both nationally and internationally as an exciting public speaker who has a deep love for Jesus Christ.



Father James E. Goode, OFM, Ph.D. — "The Mission of Building a Culture of Life" — Father Goode is the leading Black Catholic evangelist in the United States. Known as the "Dean of Black Catholic preachers," Father Goode preaches the Gospel message of "blessed assurance" and the dignity of all human life throughout the world.



Father Leo Patalinghug — "The Mission to be Beautiful" — Father Patalinghug is making a return visit to the Eucharistic Congress. Father Patalinghug, associate pastor of St. John Catholic Church in Westminster, Md., entertains and inspires with a fast-paced, often humorous talk including break-dancing and karate.

Hispanic Track



Dr. Fernando Casanova — "The Mission of Being Catholic" — Dr. Casanova, a Puerto Rican theologian, is known for his enthusiastic and charismatic talks about the Catholic Church, its doctrine and its morality.



Father Juan Rivas — "The Mission of Catholic Media" — Born in Guadalajara, Mexico, Father Rivas is a priest member of the congregation of the Legionaries of Christ, ordained in 1982. For 18 years he has directed and produced the daily radio and television shows of Hombre Nuevo, evangelization programs explaining Catholicism with clarity, vigor and conviction.

Teen Track

Mary Beth Bonacci — "Mission of Chastity"

Jeff Cavins — "Mission of Peer Evangelization"

Father Leo Patalinghug — "The Mission to be Super Heroes"

Children's Track (K — 5th grade)

Open to children in grades kindergarten through 5th grade, the program features a variety of fun-filled activities for children to discover Christ in their everyday lives. Children will also have a special adoration session.

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, October 6

7 pm — Concert of Sacred Music followed by

Raymond Arroyo — Presenting

"The Big Way of Mother Angelica"

10 pm — Nocturnal Adoration at St. Peter Catholic Church

SATURDAY, October 7

8 am — Lauds

8:30 am-1pm — Speakers, programs for adults, Hispanics, teens, kids

12:15 pm — Culture hour in native languages

1:30 pm — Eucharistic Procession through uptown

Check www.GoEucharist.com for the latest Eucharistic Congress updates!



'Equal in dignity' in God's eyes

*Catechists explore
faith formation
for persons with
disabilities*

BY JOANITA M.
NELLENBACH
CORRESPONDENT

HICKORY — Two girls approach a third, who is sitting in a wheelchair.

"Do we call you handicapped or disabled?" they ask.

"Call me Charlotte," the girl replies.

Sue Rebich showed that cartoon by Morrie Turner, a cartoonist known for his integrated comic strips, during the parish catechetical leader in-service session, "Faith Formation for Persons with

See DIGNITY, page 12

Respecting 'every stage of life'

*Pope endorses adult
stem-cell research*

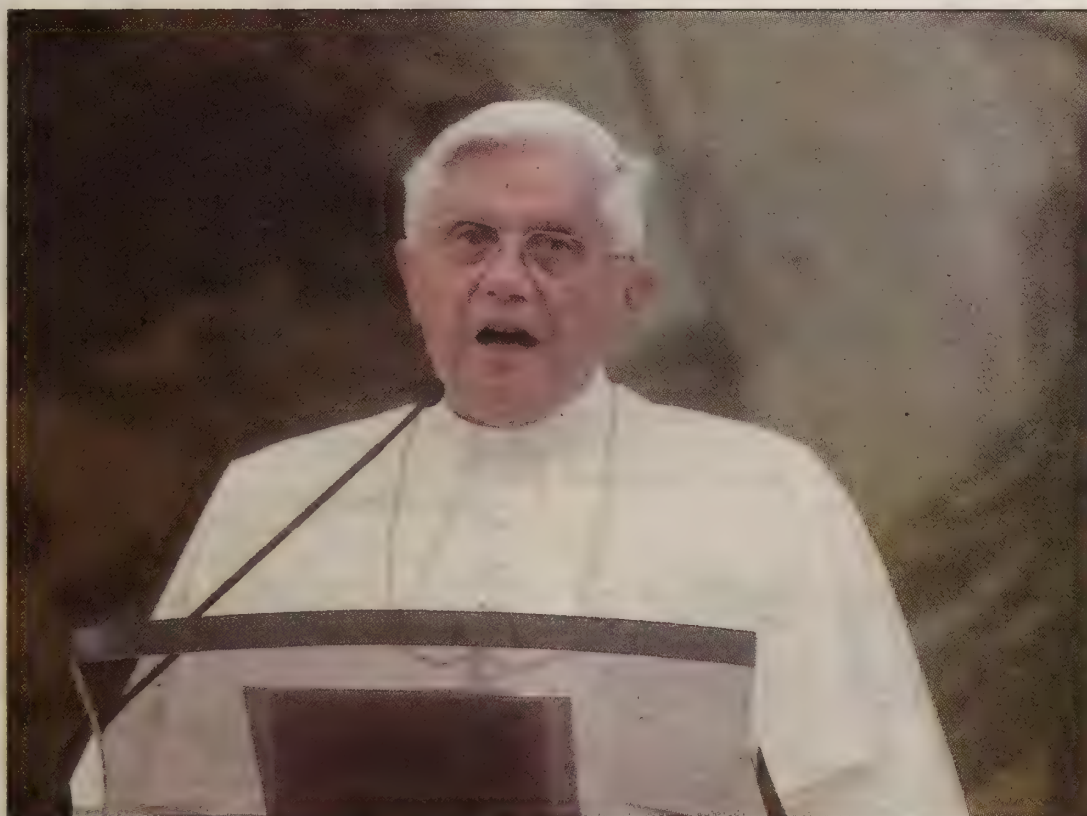
BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ROME — Pope Benedict XVI endorsed stem-cell research and therapy utilizing stem cells harvested from adults and umbilical-cord blood.

He also called for researchers and doctors to work more closely together in applying the latest research.

See STEM CELLS, page 6

Amid criticism and cultures



CNS PHOTO BY DARIO PIGNATELLI, REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI speaks during his Sunday Angelus prayer at his summer residence in Castel Gandolfo, Italy, Sept. 17. The pope said he was "deeply sorry" that Muslims were offended by his reference to a historical criticism of Islam, which he said does not reflect his own opinion.

*Pope reiterates
his regret that
his comments
offended Muslims*

**BISHOP JUGIS SAYS DIALOGUE
OF CULTURES NEEDED**

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — The same day as Pope Benedict XVI again expressed regret that his remarks on Islam had been misunderstood and emphasized his "profound respect" for Muslims, Bishop Peter J. Jugis was discussing the topic on a Charlotte-based radio station.

"It is a timely issue,"

See ISLAM, page 8

MORE COVERAGE

Page 14 | Media botch pope's message

Page 15 | Bishop Jugis on the West, God and culture



COURTESY PHOTO

Father Mark Lawlor, pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Church in Charlotte, celebrates Mass at St. Martin de Porres Church in Aguaytia, Peru in August.

Helping across borders

Charlotte parish to assist Peruvian mission

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — A Charlotte parish is hoping to offer assistance to a Catholic mission in the jungles of Peru.

Father Mark Lawlor, pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Church in Charlotte, recently returned from the South American country. During his Aug. 21-31 trip, he established an outreach program between his parish and St. Martin de Porres Church, a small church in the town of

Aguaytia, in the Apostolic Vicariate of Pucallpa.

"In a place like south Charlotte, we are blessed with the ability to have a pastoral outreach," said Father Lawlor.

"In many places in Latin America, there are dedicated clergy, religious and laity serving in vibrant parishes, but their material resources are usually very limited," he said.

Peru is a nation of some

See MISSION, page 5

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

RACING FOR THE POOR



CNS PHOTO BY MICHAEL LISA

Lis Mara and driver Brian Sears cross the finish line in first place at the \$500,000 Breeders Crown Open Pace at the Meadowlands in New Jersey in late July. The proceeds from the win will be donated to Food for the Poor, a Christian relief organization based in Deerfield Beach, Fla., that provides food, education, housing and medical aid to 16 countries in the Caribbean and Latin America.

How does a racehorse build a house? By donating winnings

DEERFIELD BEACH, Fla. (CNS)—How does a racehorse build a house?

No, there's no punch line. If the horse is 4-year-old Lis Mara, it's by winning races and donating the proceeds to Food for the Poor, a Deerfield Beach-based Christian relief organization that provides food, education, housing and medical aid to 16 countries in the Caribbean and Latin America.

Eight homes will be constructed in Cap Haitien, Haiti, thanks to the winnings donated by the horse's co-owners, Mike Gulotta and Andy Willinger. The street where the houses will stand is to be named Lis Mara Drive.

"Lis Mara bought those houses for homeless people in Haiti, and he will be buying a lot more," said Gulotta, a member of Immaculate Conception Church in Annandale, N.J.

The horse has won more than \$993,000 in 2006, including the \$500,000 Breeders Crown Open Pace this summer at the Meadowlands in New Jersey and

the Sept. 7 Des Smith Classic in Ottawa, where Lis Mara set a Canadian record.

"Lis Mara is clearly the best colt we have had," said Gulotta of his MJG Racing Stables in Annandale. "We built three houses in Haiti after he won the Canadian Pacing Derby because I wanted the good to be shared. You cannot be blessed like this and not give back."

Robin Mahfood, president of Food for the Poor, said Haiti's poor "simply need a chance at survival."

"Our poverty-stricken brothers and sisters were born into a world they did not ask for," he added. "Gulotta and Willinger have helped to renew their faith in a merciful God by helping to establish a new community."

Gulotta said he hopes the community will eventually have 100 houses funded by the racehorse's winnings.

"People in Haiti are in such dire need," he said. "If we can help them, while enjoying the fruits of Lis Mara's victories, then it is a wonderful combination."

Retake moral high ground on detainees, bishop urges senators

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. must regain the moral high ground when it comes to treatment of detainees, said the chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on International Policy.

In a Sept. 15 letter to U.S. senators, Bishop Thomas G. Wenski of Orlando, Fla., asked their support for legislation that unambiguously rejects torture and cruel treatment of prisoners.

The letter came as the Senate weighed legislation that would govern treatment of those detained by the United States, particularly at locations such as the U.S. facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, where they are not subject to rights granted prisoners on U.S. soil.

The legislative efforts follow reports over the last couple of years about the mistreatment of detainees held by the U.S. military or the federal government.

Bishop Wenski noted that last year the U.S. bishops supported provisions in the Defense Appropriations Act setting uniform standards for interrogation and

prohibiting cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment of people under the control of the U.S. government.

"When Congress adopted them, the United States began to answer the profound moral question of how we should treat detainees," Bishop Wenski wrote. "This issue has a major impact on human dignity and on the way the United States is viewed abroad."

Since that bill was signed into law, the White House has encouraged revisions that would allow conditions under which the United States is not bound to follow restrictions on how interrogations are conducted.

Bishop Wenski's letter said U.S. troops and citizens abroad benefit from the Geneva Conventions' standards.

"Preserving the strong U.S. commitment to humane and ethical treatment of detainees would continue your efforts to restore the moral credibility of the United States at a crucial time," he said.

Diocesan planner

ALBEMARLE VICARIATE

HAMLET — St. James Church, 1018 West Hamlet Ave., will host a free *Music Extravaganza* Sept. 29 at 7 p.m. Lourdes Montgomery will perform with the St. James English and Spanish choirs and musicians and singers from Sacred Heart Church in Wadesboro. For more information, call (910) 582-8776.

HAMLET — St. James Church, 1018 West Hamlet Ave., will host a free *Bilingual Music Workshop* Sept. 30. A workshop devoted to bilingual liturgical celebrations will be offered in Spanish, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.; followed by a workshop in English, 1-3 p.m. A light lunch will be provided on Saturday at 12 p.m. Register by Sept. 27 by calling (910) 582-8776.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — St. Ann Church, 3635 Park Rd. will present a *Polka Mass* Sept. 30 at 4:30 p.m. Father Frank Perkovich based the music for this Mass on Polish, Slavic and German folk songs. Please join us for this exciting family worship experience, complete with accordions. For more information, call the church office at (704) 523-4641.

CHARLOTTE — The St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity of the Secular Franciscans will be holding a *Transitus Service* in memory of the death of St. Francis of Assisi, Oct. 3 at 7 p.m. The service will be held at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1400 Suther Rd. All are welcome to attend. For more information, call Bernadette Sewak at (704) 782-6932.

MINT HILL — St. Luke Church, 13700 Lawyers Rd., and the N.C. Council of Churches

and Interfaith Power and Light are sponsoring a viewing of "*An Inconvenient Truth*" Oct. 5 at 6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center of the church. "*An Inconvenient Truth*" is an examination of global warming and its solutions. Discussion will follow the film. Childcare will be provided. If you would like to attend, please contact Amber Ockerbloom at (704) 649-8179.

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., hosts a *First Friday Women's Retreat*, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. in Room 239 of the New Life Center, following the 9 a.m. Mass. The program for Oct. 6 will be "Liturgy of the Hours for the Laity." For more information, call Marie Grzeskiewicz at (704) 542-9748.

CHARLOTTE — The second annual *Blanket Banquet for the Homeless of Uptown Charlotte* will take place in front of St. Peter Church, 507 S. Tryon St., immediately following the 4:30 p.m. Mass to close the Eucharistic Congress Oct. 7. Donations of blankets and men's socks and undergarments are needed. For more information or to volunteer to help with the meal, please call Greg or Cindy Platko at (704) 375-0901 or e-mail gplatko@carolina.rr.com.

CHARLOTTE — The *Semi-Annual Rosary Rally* will be held Oct. 15, at 3 p.m. St. Patrick Cathedral, 1621 Dilworth Rd. East. This 32-year diocesan tradition will include the holy rosary, a eucharistic procession and Benediction. For more information, call Tina at (704) 846-7361.

CHARLOTTE — Do you have questions on what the Catholic Church teaches about life, death and dying? Dr. David Williams, chair of the theology department of Belmont Abbey College, will speak on *Life, Death and Dying: Perspectives from Scripture and Tradition*, Sep. 30 at 10 a.m., in Biss Hall at St. Peter Church, 507 S. Tryon St. Free parking in the parking lot below ground to the left of the church. For more information, call Constance Loveall at (803) 548-3356.

CHILDREN'S CONSIGNMENT SALE

Quality infant and children's clothing, furniture and accessories — plus, maternity clothes!

Saturday, October 14th 8 am - 1 pm
(half price: 11:30 - 1 pm)

CONSIGNERS CALL: 704-542-8866

Christian Mothers' Group, St. Gabriel Church
3016 Providence Road, Charlotte (corner of Sharon Amity)



THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

SEPT. 22, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 42

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Pope names foreign minister at ceremony for new secretary of state

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI appointed French Archbishop Dominique Mamberti, a 20-year veteran of the Vatican diplomatic corps, as the Vatican's foreign affairs minister.

The pope made the surprise announcement at the end of a ceremony Sept. 15 to welcome the new secretary of state, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, and bid farewell to his predecessor, Cardinal Angelo Sodano.

Archbishop Mamberti, 54, has been the apostolic nuncio in Sudan since 2002 and also in Eritrea since 2004. Since 1986 when he entered the Vatican diplomatic service, he has held posts in Algeria, Chile, the United Nations in New York and Lebanon, and has worked in the Secretariat of State's section for foreign affairs.

Born in Morocco, he is said to be knowledgeable about the Muslim world, and speaks French, Italian, English and

Spanish. He was ordained in 1981 and has degrees in civil and canon law.

Archbishop Mamberti's formal title is secretary for relations with states, head of the foreign policy section of the secretary of state's office. He replaces Italian Archbishop Giovanni Lajolo, who was made president of the commission governing Vatican City State, a position formerly held by U.S. Cardinal Edmund C. Szoka.

The ceremony at the pope's summer residence in Castel Gandolfo marked the changing of the guard in two of the top three positions at the Secretariat of State, 17 months after Pope Benedict was elected.

In separate speeches, Cardinal Bertone and Cardinal Sodano both underlined that while the Roman Curia is important, it is the pope who guides it.

To date, Pope Benedict has named three new heads of the Roman Curia's top 21 departments.

Pope deplores slaying of nun in Somalia, calls for religious respect

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI deplored the slaying of an Italian missionary nun in Somalia and called for mutual respect of religious convictions among peoples.

A telegram sent in the pope's name by the Vatican secretary of state, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, called the Sept. 17 killing of Consolata Sister Leonella Sgorbati tragic and barbaric.

The pope said he hoped that "the blood shed by such a faithful disciple of the Gospel may become a seed of hope for building authentic fraternity between peoples, in the mutual respect of the religious convictions of every person."

The papal telegram was sent to the head of the Consolata religious order in Rome and was made public Sept. 19.

Sister Sgorbati and her bodyguard were shot and killed as they left a children's hospital in Mogadishu where she worked. Authorities arrested one suspect and said they believed a second gunman was involved.

A spokesman for the Supreme Islamic Courts Council, which controls and administers Mogadishu, said there was no established link between the slaying and the widespread indignation among Muslims over a recent speech by

Pope Benedict in Germany.

The papal telegram said Sister Sgorbati had carried out her mission with joy, working in favor of children and health formation. Her work was appreciated, it said.

Islamic leaders in Somalia have condemned the killing, emphasizing that Sister Sgorbati was dedicating her efforts to the Somali people. The 65-year-old nun had worked in Africa for 35 years and had been in Somalia since 2001.

According to Sister Marzia Feura, who was with her after she was shot, Sister Leonella murmured "I forgive" three times before dying.

Bishop Giorgio Bertin, apostolic administrator of Mogadishu, told the Vatican's Fides news agency that tensions have been increasing in Somalia for a number of reasons, including inflammatory statements by extremists.

The bishop said the aim of the gunmen was to "strike a Catholic nun, any nun. The ambush was premeditated. The killers knew at what time Sister would go home for lunch and they knew where to strike."

The nun's funeral was planned for Sept. 21 in Nairobi, Kenya, where she was to be buried.

HUNTERSVILLE — A *Mass to Honor Deceased Loved Ones* is celebrated the last Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. St. Mark Church, 14740 Stumptown Rd. For more information, call Pam Schneider at (704) 875-0201.

CHARLOTTE — A *Support Group for Caregivers of a Family Member with Memory Loss* meet the last Monday of each month, 10-11:30 a.m., at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. For more information, contact Suzanne Bach at (704) 376-4135.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — The *Greensboro Council of Catholic Women* will open its 2006-07 fiscal year with a luncheon Sept. 27 at Cardinal Country Club. The speaker will be Lorraine Ahearn, metro columnist for the News & Record. For more information, please contact JoAnn Stevens-Church (336) 540-0786.

GREENSBORO — The *Catholic Daughters of the Americas* will meet Oct. 2 at 7 p.m. at Our Lady's Cottage at Our Lady of Grace Church, 2205 West Market St. For further information, please call Lawrence Kirwan at (336) 292-2776.

GREENSBORO — The *Reemployment Support Group* of St. Paul the Apostle Church will meet Sept. 28, 7:30-9 p.m., in Room 8 of the Parish Life Center, 2715 Horse Pen Creek Rd. If you are currently out of work or looking to make a career change, join us for encouragement, support and informative topics to help you in your job search. For more information, call Colleen Assal at (336) 294-4696, ext. 226.

HICKORY VICARIATE

MORGANTON — The *Cursillo Movement* of the Diocese of Charlotte is hosting a diocesan-wide *Grand Ultimeira* at Steele Creek Park Sept. 30, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Events include Mass, guitar music, group reunion, witness/spiritual talks, and hiking/nature trails for children. Please bring covered dish and a 2-liter drink. For more information, call Kathy Hack at (704) 548-1834 or e-mail hackhouse@bellsouth.net.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

MURPHY — A *Charismatic Prayer Group* meets Fridays at 3:30 p.m. in the Glenmary House of St. William Church, 765 Andrews Rd. Join us for praise music, witness, teaching, prayers and laying on of hands for those in need. For more details, call Gery Dashner at (828) 494-2683.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

WINSTON-SALEM — The annual *Blessing of the Animals* will take place Sept. 30 at 11 a.m. at Our Lady of Mercy Church, 1730 Link Rd. The blessing will be held in the lower level parking lot behind the church. Please bring your pets (and folding chairs if needed) and celebrate the feast of St. Francis in this wonderful Franciscan tradition.

CLEMMONS — A *Charismatic Prayer Group* meets Mondays at 7:15 p.m. in the eucharistic chapel of Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd. Join us for praise music, witness, teaching, prayers and petition. For more details, call Jim Passero at (336) 998-7503.

WINSTON-SALEM — St. Benedict the Moor Church, 1625 East 12th St., hosts a 12:15 p.m. prayer service, *Veni Sanctus Spiritus*, the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. All are welcome to reflect on God and refresh the spirit in the middle of a day. For more information call Sister Larretta Rivera-Williams at (336) 725-9200.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlotte-diocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Rolling blessings



CNS PHOTO BY OCTAVIO DURAN

Franciscan Fathers William Weiksnar (left) and John Coughing stand in a front-end loader Sept. 16 while going around the block of St. Anthony of Padua Church in Camden, N.J., and blessing the 53 trees that the New Jersey Tree Foundation donated to the church. To date, more than 3,000 volunteers have planted more than 2,000 trees in mainly poor sections of New Jersey.

Archbishop says Vatican has high regard for U.S. Catholic colleges

BRIGHTON, Mass. (CNS) — One of the greatest contributions Catholic institutions of higher learning can offer society is their "uncompromising Catholicity," the secretary of the Vatican Congregation for Catholic Education told an audience that included presidents and faculty members from several Boston-area Catholic colleges.

Archbishop J. Michael Miller stressed the importance the Vatican places on America's Catholic colleges and universities in an address Sept. 11 at Jesuit-run Boston College in Brighton.

"Not unaware of this country's

superpower status and despite the fact that only 6 percent of the world's Catholics are American, the Holy See recognizes the unique role of the United States in the globalized world of higher education," he said.

Archbishop Miller focused on the need for U.S. Catholic universities to embrace their Catholic identity and to foster an integral humanism, counterbalancing institutions that fragment knowledge and leave out any reference to the faith. He challenged Catholic U.S. colleges and universities to be the leaven of academic renewal.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Sept. 23 — 5 p.m.
Sacrament of confirmation
St. John Baptiste de la Salle Church,
North Wilkesboro

Sept. 24 — 11:30 a.m.
Sacrament of confirmation
St. Dorothy Church, Lincolnton

Sept. 28 — 7 p.m.
Mass
State Catholic School Educators' Conference,
Greensboro Convention Center

Oct. 1 — 10 a.m.
Red Mass
Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, Mo.

Middle school student receives Young Peacemaker Award

HIGH POINT — Charlie Greene, an eighth-grader at Immaculate Heart of Mary School in High Point, has been awarded a Young Peacemaker Award.

The award was presented by Win-Win Resolutions, a group that holds conflict-resolution workshops in schools, to Charlie and six other Triad-area middle school students during a banquet Sept. 11.

Win-Win Resolutions aims to recognize young people who work toward creating more peaceful environments in their schools.

Charlie and Carly Griffin, also an eighth-grader at Immaculate Heart of Mary School, were among the 31 Triad-area middle schoolers nominated for the award. Both Charlie and Carly were nominated by Terry Aiken, guidance counselor at Immaculate Heart of Mary School.

Charlie was selected for the award for helping Aiken create "Building Character," a five-week program focusing



Charlie Greene

on respect, bullying and diversity. Charlie helped Aiken brainstorm relevant topics for the program, and planned and organized individual sessions.

"Charlie exhibited positive role modeling through his understanding of peacefulness and active examples of good human relations," says Aiken.

Winners of the Peacemaker awards received items such as gift cards and savings bonds donated by local businesses.

After the fire



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Bishop Peter J. Jugis inspects a fire-damaged section of St. Joseph Vietnamese Church in Charlotte Sept. 18. Firefighters responded to the fire Sunday morning, Sept. 17. No injuries were reported.

"As soon as I heard of the fire, I went to see the extent of the damage," said Bishop Jugis. "I wanted to show my concern to the parishioners of St. Joseph Vietnamese Church."

"Thankfully, there were no injuries and everyone evacuated safely," he added.

The original church and community center were dedicated in November 1999, and Bishop Jugis dedicated the new church in May 2004. The facility, which includes offices and an education center, totals almost 22,300 feet.

The Vietnamese community in the Diocese of Charlotte is estimated at more than 9,000 people.

Exploring stewardship



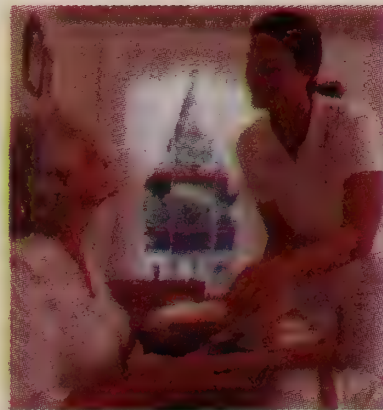
PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Parishioners visit with representatives of the various parish ministries and groups during the stewardship fair at St. Patrick Cathedral Sept. 17. Father Paul Gary, rector, said the Sept. 16-17 fair was a good way for parishioners to explore ways in which they could give back to the parish and the community.

Stewardship has been a high priority of the Diocese of Charlotte since 1988. The U.S. bishops' 1992 pastoral letter, "Stewardship: A Disciple's Response," reinforces the diocese's commitment to work toward educating and assisting parishes and individuals in adopting this way of life.

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



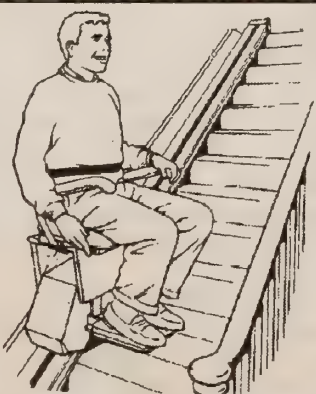
- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels.

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065

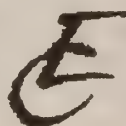


Let stairs be our problem... not yours!

Ask about our Stairway lifts.

- Easily attached to steps (not walls)
- Folds out of the way
- Fits most stairways (straight & curved)
- Very affordable (rent or buy)
- We install

Chair & Equipment Rentals & Sales, Inc.
800 Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC • (800) 333-8431
Member of St. Thomas Aquinas



FROM THE COVER



COURTESY PHOTO

Daughters of Our Lady of Mercy Sisters Maria and Ofelia stand with (from left) Luis Lecaros, seminarian Miguel Angel and Father Mark Lawlor in Campo Verde, Peru in August.

Charlotte priest visits Peru mission

MISSION, from page 1

25 million people, 90 percent of whom are baptized Catholics. A significant percentage of adults earn about \$2 per day, said Father Lawlor.

Luis Lecaros, a parishioner of St. Vincent de Paul Church and native of Lima, Peru, approached Father Lawlor last year with the idea of mission work in Latin America.

"I had been on a couple of trips. I served as a translator and chaplain for a medical mission to the Dominican Republic and was also a volunteer on a mission trip to Jamaica with a group from St. Matthew Church," said Father Lawlor.

Lecaros told Father Lawlor about his visit to a mission in the jungle area of Pucallpa, where he helped build a natural gas plant for Duke Energy.

"It sounded as though this was where the Lord was leading us," said Father Lawlor. "I gratefully accepted Luis' offer to be my guide to visit this out-of-the-way place. I was welcomed by the priests, sisters and lay persons with great hospitality."

Seven months prior to their trip, Father Lawlor began communicating via e-mail with the four sisters, members of the Daughters of Our Lady of Mercy, who provide most of the pastoral care to the Catholics of Aguaytia.

The nearest priests are about four

hours away and rotate through the mission territory; one of them celebrates a Mass in Aguaytia about every three months.

"In the Apostolic Vicariate of Pucallpa, there are only 20 priests. Many are missionaries from other countries," said Father Lawlor.

"The sisters are the Catholic presence in the community. They are known and respected in the region," he said. "They teach the faith and call forth catechists and lay leaders. They visit the sick, care for the poor and are involved in all types of charity and pastoral care."

In the absence of a regular Sunday Mass, the sisters lead Communion services.

"Without a resident pastor, the sisters do their best with pastoral counseling. They even lead prayers at funerals in the absence of a priest or seminarian," said Father Lawlor.

Because there is no convent, the four sisters live with local families. While the vicariate is helping them build a convent and pastoral center beside the church, the sisters need help with the cost of paint and furnishings.

"The sisters also need Bibles and catechetical materials for their catechists in the missions," said Father Lawlor.

To help raise funds for the sisters and their outreach, St. Vincent de Paul Church will be taking up a special second

collection at the Masses the Oct. 28-29 weekend.

"In our parish, there is a charitable spirit. If there is a hurricane or tsunami, we have special collections," said Father Lawlor.

"I am hoping that our parish will raise at least \$10,000 to assist our brothers and sisters in the missions. In the missions, it will go a long way," he said.

"Upon review of their progress, we will consider the possibility of a follow-up mission outreach," he added.

While in Peru, Father Lawlor celebrated Mass in St. Martin de Porres Church, and he and Lecaros visited with Bishop Jaime Rodriguez Salazar in the Diocese of Huanuco.

A highlight was concelebrating the solemnity of St. Rosa de Lima with Bishop Rodriguez Salazar in the cathedral, as St. Rose is a principal patron of Peru, said Father Lawlor. "It was a joyful celebration."

"The experience in the missions of Peru was a great experience of the universal church and of our brotherhood through baptism and ministry," he said. "The church is not bound by nation, culture or language. All of us are brothers and sisters by virtue of baptism."

Contact Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail kemurray@charlottediocese.org.



COURTESY PHOTO

St. Martin de Porres Church in Aguaytia, Peru.

NOTICE

THE HOLY LAND

The diocesan-sponsored pilgrimage to the Holy Land scheduled for this month has been postponed due to the unstable political situation there. The new date is

NOVEMBER 6 – 16, 2007

This fully-escorted tour with Father James Hawker, diocesan vicar of education and pastor of St. Luke Church, will take us to the holy places and acquaint us further with the life of Our Lord while we deepen our understanding of our faith.



If you are interested in receiving a brochure with full information when it becomes available, please call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald – (704) 370-3332.

Create a winning event



Having your meeting or conference at the center makes you a winner every time!

We can help you turn an ordinary conference, meeting, retreat, or banquet into a special event! You plan the event, we'll provide the environment!

1551 Trinity Lane, Hickory, NC
(828) 327-7441 or toll-free at
(888) 536-7441
info@catholicconference.org
www.catholicconference.org

**The Catholic
Conference
Center**

Pope endorses adult stem-cell research

STEM CELLS, from page 1

"The possibilities opened up by this new chapter in research are in themselves fascinating" because adult stem-cell studies have pointed to actual and potential cures of degenerative diseases that would otherwise lead to disabilities or death, the pope said at an audience for participants attending a Vatican-sponsored congress on stem-cell therapy.

"How can I not feel compelled to praise those who dedicate themselves to this research and those who support it and its costs," the pope said Sept. 16 to about 260 congress participants at the papal summer residence in Castel Gandolfo, outside Rome.

Scientists, doctors, scholars and bioethicists met in Rome Sept. 14-16 for an international conference sponsored by the Pontifical Academy for Life and the World Federation of Catholic Medical Associations.

The congress addressed the scientific possibilities and ethical implications in the use of stem cells.

The pope challenged the "frequent and unjust accusations of callousness" aimed against the church for its unwavering stance against the use of embryonic stem cells. The church has always been dedicated to curing diseases and helping humanity, he said.

The resistance the church shows toward embryonic stem-cell research is because the destruction of human embryos to harvest stem cells is "not only devoid of the light of God but is also

devoid of humanity" and "does not truly serve humanity," the pope said.

No matter how promising the goals of such research may be, he added, the ends can never justify means that are "intrinsically illicit."

"There can be no compromise and no beating around the bush" when it comes to the direct destruction of human life — even when it is just a freshly conceived embryo, he said.

True progress entails the growth of the person, which means boosting humanity's technical powers and strengthening its "moral capacity," he said.

Research using adult stem cells "deserves endorsement and encouragement when it happily merges scientific knowledge, the most advanced technology, and ethics that respect the human being at every stage of life," Pope Benedict said.

The pope also asked research centers which look to the church for "inspiration" to increase research in non-embryonic stem-cell studies and to strengthen ties with health-care providers in proposing new therapies.

Experts weigh in

During the congress, one researcher said that, while there are more than 70 different therapies that utilize adult stem cells, no cures have yet materialized using embryonic stem cells.

Umbilical-cord blood offers a complete cure for children with severe combined immunodeficiency, and it has shown positive results in brain reconstruction for some children starved of oxygen at

birth, said Colin McGuckin, professor of regenerative medicine at the British University of Newcastle upon Tyne.

Researchers have cultivated 20 different human tissues using blood from umbilical cords. Stem cells from bone marrow can make bone and cartilage as well as help regenerate blood vessels and revive damaged tissue, he said.

But despite the numerous success stories using adult stem cells, embryonic stem cells are still getting the bulk of the publicity and funding, said a number of participants.

According to Maureen Condic, an assistant professor of neurobiology and anatomy at the University of Utah, there is a legitimate fascination in finding out how a single cell develops into a complex, functioning human.

Embryonic-cell study "represents a profound and meaningful question for science and biology" she told Catholic News Service Sept. 15.

But money is also at the root of interest in embryonic stem-cell research, she said. Many who advocate for it "have a clear financial interest" in securing government funding, or "they hold patents or they're stockholders in companies" that would generate a lot of money.

Finances and fairy tales

Scientists also have had to learn to spin their research when trying to secure grants and when they speak to the press, Condic said.

Scientists involved in adult stem-cell research are not getting their fair share of the limelight, she said, because they are in a field that is very large and diverse, but the "very small handful" of people actually working with embryonic stem cells "can get together and create

a story that's much more unified and compelling."

Many adult stem-cell researchers are too busy helping patients and cannot spend the time or money advocating their work, she said.

McGuckin agreed, saying he hardly ever goes to international meetings to promote his work because of the huge costs involved in travel. He said he was paying out of pocket for all his food and a portion of his travel expenses to attend the Vatican congress.

Getting government funding in the United Kingdom is difficult for nonembryonic studies because "almost everyone" on the panel that decides which projects get money "is an embryonic scientist," he told CNS.

Richard Doerflinger, interim director of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, said in his address that drumming up "fairy tales" is more widespread in the embryonic stem-cell field because researchers need to overcome moral objections to destroying life.

He cited cases in which researchers misrepresented their work in major publications ranging from the human-cloning hoax in South Korea to the debunked claim by Dr. Robert Lanza, a U.S. researcher, that stem-cell lines were harvested without harming human embryos.

But as those claims have failed to materialize, he said, "researchers have felt obliged to exaggerate and deceive more and more to maintain public trust and financial investments in their efforts."

Science needs to be absolutely committed to the objective truth, he said.

Celebrating 25 or 50 years of marriage this year?

If you were married during 1956 or 1981, you and your family are invited to the

Annual Diocesan Anniversary Mass

at

St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in Charlotte

Sunday, November 5th — 2 pm



Please note: In order to be registered and receive an invitation, you must call your parish office by **Friday, September 29th**.

Family Life Office of Catholic Social Services

Sponsored by Catholic Social Services, Elder Ministries

Share your day and lunch with friends!

Fall Day of Reflection for Seniors



FOUR DATES & LOCATIONS TO CHOOSE FROM!

Thursday, Oct. 5 - St. Eugene, Asheville - 10 am - 3:30 pm

Deadline for registration: Thursday, Sept. 28th

Presenter & Mass celebrant: Fr. Kieran Neilson

Thursday, Oct. 19 - St. Mark, Huntersville - 10 am - 3:30 pm

Deadline for registration: Thursday, Oct. 12th

Presenter: Sr. Jeanne Marie Kienast, RSM

Mass celebrant: Bishop Peter Jugis

Thursday, Nov. 16 - Catholic Conference Center, Hickory - 9:30 am - 3:30 pm

Deadline for registration: Tuesday, Nov. 7th

Presenter & Mass celebrant: Msgr. Anthony Marcaccio

Tuesday, Nov. 21 - Curtin Hall, Belmont - 10 am - 2:30 pm

Deadline for registration: Monday, Nov. 13th

Presenter: Sr. Ann Marie Wilson

Mass celebrant: Fr. Kieran Neilson

Cost: \$12 - includes coffee and pastries, and full lunch

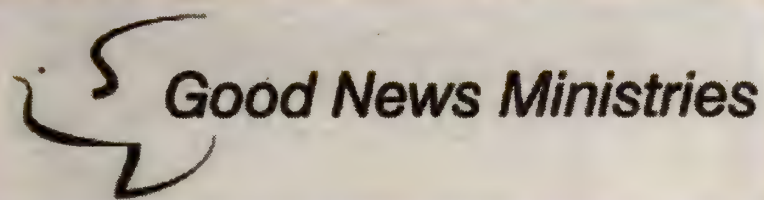
Register as a group or individually by sending your check (payable to Catholic Social Services) and your parish name to: **Sandra Breakfield, CSS Elder Ministry**

1123 S. Church St.

Charlotte NC 28203-4003

For more information call Sandra at 704-370-3220 or Sherill at 704-370-3228.

RESPECT LIFE



presents **TWO EXCITING EVENTS!**
Same place! Same time!

Mens' Rally -
Ordinary Faith is Not Enough Today
AND
High School Age Men's Rally -
Life on the Run!

Saturday, October 28th - 8 am to 4 pm
(registration: 7:30 am)
Charlotte Catholic High School
7702 Pineville-Matthews Road

Men's topics include: Transforming Fire/God's Love * Becoming Men of
Faith/Daily Spiritual Life * Receiving God's Gifts

Young men's topics include: Ready, Set, Go! * In the Running/Sustaining
Endurance * The Finish Line



Bishop Jugis,
Celebrant

Fourth bishop of Charlotte, Bishop Peter J. Jugis was ordained by Pope John Paul II at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. He has served throughout the Charlotte diocese as pastor, vicar and judge for the diocesan tribunal.

Rally Speakers



Mark Nehrbas is Executive Director of Christian Outreach and Evangelization at Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio. A popular conference speaker on the family, men's spirituality and the Holy Spirit, Mark is married and the father of nine children.



Deacon Ralph Poyo has been actively involved in ministry for more than 25 years. Currently, he is a director of faith formation in Raleigh and speaks at many youth, young adult and men's retreats; rallies and church missions. Ralph and Susan have five daughters.



Bob Rice received his master's degree in theology from Franciscan University of Steubenville where he teaches youth ministry, leads praise and worship, and works with the FUS summer conferences. Married, he is the father of four children.

PRE-REGISTRATION TICKETS INCLUDE FREE LUNCH!

Name _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Parish _____

___ Adult Men @ \$25 = \$___

___ H.S. Young Men @ \$25 = \$___ *** NOTE: all youth under age 18

MUST have permission form (available at door or call (704) 521-9949)

CLERGY/RELIGIOUS - no charge but please register. Please check ___ if available for confession in morning.

Disability seating: ___ adult ___ high school

Check one: Tickets ___ pick up/will call; or ___ send confirmation

Return form and payment (payable to Good News Ministries) BEFORE
OCTOBER 18 to: Good News Ministries, 5121 Baker Drive, Charlotte NC
28210.

Info: (704) 521-9949 and Carolinaevents2@aol.com

Catholics rallying for pro-life issues

Life Chains to be held around Diocese of Charlotte

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — Catholics will once again be standing up for life across the Diocese of Charlotte and the United States.

The U.S. Catholic Church observes October as Respect Life Month, with Respect Life Sunday falling on Oct. 1.

To help kick off the month and show their support for life, hundreds of parishes in dioceses around the country will be participating in Life Chains. In the Diocese of Charlotte, parishes will be standing along property lines of their respective churches, on city sidewalks and with other church groups in their towns. People will hold pro-life placards with messages such as "Abortion Kills Children" and "Jesus Forgives and Heals."

The U.S. bishops inaugurated the Respect Life program with a resolution they adopted in the spring of 1972. The first of what the resolution called a

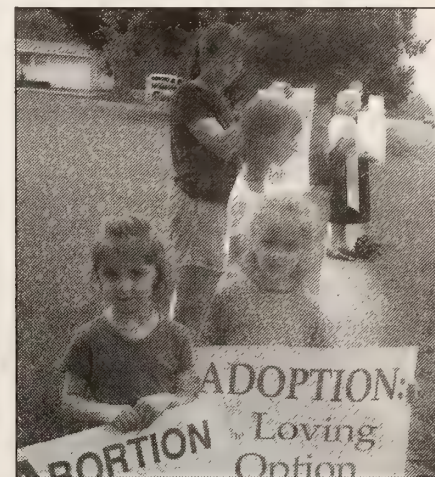


PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

People take part in a Life Chain on University City Boulevard in Charlotte on Respect Life Sunday, Oct. 3, 2004.

"week of prayer and study dedicated to the sanctity of human life and the many threats to human life in our world" was held that October.

LOCAL LIFE CHAINS

Life Chains in the Diocese of Charlotte area will be held Oct. 1, as well as at a Silent No More gathering in uptown Charlotte Sept. 29. Pro-life individuals are welcome to participate in any of the gatherings.

Participants should arrive 30 minutes before scheduled start time. Life Chains include:

FRIDAY, SEPT. 29

Silent No More/Life Chain - uptown Charlotte, corner of Trade and Tryon Sts., 12-1 p.m.

SUNDAY, Oct. 1

Charlotte:

Our Lady of the Assumption Church - Shamrock/Crestmont Dr., 1-2 p.m.

Our Lady of Consolation Church - Statesville Rd./Dearborn Ave., 12 p.m.

St. Ann Church - Park Rd./Hillside Ave., 2-3 p.m.

St. Gabriel Church - Providence/Sharon Rds., 2-3 p.m.

St. John Neumann Church - Idlewild/Valley Grove Rd., 1:30-2:30 p.m.

St. Matthew Church - Ballantyne Commons/Rea Rd., 2-3 p.m.

St. Patrick Cathedral - Kenilworth/E. Morehead, 2-3 p.m. (parking at 1225 E. Morehead)

St. Peter Church - S. Tryon/E. First St., 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

St. Thomas Aquinas Church - UNC-Charlotte at University City Blvd., 1-2 p.m.

St. Vincent de Paul Church - Old Reid/Park Rd., 12:45-1:45 p.m.

Calvary Baptist Church - Ashley/Joy Rd., 2-3 p.m.

Calvary Church - Pineville-Matthews Rd (Hwy 51)/Rea Rd., 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Christ Covenant Church - Pineville-Matthews Rd (Hwy 51)/W John St., 2-3 p.m.

Messiah Lutheran Church - Providence Rd./Windbluff Dr., 3-4 p.m.

Belmont:

Queen of Apostles Church - N. Main St./N. Central Ave., 1-2 p.m.

Concord:

Hwy 29, 2-3 p.m.

Huntersville:

St. Mark Church - Stumptown/Ranson Rd. 2-3 p.m.

(Contact Seth Dobson for info on any of the above Life Chains, 704-293-7741)

Waxhaw:

Designated areas along Routes 16 and 75 (Contact Peggy Dvorak, 704-843-3495)

Winston-Salem:

Hanes Mall Blvd. west of Stratford Rd., 2:30-3:30 p.m. (Contact Donna Dyer, 336-940-2558)

Pope reiterates regret, Muslims respond to remarks

ISLAM, from page 1

Bishop Jugis later told The Catholic News & Herald. "If we accept the program the Holy Father is presenting for a true, honest dialogue, we will come to a greater appreciation of each other's religions and live in peace and harmony in the world."

At the very core of every world religion is a message of love and peace, said Bishop Jugis.

"Jesus is the full revelation of who God is and what God wants of us, and he made love and peace the core of Christianity," said the bishop.

"The pope was asking the Muslims to tell us the true face of Islam, so we can know and enter into a meaningful dialogue with them," he said.

During his Sept. 20 general audience at the Vatican, the pope spoke of his recent trip to Germany and his academic address at the University of Regensburg Sept. 12, and the wave of Muslim indignation that followed.

The pope said his citation of the words of a medieval emperor, which sound "incomprehensibly brusque" in today's world, was "unfortunately misunderstood."

The attentive reader, he said, would have known that he was not agreeing with the polemical criticism of Islam expressed by the emperor.

It was the second time in four days the pope expressed regret at the reaction his historical critique had provoked. At his summer residence in Castel Gandolfo Sept. 17, the pope said he was "deeply sorry" that Muslims were offended by his reference to a historical criticism of Islam, which he said did not "in any way express my personal thought."

The pope said he hoped his explanation and earlier Vatican statements would serve to "appease hearts and to clarify the true meaning of my address, which in its totality was and is an invitation to frank and sincere

dialogue, with great mutual respect."

Several Muslim leaders reacted positively to the pope's comments, which were carried live on some Arab TV networks. Other Islamic groups said a fuller apology was needed.

Initial reactions

During his talk at Regensburg, the pope's main theme was how reason and faith must be reconciled in the West, but he introduced it by quoting 14th-century Byzantine Emperor Manuel II Paleologus on the errors of Islam and jihad, or holy war.

Most of the negative Muslim reaction was based on the erroneous assumption that the pope agreed with the quoted material, including the line that Islam had brought "things only evil and inhuman."

Aiman Mazyek, secretary-general of the Central Council of Muslims in Germany, initially responded that he saw no reason to be offended. The pope could not have intended to attack Islam, he said, since Christianity had its own history of violence.

Later, the chairman of the Central Council of Muslims, Ayyub Kohler, told a newspaper it would be a "grand gesture of peace and reconciliation" if the pope issued "a general apology to the Muslims for Crusades, forced baptism and the expulsion of Muslims" throughout history.

Following the pope's expression of regret Sept. 17, the Central Council of Muslims issued a statement saying it hoped the Vatican would dialogue with Muslim representatives "so that the controversy does not lead to a long-term worsening of Christian-Muslim relations."

The statement also sharply condemned "insults and threats of violence against Pope Benedict."

Constantine Dabbagh, head of the

Gaza office of the Middle East Council of Churches, criticized the pope's decision to use the medieval quotation in his lecture, saying Pope Benedict should have taken into account the sensibilities of the region in light of the current situation.

He said this behavior created problems not only for the West but also for people living in the region.

Hostile response

Firebombs erupted at several Christian churches in the West Bank, apparently in reaction to the pope's speech; no injuries were reported.

Gunmen shot into St. John Melkite Catholic Church in Nablus, West Bank, Sept. 16.

Protests popped up outside the Vatican embassy in Jakarta, Indonesia; also in London, Pakistan, Turkey and Iran. In Srinagar, the capital of the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir, protestors clashed with police and burned the pope's effigy.

The Associated Press reported Sept. 20 that a Palestinian group, the Army of Guidance, said "every place relevant to Christians" in Gaza would be a target and the attacks would continue until "the accursed infidel, the Vatican, apologizes to Muslims."

In the Iraqi city of Basra Sept. 18, some 150 people joined a protest organized by a Shiite cleric, burning the pope's effigy along with U.S., Israeli and German flags.

Rita Saadeh, a Melkite Catholic, witnessed the shooting attack on St. John Melkite Church in Nablus.

She described how the gunmen tried to kick down the door and ignited it with

gasoline, then shot bullets into the church as she and her brother watched in terror.

She told CNS the Muslim reaction was "very wrong" and carried out without having knowledge of what the pope actually said.

"Why if the pope ... says this ... must we pay? It is not clear until now what the pope said. He was comparing knowledge and faith in religion," she said. "If (Muslims) say anything about the church we don't do anything (to them.) They also say we are terrorists, but we never react in the same way."

In London, a radical British Muslim said the pope should be executed for "insulting" Mohammed, the founder of Islam. Anjem Choudary was among about 100 Muslims who gathered on the plaza of Westminster Cathedral in London to express their anger over the pope's speech.

Speaking to British reporters Sept. 17, Choudary said: "The Muslims take their religion very seriously and non-Muslims must appreciate that, and they must also understand that there may be serious consequences if you insult Islam and the Prophet."

"Whoever insults the message of Mohammed is going to be subject to capital punishment," he said. "There may be people in Italy or other parts of the world who would carry that (the killing of the pope) out."

Some Catholics attending Mass at the London cathedral argued with the protesters, but the demonstration continued peacefully without any arrests.

See ISLAM, next page

The Diocese of Charlotte invites you to Explore the BEST OF IRELAND

with Fr. Mo West, Chancellor and Vicar General

breathtaking countryside traditions of our Catholic faith legends of her people

May 8-18, 2007

Join us as we explore the spectacular countryside of Ireland and learn of our faith traditions in its holy sites. With Mass celebrated daily by Fr. Mo, and a professional, fulltime tour escort to handle all of your needs, your days will be filled with spiritual enrichment as well as Irish folklore, music and merriment!

Highlights include:

- spectacular Cliffs of Moher; Galway Bay area
- Knock - Mass at church of heavenly apparition
- Croagh Patrick - site of St. Patrick
- Kylemore Abbey; Holy Cross Abbey - true Cross relic
- Bunratty Folk Park and Castle - traditional festive dinner
- Killarney and scenic Ring of Kerry drive
- Blarney stone and woolen mill; Wicklow hand weavers
- Glass artists at Waterford Crystal Factory
- Rock of Cashel - spectacular anthropological site
- Beautiful Glendalough - 6th century monastic site of St. Kevin
- Dublin - full tour including famous Trinity College Book of Kells, St. Patrick's Cathedral, O'Connell Street, shopping - PLUS much more!

Price: Early discount price \$2,799 from Charlotte (after 2/2/07 \$2,899) includes airfare, most meals, first class hotels, all tours and admission fees to sites. Airport taxes/fees, tips and insurance are extra.

For a brochure with complete details, call Cindi Feerick at (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours at (800) 713-9800.

www.andersonfamilymed.com

Anderson Family
Medicine

...Healthcare with a heart.

Dr. E. Kelly Anderson is available to help with all of your family's healthcare needs. A graduate of the Yale University School of Medicine and the residency program at Carolinas Medical Center - Union, Dr. Anderson is now accepting patients of all ages.

Dr. E. Kelly Anderson
Parishoner
Our Lady of
Consolation, Charlotte

HOURS:

Mon, Tue, Th, Fri. 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Wednesday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, (by appt.)

704-283-8888

An NFP-only practice



**Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center**

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

IN THE NEWS

ISLAM, from previous page

Combating the controversy

Despite the protests and violence by some, others seemed to accept the pope's statements of regret. Indonesian Islamic leaders say they hope fellow Muslims will think clearly and forgive the pope.

"Pope Benedict has offered an apology to all Muslims. We should not do something violent, because it is against our religious teachings," the chairman of the Islamic scholars council told UCA News, an Asian church news agency based in Thailand, Sept. 17.

The scholar, named Amidan, said he regretted the pope's remarks because they could affect the general view of the international community about Islam.

"We might be offended by the wrong remarks of Pope Benedict, but we must be professional, think clearly and seek the best solution," he said.

In Turkey, where initially there had been harsh criticism of the papal speech, Foreign Minister Abdullah Gul said there were no plans to change Pope Benedict's visit to Turkey Nov. 28-Dec. 1. It would be the pope's first trip to a Muslim country.

The New York Times quoted Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, an observant Muslim, as saying Sept. 19: "We respect the pope and all those interested in peace and justice. ... I understand that he has modified the remarks he made."

The Vatican had issued two statements clarifying the pope's speech, saying it had been misinterpreted.

The statements stressed the papal speech was not meant to be a critical assessment of Islam but instead focused primarily on the religious shortcomings of

the West; also, that the pope respected Islam and its followers and was unequivocally in favor of interfaith dialogue.

"Indeed it was (the pope) who, before the religious fervor of Muslim believers, warned secularized Western culture to guard against 'the contempt for God and the cynicism that considers mockery of the sacred to be an exercise of freedom,'" said Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, Vatican secretary of state.

Continuing dialogue

Two leaders in U.S. Catholic-Muslim dialogue said Pope Benedict XVI's recent remarks in Regensburg, Germany, about Islam and violence in the name of religion will cause problems but will not reverse 20 years of growing Catholic-Muslim relations in the United States.

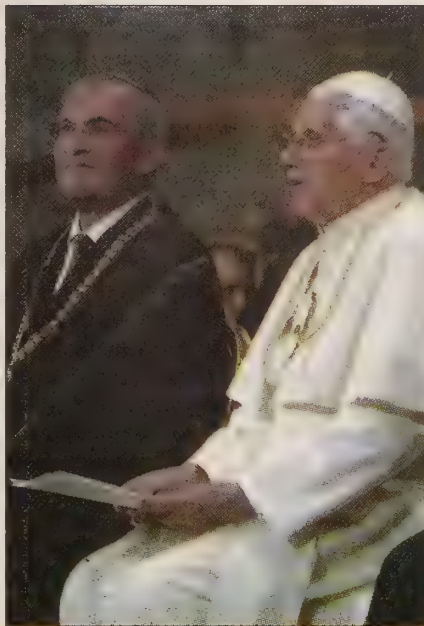
John Borelli, special assistant to the president for interreligious initiatives at Georgetown University, told Catholic News Service that as soon as he learned of the pope's remarks "I knew that there was going to be great trouble."

Sayyid M. Syeed, head of the Islamic Society of North America, said, "We were shocked and very saddened," especially since "our generation has been raised to look to the pope as a symbol of unity and a symbol of religious reverence."

"This tragedy cannot set back the clock" on Catholic-Muslim dialogue and mutual understanding, he said. "The atmosphere that we have built jointly has been tremendously cooperative and tremendously mutually appreciated."

Borelli, who was interreligious affairs specialist for the U.S. bishops for 17 years, played a key role in establishing the three regional Catholic-Muslim dialogues co-sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Syeed played a central role on the



CNS PHOTO BY CATHOLIC PRESS PHOTO, L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO

Pope Benedict XVI lectures on faith and reason at the University of Regensburg in Germany, Sept. 12. Alf Zimmer, head of the University of Regensburg, is also pictured in this photo.

Muslim side in forming the Midwest regional dialogue, which is co-sponsored by the Islamic Society of North America. He recently attended the 10th annual Muslim-Catholic retreat co-sponsored by his society and the USCCB.

He said that after learning of the pope's remarks he has been in discussions with Catholic dialogue leaders about what actions they might take, including possibly sending a delegation of Muslims to the Vatican to explain what the "true role of Islam has been through history."

Syeed told CNS he fully agreed "that violence has no role in religion."

"Religion is the spiritual side of man, the angelic side," he said. "The role of religion is to enhance, to reinforce that angelic side, to help us to overcome any tendency towards violence."

Speaking of the history of conflict between Christians and Muslims, he praised Pope John Paul II for creating "a new environment, a departure from all those stereotypes, those mutual recriminations."

"We have to work on that. We expect our present pope as well to reinforce that," he said.

Borelli said "that a situation like this can lead to a great step forward. This has been true in ecumenical and in Jewish relations, too."

Borelli said some who are not interested in dialogue might try to exploit the pope's words for their own purposes, but "we really need to listen to our Muslim partners in dialogue, who really care, and hear what they are saying. ... They don't want this to end like this; they want some kind of serious reflection why all of this — which is beneath the surface, the effects of centuries of hostility and polemics — why the effects of bitterness and suspicion so quickly re-emerge and what can we do about that."

Bishop Jugis said "such a question about the true nature of Islam must be addressed in order to pursue a meaningful dialogue of cultures and religions."

The message of love can be found in some way in all the great religious traditions, said the bishop.

"Jesus, who revealed to us the truth of God, put this message front and center in his own teaching and life," said Bishop Jugis. "He summed it up in his great commandment: 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.... You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'"

Contributing to this article were John Thavis at Vatican City; Michael Lawton in Cologne, Germany; Judith Sudilovsky in Jerusalem; Simon Caldwell in London; and Patricia Zapor and Jerry Filteau in Washington.

50th Anniversary of Our Lady of America The Immaculate Virgin

Beginning on the Feast of the North America Martyrs September 26, 1956. The Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem (Mildred Neuzil) at a Precious Blood Sisters Convent in Indiana, and continued to appear to Sister there and at a cloister in Ohio. A summarization of revelations by The Blessed Virgin Mary, under the title of "Our Lady of America," is:

- Our Lady of America expressed Her thanksgiving and encouragement to the U.S. Catholic bishops for the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception at Washington, D.C.;
- She stated Her desires that Her children honor Her by the purity of their lives, and She wishes that America be the country dedicated to Her purity;
- She often emphasized Her desire that the National Shrine of The Immaculate Conception be made a place of special pilgrimage where She wishes to be honored as Our Lady of America, The Immaculate Virgin, with a statue of this likeness placed in this Shrine at Washington, D.C.;
- Our Lady of America stated Her desires to make the whole of America Her shrine by making every heart accessible to the love of Her Son, Jesus;
- She asked Her children to reform their lives, for sanctification from within, so that when God looks at the heart of each, it resembles the Heart of His Divine Son, Jesus;
- Our Lady of America asked for acts of penance and self-denial, and for family prayer of The Rosary so that Her children will recognize The Indwelling Most Holy Trinity;
- Our Lady of America stated that peace is from within, not from without: peace will come when Her children are purified and cleansed from defilement, when Her children can recognize, adore and love The Divine Indwelling Trinity more.

The next Procession of this statue of Our Lady of America is at The Shrine of The Most Blessed Sacrament, Hanceville, AL, on October 7th, 2006 1:00PM, Feast of The Most Holy Rosary

By Thy Holy and Immaculate Conception,
Oh Mary, deliver us from evil.

Our Lady of America Center
PO Box 445, Fostoria, Ohio 44830
www.OurLadyOfAmerica.com

Copyright © 2006 • Our Lady of America Center • Fostoria OH • All Rights Reserved

ABBOTSWOOD SENIOR LIVING



For more than 17 years, Abbotswood at Irving Park has built a reputation on providing exemplary retirement living services to independent seniors. Residents enjoy the largest 1 and 2 bedroom floorplans in Irving Park, delicious meals, a full-time wellness director and month-to-month rental with NO BUY-IN FEES. Optional in-home health care services are available. Call today to schedule your personal tour.

(336) 282-8870

ABBOTSWOOD
at Irving Park

The only full service retirement living address in the heart of Irving Park
3504 Flint Street • Greensboro, NC 27405 • www.kiscoseniorliving.com

Attention: Homeowners...Have a plumbing problem? Don't Panic!

**"How To Get A Top Talent Plumber To
Show Up On-Time So You Don't Waste Time"**

You have a busy schedule and value your time. Most plumbing companies won't give you a real appointment time and keep you waiting all day for a plumber to show up. Now there's a new way to get your plumbing problem fixed, save money, and get a precise Appointment Window so you don't have to waste time waiting.

Three-Way Plumbing Services, Inc.

We're The Good Guys Your Friends Told You About®

(704) 535-4795 Charlotte

(704) 795-9349 Concord

Serving The Entire Charlotte Diocese Area

www.3wayplumbing.com

Proud member of St. James Church

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Ed Sullivan, Catholic press cartoonist, dies at 77

SALEM, Ohio (CNS) — Edmund R. "Ed" Sullivan Jr., a nationally syndicated Catholic press cartoonist and artist, died of cancer Aug. 26 at his home. He was 77.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Sept. 2 at St. Paul Church, in Salem, where he had been a member.

Sullivan, who retired in 1999 as associate editor of the Catholic Exponent, newspaper for the Diocese of Youngstown in northeastern Ohio, had continued to produce his "Beyond the Stained Glass" cartoons for some 35 to 50 diocesan newspapers across the United States.

Though Sullivan never had any formal art training, his cartoons had appeared in the Saturday Evening Post, Colliers, Ladies' Home Journal and other periodicals and books. He also drew the nationally syndicated "Priscilla's Pop" and "Out Our Way/The Willets" cartoons

when their original creators retired.

Sullivan also published two book collections, "Laughter Through an Open Window" and "A Gift of Laughter." He was a member of the National Cartoonists Society.

"The Catholic press has lost its most talented and insightful cartoonist," said Lou Jacquet, editor/general manager of the Catholic Exponent.

"Ed Sullivan was unique in the religious press — a blend of pure artistic skill, a razor-sharp wit and the ability to evoke heartfelt laughter from a few deft strokes of his pen and a line of commentary beneath," said Jacquet.

Sullivan is survived by his wife, the former Gerry Van Hovel; a brother, three sisters-in-law and many cousins, nieces and nephews. Burial was in Grandview Cemetery.

Kairos Prize screenwriting contest has \$25,000 top award

LOS ANGELES (CNS) — The Kairos Prize, which was intended to be awarded every other year for spiritually uplifting screenplays, has been changed to an annual award.

Top prize in the contest is \$25,000, with \$15,000 for second place and \$10,000 for third place.

Criteria for the Kairos Prize describe screenplays that are wholesome, uplifting and inspirational, and which result in a greater love for, or understanding of, the "one true creator God," according to an announcement from the John Templeton Foundation, which funds the prize.

Only first-time screenwriters are

eligible for the award.

Last year's winning scripts were reviewed and considered by Jeffrey Katzenberg of the DreamWorks studio.

The competition is administered by the Christian Film & Television Commission, which publishes the monthly Movieguide newsletter and aims to influence media executives to adopt higher standards "imbued with Christian and traditional family values," the announcement said.

Kairos is a Greek word for "the right time" or "the critical moment."

More details on the Kairos Prize can be obtained at www.kairosprize.com.

**Escape Colder Weather And
Join Your Spiritual Director Fr. Page Polk**

Hawaii Cruise

15-Day Vacation Departs March 21, 2007

Escape colder weather back home and travel with other Roman Catholics including your YMT Chaplain Father Page Polk. Depart March 21, 2007 and be met by "your man" at the Honolulu airport on this 15-day vacation including an 11-day cruise on NCL's *Norwegian Wind* with three hotel nights in Waikiki, with an included Honolulu city tour. In Hawaii visit Kauai, Maui, and on the "Big Island" both Hilo and Kona. As a bonus you'll also spend a day on exotic Fanning Island; see what the South Pacific was like over 100 years ago! Complete prices start from only \$2398 (per person/double occupancy) and includes an aloha flower-lei greeting, airport / hotel / ship transfers, the 11-day cruise, three nights hotels, baggage handling, round trip airfare from Charlotte, and all taxes. This will be Father Polk's second trip as a YMT Chaplain. He is Director of the Chaplain Corp in the Archdiocese of Galveston, Texas. Mass will be celebrated once in Honolulu and most days on ship. \$100 deposits now due. Family & friends welcome.

For information reservations, brochure and Fr. Polk's letter call 7 days a week:

'YOUR MAN' TOURS 1-800-968-7626

North America's First Choice for travel since 1967!

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: OCT. 1, 2006

Oct. 1, Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Numbers 11:25-29
Psalm 19:8, 10, 12-14
- 2) James 5:1-6
- 3) Gospel: Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

Jesus' love overcomes sin, temptation

BY DAN LUBY
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Even now, more than 20 years later, I feel the pull of cigarettes.

When I see someone with my old brand, I remember smoking's pleasures deep in my tissues. The feel of a fresh pack tamped down against the back of my hand, the sulfurous smell of the match, the first pull of smoke in my lungs, the instant sophistication bestowed by a smoldering cigarette in my fingers — they all return in a heartbeat, causing me to wonder again what harm there could be in smoking just one cigarette, buying just one pack.

But like most ex-smokers, I can't risk it. In the years I smoked, I tried too

many times to "pace myself," to smoke "just a few," utterly without success.

If I valued my health, if I wanted to be around for my children when they grew up, I had to put cigarettes aside and admit that I could not take them up again, that they were just too dangerous to fool with.

Those who have dealt with similar addictions — alcohol, overeating, drugs, gambling, the praise of others, etc. — know, too, that there are some things they have to let go of in order to move ahead in their lives.

In Sunday's Gospel Jesus uses the harsh rhetorical technique of exaggeration to emphasize his point. Hands and feet and eyes are not evil, and Jesus is not advocating literal self-mutilation.

He is, however, challenging us to recognize that even things that are in themselves morally neutral can become dangers if they move us to sin, if they blind us to the truth of God's goodness, if they lead us away from compassion and into the dark prison of selfishness.

The good news is that Jesus surrounds us with a community of love and support through which he guides and sustains us in times of temptation and trial.

Questions:

What is one ordinary part of my life that could be dangerous to me? What support and assistance do I need to help me resist temptation?

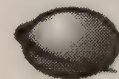
WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF SEPT 24-30

Sunday (Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Wisdom 2:12, 17-20, James 3:16-4:3, Mark 9:30-37; **Monday**, Proverbs 3:27-34, Luke 8:16-18; **Tuesday (St. Cosmas and St. Damian)**, Proverbs 2:1-6, 10-13, Luke 8:19-21; **Wednesday (St. Vincent de Paul)**, Proverbs 30:5-9, Luke 9:1-6; **Thursday (St. Wenceslaus, St. Lawrence Ruiz and Companions)**, Ecclesiastes 1:2-11, Luke 9:7-9; **Friday (Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael)**, Revelation 12:7-12, John 1:47-51; **Saturday (St. Jerome)**, Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:8, Luke 9:43-45.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF OCT 1-7

Sunday (Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Numbers 11:25-29, James 5:1-6, Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48; **Monday (The Guardian Angels)**, Job 1:6-22, Matthew 18:1-5, 10; **Tuesday**, Job 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23, Luke 9:51-56; **Wednesday (St. Francis of Assisi)**, Job 9:1-12, 14-16, Luke 9:57-62; **Thursday**, Job 19:21-27, Luke 10:1-12; **Friday (St. Bruno, Bl. Marie-Rose Durocher)**, Job 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5, Luke 10:13-16; **Saturday (Our Lady of the Rosary)**, Job 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-16, Luke 10:17-24.



AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles
Licensed & Insured
FREE ESTIMATES
www.avroofing.com

704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185

Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic
Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Charlotte 704-334-6421

Pineville 704-544-1412

Mint Hill 704-545-4864

Derita 704-596-3291

Retired. Not retiring.

Sara and Marge each have their own idea of wellness.

Sara likes tai chi. Marge prefers crossword puzzles and an occasional massage. Both love sharing dreams, memories and laughs. Living here will make them feel good.

Because here, wellness is a way of life.



PENNYBYRN
at MARYFIELD
A Continuing Care Retirement Community

www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com

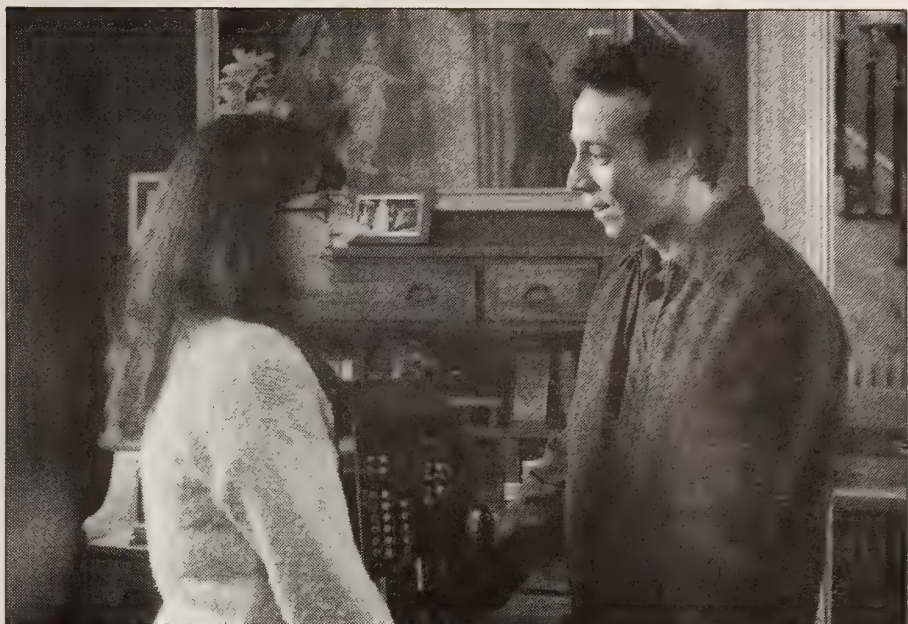
(336) 886-4103 or (866) 627-9343

1315 Greensboro Rd, High Point, NC 27260

Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor
Servants of the Mother of God




NP/CNH Well#1



CNS PHOTO COURTESY OF ABC

America Ferrera and Kevin Sussman star in "Ugly Betty," airing Thursdays on ABC. The show was selected as one of the best of the new season by the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Fall's new TV series: More quality, less objectionable content

BY HARRY FORBES
AND DAVID DiCERTO
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW YORK — The good news about the new fall television season is that, with few exceptions, the quality of the programs is exceptionally high, with far less gratuitous sex, violence and language issues than in recent years.

The networks may be reacting, in part, to fears of Federal Communications Commission recrimination in light of some recent cases of local stations being fined for "indecent" programming. Whatever the reasons, early indications are that the standards and intelligence of writing this season, for the most part, have been raised.

Hoping to follow in the success of hits like "24" and "Lost," serialized shows are hot this year, with a crop that includes Fox's "Vanished," ABC's "Day Break" and "Big Day," CBS' "Smith" and "Jericho," and NBC's "Kidnapped" and "Friday Night Lights."

We've noticed a proliferation of ensemble series, many dealing with groups of disparate strangers whose lives become entwined. ABC's "The Nine" and "Six Degrees," NBC's "Heroes" and "The Class" on CBS all fit that bill.

There's also been a welcome trend toward more diverse casting, including many interracial pairings — a far cry from the days when English pop star Petula Clark caused a firestorm by daring to touch singer Harry Belafonte's arm during a song.

If the new fall slate has a weakness, it's the situation comedies. Some, like Fox's "Happy Hour" are just poor. Others, like NBC's "20 Good Years" and ABC's "The Knights of Prosperity" and "Notes from the Underbelly" have their virtues, but should have been better.

Things are brighter on the drama front, and two ABC comedy-dramas show real heart: the international hit "Ugly Betty" and the Anne Heche vehicle "Men in Trees" — both of which would seem to be winners — as do NBC's two "Saturday Night Live"-themed series, Aaron Sorkin's behind-the-scenes drama "Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip" and the edgy comedy "30 Rock."

All in all, the new fall season shows a lot of promise.

Forbes is director and DiCerto is on the staff of the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



FULLY STOCKED AND READY FOR FALL!

We're brimming over with the latest in Catholic books, new Bible study materials, spiritual gifts for special occasions, Bibles, artwork, rosaries — a wide inventory awaits you at both locations!

AND, come visit us at our Eucharistic Congress booth, October 6 and 7, at the Charlotte Convention Center.

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

Faith formation for persons with disabilities

DIGNITY, from page 1

Disabilities," at the Catholic Conference Center, Sept. 13.

Rebich, a parishioner of St. John Neumann Church in Charlotte, is a lecturer/supervisor in the Special Education and Child Development Department at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

The cartoon perfectly illustrated one of Rebich's points: A person with a disability is often labeled as that disability.

"When we focus on the disability, we lose sight of the person," Rebich said. "Is the person 'handicapped/disabled,' or does she have a handicap?"

Seeing the person not as "autistic," but rather as "having autism," we acknowledge that autism is part of, but not all of, who that person is, she said.

"A person who has Down syndrome is not Down or Down Syndrome Smith," Rebich said. "He's Patrick Smith, who has Down syndrome, ... not a special-ed student, but rather a student receiving special educational services."

Rebich's personal experience inspired her interest in working with people with disabilities. Her older brother, Tim, while still a toddler, underwent an operation that left him with mental disability.

"He is my energy, my teacher, when it comes to special education," she said. "All of us (in her family) are enriched by having Tim as a sibling."

Disabilities often present a challenge, because, said one woman in the audience, "we want to fix things. It's easier to fix something than it is to get to know that person."

"I think a lot of it is just fear of the unknown," Rebich said. "I've grown up with it all my life, so it's second nature to me, but for others it may be that they're afraid they might injure the person or do

something wrong."

People with disabilities may be excluded from everyday events, even from fully practicing their faith. Rebich calls these situations "spiritual abuse: the act of denying people considered 'disabled' their full humanity."

Yet, in their "Guidelines for Celebration of the Sacraments with Persons with Disabilities," the U.S. bishops state that, "By reason of their baptism, all Catholics are equal in dignity in the sight of God, and have the same divine calling."

Paul Kotlowski, director of youth ministry for the Diocese of Charlotte, told of a boy in another diocese who had some disabilities. Although these weren't major, he had been so ostracized that he would slink along the wall when he came into a room.

Kotlowski asked the boy to lector at Mass.

"He read with the conviction and authority of Gabriel, to such an extent that when he finished the whole parish gave him a standing ovation," Kotlowski said. "That experience changed everyone's attitude toward him."

Such experiences, he said, "have enriched my whole idea of what we're called to be as people of God."

Called and qualified

Young families today expect their children with disabilities to be included in faith formation along with children who don't have disabilities.

To ensure that those with disabilities are welcome, begin with small steps, such as making sure the church is physically accessible and welcoming to those with disabilities.

Designate a contact for families and persons with disabilities, and publish this information in the parish bulletin and Web site. Invite families with members who have disabilities to become parishioners.

Recruit and train volunteers to teach

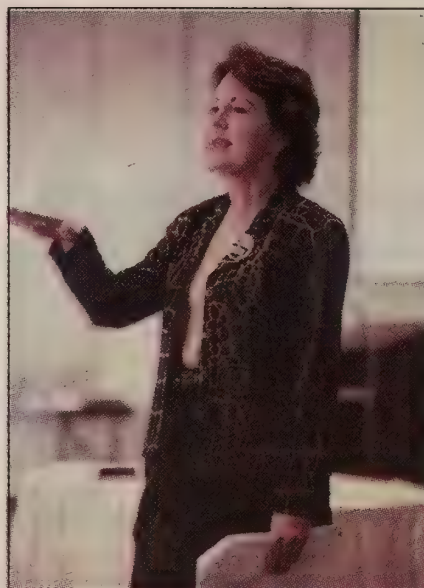


PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Sue Rebich, lecturer/supervisor at UNC-Charlotte's Special Education and Child Development Department, talks about faith formation for those with disabilities during a workshop at the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory Sept. 13.

religious education; no college degree necessary.

"God does not call the qualified," Rebich said. "He qualifies those he calls. Caring and compassion are more important than a college degree."

Children with disabilities should be included in regular faith formation classes.

Teachers in religious education classes model what it is like to be welcoming and inclusive. Interacting with children who have disabilities teaches other children to be caring and compassionate.

Parishes can hold workshops on disability issues. Consider visiting other parishes that have programs for children

with disabilities.

Begin to network with other churches. Build up disability-related resources in the parish faith formation library. Evaluate the program annually. Plan for expansion.

"Once people hear that you welcome those with disabilities, your program will grow," Rebich said.

St. Matthew Church in Charlotte uses SPRED (Special Religious Development) to assist parishioners of all ages who have developmental disabilities and would benefit from being in a smaller group.

Each SPRED session involves persons with disabilities working one-on-one with helpers, then joining in group interaction, said Jan Clemens, SPRED coordinator at St. Matthew Church.

According to information from Clemens, "SPRED gives parishioners with developmental disabilities an opportunity for celebration and worship and prepares them for the sacraments of initiation and reconciliation."

"Special liturgies during the course of the year are also celebrated as a community. ... No previous experience in working with persons with developmental disabilities is required to participate in this ministry," she said.

WANT MORE INFO?

St. Matthew Church will hold a SPRED workshop at 7 p.m. on Oct. 17. For more info, contact Jan Clemens at (704) 341-8978. Clemens will visit any parish that would like to start a SPRED program. Sue Rebich will also provide information about working with people with disabilities. Contact her at skrebich@email.uncc.edu or at (704) 687-8809.

PARISH MUSIC DIRECTOR

Holy Spirit Church in Denver, NC is looking for a music director versed in Catholic liturgy. Salary is negotiable. Contact Father Carmen Malacari at 704-483-6448 if interested.

Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT

PARISH ORGANIST: Our Lady of the Assumption in Charlotte is looking for a parish organist. Contact Deacon Peter Duca: (704) 573-0097.

FOR SALE

HOME: Lake Wylie, SC (near Charlotte). 3 BD/2BA home, excellent school district, nice neighbors, community pool and playground, new Catholic church being built nearby. \$196,000. www.homesbyowner.com/28338

Classified ads bring results! Over 135,000 readers! Over 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

Fundraising Representative

Local company needs rep in all areas of North Carolina. Perfect opportunity for those with sales or school volunteer experience. Ideal for those who prefer working from home and want a flexible schedule. This is a commission-based opportunity with bonus plan.

Call 336-288-4424.



Diocesan Development Office: Director, Catholic Schools

Full-time director of development for Catholic schools needed. Candidate must be a college graduate with a degree in marketing, communications or related field; have at least two years of experience in fund raising and marketing; and have experience with Microsoft Office.

Responsibilities include: managing two regional annual giving campaigns; handling all aspects of newsletters and annual report production; and serving as liaison to regional schools, foundation boards, and parish-based schools.

Please submit resume by October 6 to: Jim Kelley at

jkkelley@charlottediocese.org or Diocesan Office of Development,

1123 S. Church Street, Charlotte NC 28203-4003.

For additional job information, call Jim Kelley at 704-370-3301.



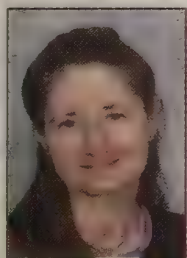
Forming the faithful

New regional coordinators hired for faith formation

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — The western and northern regions of the Diocese of Charlotte will soon have new regional coordinators.

Theresa Prymuszewski will be serving as the coordinator for the western region, which includes the Smoky Mountain and Asheville vicariates.



Theresa Prymuszewski



Sister Betty Paul

Prymuszewski holds degrees in theological studies, education and religious studies.

As regional coordinator, Prymuszewski will provide for all the faith formation needs of the area including catechist formation, policies implementation, home catechesis, catechist recognition and the sacraments of first reconciliation, first Communion and confirmation.

"Theresa lived in North Carolina

for several years in the 1980s, so she is familiar with the ministerial landscape of western North Carolina," said Dr. Cris Villapando, director of diocesan faith formation programs.

Providence Sister Betty Paul will be serving as the coordinator for the northern region, which includes the Winston-Salem and Greensboro vicariates.

Sister Paul holds a degree in pastoral ministry and a certificate in advanced studies.

As coordinator for the northern region, Sister Paul will develop local communities by meeting with parish catechetical leaders and youth ministers in the area; will strengthen catechetical endeavors by organizing ongoing catechetical training in the region; and will assess the catechetical needs and educational materials.

Sister Paul will also advise parishes regarding diocesan catechetical and sacramental policies and facilitate adult faith formation.

"Sister Paul's gifts come from the wisdom and experience she has accumulated from her work in the Diocese of Worcester," Villapando said. "It is always enriching for a faith formation office to have employees who have worked in other dioceses."

"The diocesan office of faith formation will be tremendously enriched by the additions of Theresa and Sister Betty," Villapando said.

Newly elected



COURTESY PHOTO

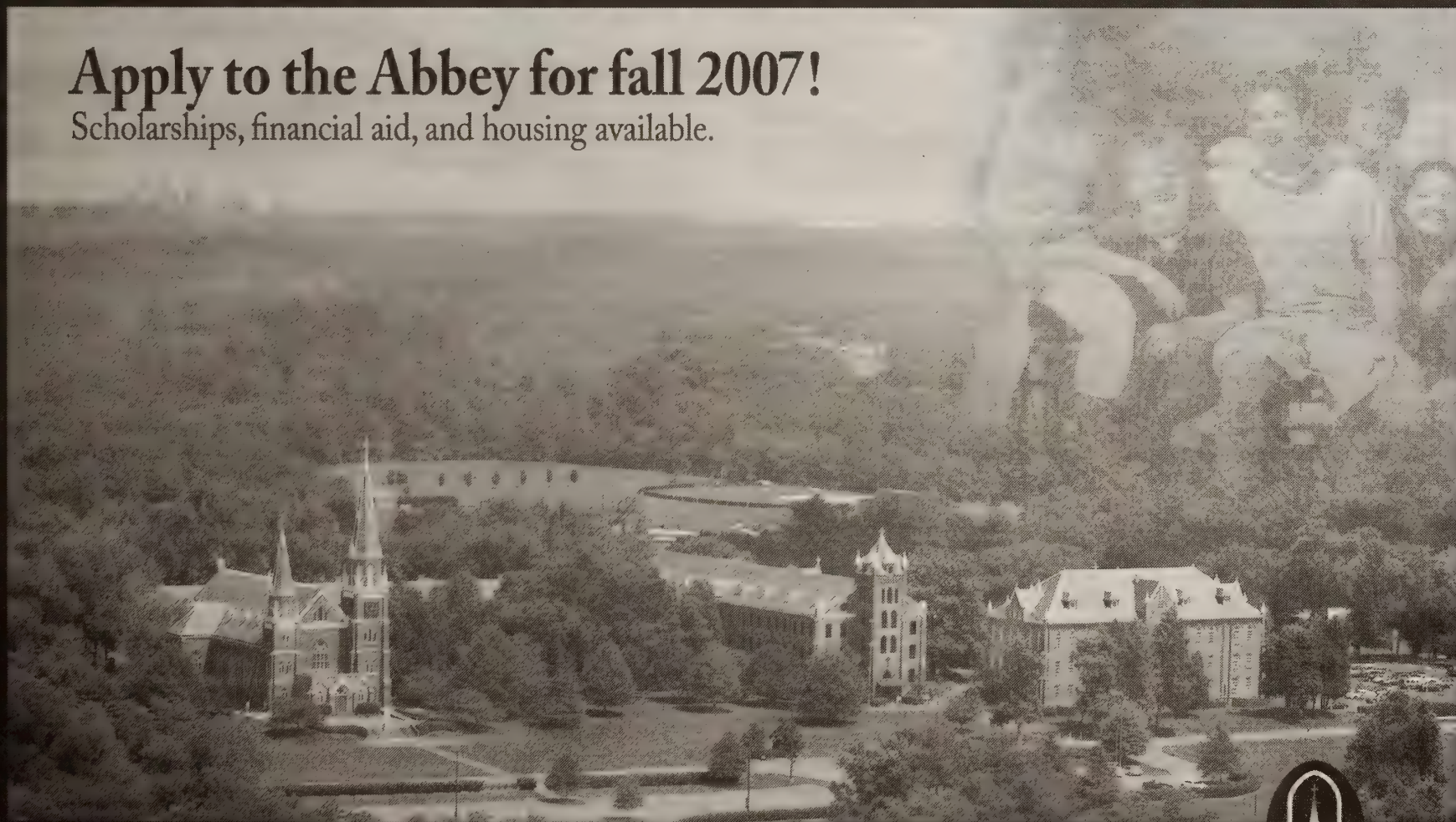
Pictured are the newly elected officers for Bishop Peter J. Jugis' presbyteral (priests') council, which met at the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory Sept. 12.

The council is comprised of priests of the Diocese of Charlotte whom the bishop consults concerning policies and major decisions in the governance of the local church.

Clockwise from top left are: Oblate Father Joseph Zuschmidt, vice chairman and pastor of Queen of the Apostles Church in Belmont; Father John Putnam, chairman and pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Salisbury; Father Roger Arnsperger, secretary and pastor of St. Michael Church in Gastonia; and Father John Schneider, treasurer and pastor of St. Eugene Church in Asheville.

Apply to the Abbey for fall 2007!

Scholarships, financial aid, and housing available.



Inquire and apply online at:
BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

For more information call 1.888.222.0110 or email: admissions@bac.edu



BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE

WHERE ALL THINGS GOD MAY BEGIN

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Are we doers, hearers or talkers?

Changing the world, ourselves requires action

Are we doers, hearers or talkers? The answer lies in the fourth chapter of the Book of Deuteronomy, which states: "You shall not add to what I command you nor subtract from it." (Dt.4:2)

Adding or subtracting from the teaching of the Lord is not good policy. But in our daily lives, sometimes we make bargains with God. We really believe that only 10 commandments are not enough; we definitely need more to cover all the wrong issues, so we say.

On the other hand, should we observe all Ten Commandments? If we skip one, is it the end of the world? The average of good observance is still 90 percent. Should we be charitable all the time? Every now and then, we can take a little break and still be good Christians.

And the story — our story — goes on.

Well, Yahweh is very clear about it: You observe his commandments without adding or subtracting. You are his all the time or you are not his at all.

Justice is the keyword in this process: God gave us everything we have, and so we give to God everything we have and are.

There are two kinds of gifts: human and divine. The human gifts are meant to be kept. The divine gifts are meant to be given out and to be shared; otherwise we lose them all together.

St. James reminds us that justice is to be doers of the Word rather than hearers of the Word only. To simply know the Word of God is good, but not good enough; prayers are good, but not good enough. What is important is what we do with them.

Let's say that Mr. X needs help, and I go to church and pray instead of helping; then I am using my religion as a way of escape from reality. St. Mark very effectively points out the constant dispute between Jesus and the Pharisees (see chapter 4) about traditions and external observance.

The conclusion of this Gospel is that observing traditions for the sake of external observance is at best a waste, or at worst, is very dangerous.

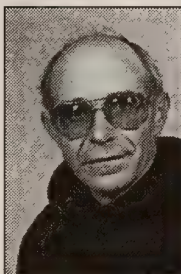
Probably you know the story of the ashram cat. It is the story of a guru whose worship service was frequently interrupted by a cat, and so the holy man commanded that the cat be tied to a tree during meditation.

When the guru died, his followers continued to tie the cat to the tree. When the cat died, the faithful acquired a new cat that they also tied to the tree.

Centuries later learned scholars and experts wrote voluminous books on the

Guest Column

CAPUCHIN
FATHER
JOHN C. AURILIA
GUEST COLUMNIST



liturgical meaning of the tying up a cat while worship was in progress.

Are we doers, hearers or talkers of the Word? The Gospel points out very strongly that external traditions do not make us better; the internal attitude toward the Word makes us better. More laws do not make anybody holier.

Legal experts will tell you that one of the problems with laws is that there are too many laws. There are amendments, and amendments to the amendments.

We also know that there are thousands of laws written in books that have no meaning at all. Let me list some of them:

- a law forbidding the plowing of a cotton field with an elephant;
- a law banning roller-skating in a public restroom;
- a law penalizing someone for putting a penny upside down;
- a law requiring a person who appears on a highway in a bathing suit to carry a club;
- a law making it illegal to hold one's nose longer than 10 seconds.

Do we need more laws or do we want to observe what we have? By the choices we make, we define ourselves. We are what we chose to be.

There is a lovely story about a man who said the following remarks about himself:

I was a revolutionary when I was young, and all my prayer to God was, "Lord, give me the energy to change the world."

As I approached middle age and realized that half of my life was gone without changing a single person, I changed my prayer to, "Lord, give me the grace to change those who come in contact with me; just my family and friends, and I shall be satisfied."

Now that I am old and my days are numbered, my only prayer is, "Lord, give me the grace to change myself."

If I had prayed for this right from the start, I should not have wasted my life. Amen

Father Aurilia is pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in Hendersonville.

The pope — speaking like a leader

DIALOGUE, PRAYER NEEDED FOR FIRST STEPS TOWARD PEACE

So, what is going to be the lasting image of Pope Benedict XVI? Will he be the provocateur who enraged a billion members of the Muslim faith by "insulting" the prophet Muhammad? Or will he be the leader whose thought-provoking speech in Germany is seen as an important step in a more serious Christian-Islam dialogue?

The sharks of the secular media are circling a thimbleful of blood and seem to be hoping for the former. We Catholics should pray for the latter.

The media was doing its surface-skimming job when it excerpted, out of context, the line from the Holy Father's speech last week in Germany that was sure to inflame the passion of some Muslims. If the situation were reversed and a Muslim cleric made a remark that could be viewed as an insult of Jesus, Christians may have been just as enraged and the media would have been just as happy.

The media isn't anti-Christian; it is pro-conflict.

First, let me explain how the media works when it is confronted with a 3,700-word speech written by an academic pope for an audience of university scholars.

Having flipped through hundreds of somewhat dry, difficult-to-grasp speeches in my reporting days, I know that the media's instinct is to take the complex and simplify. Reporters search the text for a quote that a large audience can grasp.

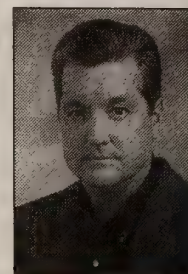
The practical reason for taking this shortcut is time and space — both are limited in newspapers and television programs. If the quote can inflame, the context of the speech is tossed aside and the story is about the quote.

This situation involving the pontiff needs to be treated differently. We Catholics must be better informed than what is available through the secular press: What Pope Benedict was doing in his speech was continuing the call to dialogue with Muslims begun by Pope John Paul II.

Pope Benedict spoke in a place

Catholics & the Media

DAVID HAINS
COMMUNICATIONS
DIRECTOR



where freedom of thought is rigorously defended: a university. His lecture was meant to provoke dialogue, and true to the academic setting in which it was delivered, he defended his statements with sound reason, church teaching and Scripture. When the media orchestration of hate-filled speech subsides, no doubt a Muslim scholar will emerge with a reply that will promote additional discussion.

Our obligation as Christians is to learn about these issues in greater depth. We cannot depend on the everyday media for anything other than a news flash. Fortunately we are not at the mercy of Fox and CNN for all of our information.

The Holy Father's speech, as well as thought-provoking commentary and analysis of it, is easy to find on the Internet. We are always just a few keystrokes away from the truth.

Christians and Muslims have a lot to talk about, and some of the discussions won't be very nice. Think of the idiocy of the Crusades or the current madness of jihad. But talk we must. The last three months in the Middle East have given us ample evidence that peace will not emerge from the barrel of a gun.

Only when people of faith are willing to work harder than any soldier ever has will we be able to settle our differences through thought-provoking discussion and prayer. Starting that discussion is what leaders do. Thank you, Pope Benedict.

David Hains is director of communications for the Diocese of Charlotte. Contact him at dwhains@charlottediocese.org. A podcast of this column can be found on the diocesan Web site at www.charlottediocese.org.

Letters to the Editor

Priests deserve more respect, gratitude

It is with much regret that I write this letter, but I believe I need to make a point. The recent Priests' Retirement and Benefits Collection taken up in my parish averaged less than less \$5 per family - or less than 10 cents per week on an annual basis.

Over the years I have heard many reasons as to why we believe there is a shortage of priests and religious. Maybe the real reason is that many of us put more value in a meal at McDonald's than we do in those who are called to serve us.

— William J. Barker
Charlotte

Diocesan priests are blessings

I am a priest formerly of the Diocese

of Charlotte, who now serves as pastor in the Diocese of St. Petersburg, Fla. I would like to comment on the article regarding the Priests' Retirement and Benefits Collection in the Diocese of Charlotte ("Celebrating the past, embracing the future," Sept. 1).

The church of Charlotte indeed owes a great debt of gratitude, besides financial support, to the retired priests. As I read the list of retired priests in the article, I reflected on having the privilege of serving under the leadership of seven of them, including Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin.

From each of them, I learned the pastoral skills that helped me in my ministry as a pastor. I want to thank them for their guidance and inspiration. May God bless them!

— Father Ron Marecki
pastor, St. Anne Church
Ridge Manor, Fla.

Pope again expresses regret that remarks on Islam were misunderstood

BY JOHN THAVIS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Pope Benedict XVI again expressed regret that his remarks on Islam had been misunderstood and emphasized his “profound respect” for Muslims.

At his weekly general audience Sept. 20 where he reviewed his recent trip to Germany, the pope turned his attention to his academic address at the University of Regensburg and the wave of Muslim indignation that followed.

The pope said his citation of the words of a medieval emperor, which sound “incomprehensibly brusque” in today’s world, was “unfortunately misunderstood.” The attentive reader, he said, would have known that he was not agreeing with the polemical criticism of Islam expressed by the emperor.

In his Regensburg speech, the pope introduced the theme of faith and reason by quoting from statements of 14th-century Byzantine Emperor Manuel II Paleologus, including the emperor’s criticism of the Islamic concept of holy war and the line that Islam had brought “things only evil and inhuman.”

“In no way did I wish to make my own the words of the medieval emperor.

I wished to explain that not religion and violence, but religion and reason, go together,” the pope said.

His words were greeted by strong applause in St. Peter’s Square, where several thousand pilgrims had gathered.

The pope noted that during his trip he had underlined the need for all people to respect what is sacred to religious cultures — something that reflected his esteem for the followers of other religions, “in particular Muslims,” he said.

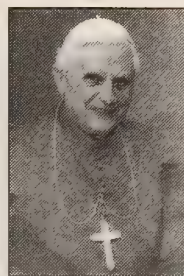
“I hope that my profound respect for world religions and for Muslims, who worship the one God and with whom we promote peace, liberty, social justice and moral values for the benefit of all humanity, is clear,” he said.

He said he hoped that, after the initial reactions, his speech in Regensburg would come to be understood as “an encouragement to a dialogue that is positive and also self-critical, both among religions and between modern reason and the Christian faith.”

Security around the Vatican was discreetly increased following vague threats made by extremist groups on Internet sites. The pope, however, rode as usual in an open jeep among the faithful at the start of the audience.

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



It was the second time since his return from Germany that the pope had spoken about the controversy. Three days earlier, he said he was “deeply sorry” that some Muslims had found his speech offensive.

Criticism of the papal speech came from Muslim representatives in many countries. Vatican officials have expressed disappointment that most of the reactions were based on media accounts of the papal speech and not on a full reading of the text.

WANT TO READ THE SPEECH?

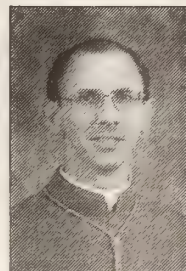
To read the text of Pope Benedict XVI’s talk at the University of Regensburg, go online to the Vatican Web site at www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/

Click Speeches, then 2006, then September, then click the link for “Meeting with the representatives of science in the Aula Magna of the University of Regensburg (September 12, 2006).”

Dialogue of cultures and religions

From the Bishop

BISHOP
PETER J. JUGIS
BISHOP OF CHARLOTTE



It is unfortunate that a portion of the Holy Father’s talk at the University of Regensburg on Sept. 12 was taken out of context and used to misrepresent his true views.

In his talk, the Holy Father calls for a genuine dialogue of cultures and religions. Many in the world today see the prospect of a clash of civilizations of immense proportions looming in the future, specifically a clash of Moslem culture with Western culture.

The Holy Father calls for a dialogue of cultures and religions in order to avert such a worldwide conflict and potential war. Only by such respectful dialogue among cultures and religions can the world hope to live in peace.

As the Holy Father said, the views of the 14th-century emperor do not represent his own sentiments nor the teaching of the Catholic religion regarding Islam. But, by referring to the statement of the emperor, the Holy Father did effectively raise the question: What exactly is the true face of Islam?

Is violence and terrorism such as we see it perpetrated in the world today the true face of Islam? Or is the true face of Islam rather represented by the phrase from the Quran, “there is no compulsion in religion,” which would respect the freedom of the human person to freely assent to religious truth and embrace it?

Such a question about the true nature of Islam must be addressed in order to pursue a meaningful dialogue of cultures and religions.

The Holy Father has noted on another occasion that evidence can be found in all the great religious traditions of the close bond between a relationship with God and the ethics of love. The message of love can be found in some way in all the great religious traditions.

Jesus, who revealed to us the truth of God, put this message front and center in his own teaching and life. He summed it up in his great commandment:

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.... You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” (Mk 12:30-31).

This is true religion.

The Holy Father’s talk was primarily a challenge to the West not to exclude God from its culture. Secularism, such as we have it today, which excludes the divine from the culture, is not the best that the West has to offer in a dialogue of cultures and religions.

It is only by recognizing the great contributions that Christianity has made to Western thought and life that the West will be able to enter effectively into the dialogue of cultures and religions envisioned by the Holy Father.

Speakers of the Congress

Part 6 of a 7-part series on the second annual Eucharistic Congress

Over the past five parts of this series, we have explored the nature of the Eucharistic Congress by means of its constitutive parts. That is, we have investigated those elements that together form the body and soul of the Eucharistic Congress.

The body includes the events: the speakers and their talks, the sacred music concert, the eucharistic procession, the opportunity to receive the sacrament of reconciliation, the wonderful selection of religious goods and Catholic books for sale and, most importantly, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

But the body is dead without the soul. Prayer, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the fellowship enjoyed among Congress participants are all signs of the mysterious work of the Holy Spirit giving life to the body.

This week, I would like to spend a moment focusing our attention on one of the most crucial elements that composes the body of the Congress: the speakers and their talks.

Eucharistic congresses attempt to discover and promote the best and the brightest speakers of the day, along with relevant talks that challenge the faithful to live the Catholic faith. This year, our theme comes from the second letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians, “The Love of Christ Impels Us.”

The theme draws our attention to the apostolic works of the Catholic Church — the charitable, educational and evangelical works that are impelled by the love of Christ. Last year’s Congress focused on the Eucharist as the source and summit of our Catholic faith and life; this year’s Congress focuses on the missionary efforts of the church inspired by the love of Christ.

Therefore, each of the renowned speakers has chosen talks with a missionary goal. Friday evening, Oct. 6, Raymond Arroyo from the Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN) will kick off the Congress talks with “The Mission of the ‘Big Way’ of Mother Angelica.”

As with last year, there will be four series of talks on Saturday: General Track, Hispanic Track, Teen Track and Children’s Track (this year broken into two age groups: Kindergarten through second grade and third grade through fifth grade).

Back by popular demand, break dancer and karate expert Father Leo Patalinghug will speak to the youth on “The Mission of Being a Super Hero” and to the adults on “The Mission of Being Beautiful,” and will probably break a few boards in the process.

Franciscan Father James Goode will address “The Mission of Building a Culture of Life.” The famous apologist

Guest Column

FATHER
MATTHEW
BUETTNER
GUEST COLUMNIST



Jeff Cavins will speak at the General Track about “The Mission of Evangelization” and at the Teen Track about “The Mission of Peer Evangelization.”

Speaking to teenagers and adults is Mary Beth Bonacci on “The Mission of Chastity.” Father Juan Rivas will give a two-series talk at the Hispanic Track on “The Mission of Catholic Media” and “The Mission of Evangelization.”

And Dr. Fernando Casanova will speak at the Hispanic Track on “The Mission of Being Catholic.”

The Eucharist Congress clearly packs an evangelical punch with a missionary goal. But the Congress will be completely ineffectual without your participation.

Join us at the Charlotte Convention Center this Oct. 6 and 7 for the second annual Eucharistic Congress. The Congress promises to help keep body and soul together.

Father Buettner is pastor of St. Dorothy Church in Lincolnton. For more on the Eucharistic Congress, visit www.goeucharist.com.



SPECIAL EVENTS FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS!

DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7



Dear First Communicants:

This year you have celebrated your First Holy Communion. It has been a time of blessing for yourself and for your family, and for your parish family, as well.

Please join me, along with your parents or guardian, for a Eucharistic Procession on Saturday, October 7th, in Charlotte. As a First Communicant, you will lead our procession as we make this public statement of our love for Jesus.

Please wear the special clothing you wore to your First Communion. The procession will form at St. Peter's Church at 501 S. Tryon Street at 1 pm on Saturday and it will begin promptly at 1:30 pm. Please note that you MUST be accompanied by a parent or a guardian to participate in the Eucharistic Procession.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *Peter J. Jugis*

Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
Bishop of Charlotte



**TEEN TRACK
REGISTRATION at
www.goEucharist.com**

CHILDREN'S TRACK – "Eucharist – Food for Our Souls"

The Children's Track program at the Eucharistic Congress focuses on the source and summit of Catholic life — the Eucharist — from a child's point of view.

Through a variety of dynamic and fun-filled activities at the Eucharistic Congress, children will discover how the Eucharist can influence their lives. Children will also hear a special talk on the Eucharist during a special adoration session.

Children's Track Registration

Registration for the children's track at the Eucharistic Congress IS REQUIRED and SPACE IS LIMITED. To register, go to www.GoEucharist.com and fill out the Children's Track Registration form. Or fill out the form below and mail it to:

Children's Track Registration, Diocese of Charlotte,
1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203

Registration Form — Please fill out a separate form for EACH child.

CHILDREN'S TRACK – "THE EUCHARIST, FOOD FOR OUR SOULS"

LAST name of parent or guardian _____

FIRST name of parent or guardian _____

Email address of parent or guardian _____

Circle your child's grade K 1 2 3 4 5

Name of child participant _____

Address of child _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

In the event of an emergency, please contact: _____

Relationship _____

Telephone number (cell phone preferred) _____

☐ By submitting this form you are granting permission for your child to participate in the Children's Track of the Eucharistic Congress. Yes, I agree (check box)

☐ You are granting permission to those administering medical treatment to do so. Yes, I agree (check box)

☐ You are granting permission for diocesan employees or volunteers to administer first aid treatment and to seek emergency medical treatment for your child in the event that such treatment is deemed necessary. Yes, I agree (check box)

☐ You are releasing and holding harmless the Diocese of Charlotte and its employees and volunteers from any liability whatsoever when acting on your behalf in regard to medical treatment and any other treatment deemed necessary. Yes, I agree (check box)

Additional comments regarding medical history, allergies, medication, or other conditions _____

Signature _____ Date _____



THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

2006 Eucharistic
Congress

Special 4-page pullout
guide to the second
diocesan Eucharistic
Congress

| PAGES 7-10

THE PATH TO PEACE

Pope expresses respect for Muslims, pledges to continue dialogue

BY CATHOLIC NEWS
SERVICE

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy — Meeting with Islamic ambassadors and representatives, Pope Benedict XVI expressed his deep respect for Muslims, pledged to continue dialogue, and said Islamic and Christian leaders should cooperate to curb violence.

"Faithful to the teachings of their own religious traditions, Christians and Muslims must learn to work together, as indeed they already do in many common undertakings, in order to guard against all forms of intolerance and to oppose all manifestations of violence," the pope said.



"As for us, religious authorities and political leaders, we must guide and encourage them in this direction," he said.

The unprecedented encounter at the pope's summer residence Sept. 25 was designed to soothe Muslim resentment over a recent papal speech that cited a historical criticism of Islam and the concept of holy war. The pope later distanced himself from the quoted material and said he was sorry Muslims had been offended.

Addressing the Islamic representatives at Castel Gandolfo, the pope alluded only briefly to the earlier speech. Instead, he focused on assuring Muslim communities that his papacy was not backtracking on

See DIALOGUE, page 13

A SHEPHERD IN KENYA



COURTESY PHOTO

Lindsay Shepherd, a teacher at St. Leo the Great School in Winston-Salem, is pictured with Kenyan students during her summer visit to the African country.

Teacher helps orphans, children with HIV

BY SUSAN DEGUZMAN
CORRESPONDENT

WINSTON-SALEM — What do most teachers do during summer vacation? Enjoy a break from the classroom and grading papers, perhaps some

relaxation by the pool?

This was not the case for one teacher from St. Leo the Great School in Winston-Salem. Second-grade teacher

See KENYA, page 5

Prayers of adoration and reparation

BISHOP JUGIS APPROVED
CHAPLET TO BE AT
EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — At the Eucharistic Congress, Catholics will be able to join in praying in adoration and reparation with a chaplet approved by Bishop Peter J. Jugis.

See CHAPLET, page 12

To worship and adore

Second Eucharistic
Congress to take place
Oct. 6-7

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Next weekend, Catholics from the Carolinas will once again have the opportunity to gather together to worship God through the Eucharist.

See CONGRESS, page 6



CNS PHOTOS BY L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO VIA REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI meets with ambassadors of Islamic nations and Italian Islamic leaders in a room at his summer residence in Castel Gandolfo, Italy, Sept. 25. The pope assured Muslims that he respected them and was committed to dialogue.

Fun and faith

Life Teen ministry
coming to parish

| PAGE 4

Culture Watch

Anti-Catholic comics pulled;
Scripture readings

| PAGE 11

Perspectives

Father Buettner on the
Eucharistic Congress

| PAGES 14-15

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

WALKING WITH FAITH



CNS PHOTO BY ED ZELACHOSKI, CATHOLIC ACCENT

Amedeo Scaramouche, 101, walks near St. Martin Church in New Derry, Pa., in early July. Scaramouche was 6 years old when his family joined the parish. Now, nearly 96 years later, he still walks to Mass every day from his home nearby. He will turn 102 in November.

At age 101, Pennsylvania man still walks to church for Mass every day

NEW DERRY, Pa. (CNS)—Amedeo Scaramouche was 6 years old when his family joined St. Martin Church in New Derry. Now, nearly 96 years later, Scaramouche walks to Mass every day from his home nearby.

It is the home where the 101-year-old man grew up, lived with his beloved wife, Susan, and where he continues to live, still lovingly tending his garden.

He still remembers the iron fence that used to surround St. Martin Church and its cemetery. Photographs he took at the request of one of the pastors are framed and hang on the back wall of the church.

Scaramouche sang in the parish choir for many years. Although he and his wife weren't married at St. Martin Church, their son served as an altar boy there.

Scaramouche's life was tough. He never went to high school. Instead, he joined his father in the coal mines.

"My pap was laying track (for the mines), and I was helping him. But I wanted to make more money so I began digging coal when I was 16,"

Scaramouche said.

His father died later that year, and it became the young man's responsibility to support his mother and younger brothers.

"I took care of everything; I even paid off the land," he said.

Later, he held jobs at Westinghouse in Derry and at a glass factory in Blairsville.

He and wife Susan were married when the Depression hit.

"When I got married, I hit the jackpot," Scaramouche said with eyes turning misty. "She was a wonderful person. Everybody loved her."

The couple had been married for 67 years when Susan Scaramouche died about nine years ago.

"She told me she wanted to die at home. I was feeding her one day and she said, 'I love you and I thank you for everything,'" he said. "I have her in my mind every day."

On Nov. 25, Scaramouche plans to celebrate his 102nd birthday by singing at a parish Mass.

Catholic organizations back bill to help disabled avoid nursing homes

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and two other national Catholic organizations have backed proposed federal legislation that would enable many people with disabilities to live in their communities instead of in nursing homes.

The legislation would help those with disabilities use Medicaid resources to choose independent living, with reliance on community-based services, over Medicaid-funded institutionalized care.

In a joint letter to key House and Senate sponsors of the bill, the heads of the USCCB Committee on Domestic Policy, the Catholic Health Association of the United States and the National Catholic Partnership on Disability urged passage of the Medicaid Community-Based Attendant Services and Supports Act, known as MiCASSA.

"With the services that MiCASSA would make available, more people with disabilities will be able to move from

institutional care to lives of independence in their communities," the Catholic leaders said in their Sept. 13 letter.

"The legislation will give them the choices and control over their lives they deserve. It will also increase the ability of people with disabilities to fulfill the duty we all share, to contribute to the common good through work, service and participation in the community," they said.

"Our faith calls us to work for the full inclusion of all persons with disabilities in society and in the church," the Catholic leaders added.

The letter recalled the bishops' 1978 "Pastoral Statement on People With Disabilities," which called on all people to work for improved living conditions for those with disabilities and seek to ensure that they can achieve the fullest possible measure of personal development.

The services that MiCASSA would make available would help achieve those goals, the letter said.

Diocesan planner

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — The St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity of the Secular Franciscans will be holding a *Transitus Service* in memory of the death of St. Francis of Assisi, Oct. 3 at 7 p.m. The service will be held at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1400 Suther Rd. All are welcome to attend. For more information, call Bernadette Sewak at (704) 782-6932.

MINT HILL — St. Luke Church, 13700 Lawyers Rd., and the N.C. Council of Churches and Interfaith Power and Light, are sponsoring with viewing of "An Inconvenient Truth" Oct. 5 at 6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center of the church. "An Inconvenient Truth" is an examination of global warming and its solutions. Discussion will follow the film. Childcare will be provided. If you would like to attend, please contact Amber Ockerbloom at (704) 649-8179.

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., hosts a *First Friday Women's Retreat*, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. in Room 239 of the New Life Center, following the 9 a.m. Mass. The program for Oct. 6 will be "Liturgy of the Hours for the Laity." For more information, call Marie Grzeskiewicz at (704) 542-9748.

CHARLOTTE — The second annual *Blanket Banquet for the Homeless of Uptown Charlotte* will take place in front of St. Peter Church, 507 S. Tryon St., immediately following the 4:30 p.m. Mass to close the Eucharistic Congress Oct. 7. Donations of blankets and men's socks and undergarments are needed. For more

information or to volunteer to help with the meal, please call Greg or Cindy Platko at (704) 375-0901 or e-mail gplatko@carolina.rr.com.

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., and the N.C. Council of Churches and Interfaith Power and Light, are sponsoring with viewing of "An Inconvenient Truth" Oct. 8 at 7 p.m. in the New Life Center. "An Inconvenient Truth" is an examination of global warming and its solutions. Climate change is an issue shared by all of us of every political persuasion, and its solutions are in our hands. Learn what you can do to reduce the rate and extent of global warming. For more information, call Mary Rutman at (704) 499-5919 or Cheryl Foote at (704) 544-3966.

CHARLOTTE — The *Fourth Annual Red Mass* for the Diocese of Charlotte will be celebrated at St. Patrick Cathedral, 1621 Dilworth Rd. East, Oct. 10 at 6 p.m. Bishop Peter J. Jugis will be the celebrant. The Red Mass is an annual event celebrated to coincide with the opening of the Supreme Court's judicial calendar. It is designed to provide all members of the legal community the opportunity to reflect on the God-given responsibilities associated with their profession. The celebration of the Red Mass is open to people of all faiths and beliefs, and all are invited to attend the Mass and the dinner following at Greek Isles.

CHARLOTTE — Please join St. Ann Church, 3635 Park Rd., for the *Sung Rosary: Joyful Mysteries* on Oct. 13 at 7:30 p.m. This 50-minute evening of candlelight, music, prayer, meditation and peace offers a lovely and unique way to pray the rosary. Call the church office (704) 523-4641 for more information.

MINT HILL — St. Luke Church 13700 Lawyers Road, will a *festival in celebration of the feast day of their patron saint*, Oct. 14, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Attention: Homeowners...Have a plumbing problem? Don't Panic!

"How To Get A Top Talent Plumber To Show Up On-Time So You Don't Waste Time"

You have a busy schedule and value your time. Most plumbing companies won't give you a real appointment time and keep you waiting all day for a plumber to show up. Now there's a new way to get your plumbing problem fixed, save money, and get a precise Appointment Window so you don't have to waste time waiting.

Three-Way Plumbing Services, Inc.

We're The Good Guys Your Friends Told You About®

(704) 535-4795 Charlotte

(704) 795-9349 Concord

Serving The Entire Charlotte Diocese Area

www.3wayplumbing.com

Proud member of St. James Church

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

SEPT. 29, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 43

The Catholic News & Herald, USPS 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Catholic, Orthodox cite friendship, plan for 2007 dialogue meeting

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Catholic and Orthodox representatives ended an important theological meeting on a good note, citing a "spirit of friendship" and making plans for a follow-up encounter next year.

A joint statement issued at the end of the Sept. 18-25 meeting in Belgrade, Serbia-Montenegro, said the approximately 60 participants had discussed in depth a draft document that touched on papal primacy and the role of Eastern Catholic churches.

The draft document "was carefully examined in a shared spirit of genuine commitment to the search for unity," the statement said.

A joint committee was appointed to revise the text in light of the many observations and comments made during the discussions. The revised text is expected to be taken up in a meeting hosted by the Catholic Church in 2007,

the statement said.

It was the first time the Catholic-Orthodox international dialogue commission had met since 2000, when talks were broken off over tensions related to the re-emergence of Eastern Catholic churches in post-communist Eastern Europe.

"The meeting of the joint commission was marked by a spirit of friendship and trustful collaboration," the statement said.

It said the draft document, titled "The Ecclesiological and Canonical Consequences of the Sacramental Nature of the Church: Conciliarity and Authority in the Church," was discussed at three levels of the church's life: local, regional and universal.

The statement offered few details of the discussions. Catholic participants said before the meeting that papal primacy was thought to be the most important and problematic issue on the table and that

the Belgrade meeting would be part of a long process eventually leading, it was hoped, to some form of agreement.

Pope Benedict XVI, while in

Germany in September, had said he hoped the Belgrade meeting would lead to real ecumenical progress between Catholics and Orthodox Christians.

Historian says archives erase claims church did not oppose Nazism

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Documents now available from the Vatican Secret Archives will allow scholars to rewrite history and erase claims the church was not a staunch opponent of Nazism, fascism and other forms of totalitarianism, said a Jesuit historian.

Jesuit Father Giovanni Sale, historian of the Jesuit journal, *La Civiltà Cattolica*, said documents relating to the 1922-1939 pontificate of Pope Pius XI will have an impact on political and religious history.

What emerges is an even clearer picture of the church as being "steadfast in the fight against totalitarianism, against fascism, against Nazism, but also against communism," he said in a Sept. 18 interview with Vatican Radio.

After years of preparation, the Vatican archive office Sept. 18 opened up to researchers all the documentation from Pope Pius' pre-World War II pontificate.

The documents were considered especially sensitive because they covered the period in which Cardinal Eugenio Pacelli, the future Pope Pius XII, served

as nuncio to Germany and then as Vatican secretary of state.

A 1999 book, "Hitler's Pope," accused Cardinal Pacelli of having pro-German feelings that colored his World War II policies as pope, while a 2001 book, "The Popes Against the Jews," claimed top church officials had a hand in fomenting anti-Semitism in the 20th century.

Vatican historians have repeatedly rejected such claims as false.

Father Sale said now that the pre-World War II documents are available scholars "will have the possibility to truly rewrite important pages of 20th-century history — this time based on solid and documented foundations."

He said certain positions that were "often fruit of ideological prejudices" could now be corrected.

An official at the Vatican archives told Catholic News Service that in the first week after the 1922-1939 archives were opened, between 55 and 60 scholars from all over the world were going through the documents each day.

There is no admission fee. Members of Mint Hill Arts will exhibit their works. Dale Jarrett's racing car and vintage automobiles will be on display. Other attractions will include a model railroad, live Broadway music, a scavenger hunt, a raffle, Irish dancers and more. The Red Cross Bloodmobile will also be on hand accepting blood donations 7 a.m.-12 p.m. For more information, call John V. Doyle at (704) -535-9174

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — *The Catholic Daughters of the Americas* will meet Oct. 2 at 7 p.m. at Our Lady's Cottage at Our Lady of Grace Church, 2205 West Market St. For further information, please call Lawrence Kirwan at (336) 292-2776

GREENSBORO — St. Pius X Church and School, 2210 N. Elm St., are sponsoring a series of workshops for women called *Wisdom of Women*. Sessions will be held on the first Thursday of the month, 9:30-11 a.m. in the parish center. The group will be facilitated by parishioner and life coach Lucy Wellmaker. The purpose of the group is to create a time and a space for women to better connect with their inner wisdom and move forward on their journey in life. For more information or to register call Lucy (336) 632-1940 or email coachw@lucywellmaker.com.

GREENSBORO — All Irish-Catholic women are invited to participate in the *Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians*, a social, cultural and charitable group for an ongoing series of fun and informative activities. LAOH will meet Oct. 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the Kloster Center of St. Pius X Church, 2210 N. Elm St. Please join us for refreshments and to learn more about our group. Any questions can be directed to Mary Giff at (336) 855-7014.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

WINSTON-SALEM — The Franciscan Friars, religious and seculars at Our Lady of Mercy Church, 1730 Link Rd., will be holding a *Transitus Service* in memory of the death of

St. Francis of Assisi, Oct. 3 at 7 p.m. All are welcome to attend. Light refreshments and fellowship will be held afterward in the church vestibule. If you have questions, please e-mail Sue Borschke at borschke@triad.rr.com or call (336) 924-0645.

WINSTON-SALEM — The adult education committee of St. Leo the Great Church will host a presentation about the *Causes of the Protestant Reformation*. The speaker will be history professor Bill Partin and will be held Oct. 3 at 7 p.m. in Conference Room B at St. Leo the Great Church, 335 Springdale Ave. For more information, call Barbara Kantor, adult education committee, at (336) 760-4399.

WINSTON-SALEM — The Spirit of Assisi hosts a *Wednesday Lunch & Speaker Series* each Wednesday, 12:30-1:15 p.m., at the Fatima Chapel, 211 W. Third St. Sister Kathy Ganiel will address "Franciscans: Who Are We?" Oct. 4. The sacrament of reconciliation will be offered at 12 p.m. in the chapel. For more information and to RSVP, call Sister Kathy Ganiel at (336) 624-1971 or e-mail kganiel@triad.rr.com. Walk-ins are welcome.

KERNERSVILLE — *The Catechism of the Head and Heart* religious education series for adults will be held this fall in the library at Bishop McGuinness High School, 1725 NC Hwy 66 South. Danita McDonald will speak about "Highlights of Ecclesiology" Oct. 12 at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call Loretta Bedner at (336) 564-1040.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 7 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlotte-diocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Sharing the faith



CNS PHOTO BY KAREN CALLAWAY

Ben Subak slips a letter to Mother M. Teresita at the Poor Clare Nuns of the Immaculate Conception Monastery in Lemont, Ill., Sept. 23. A group of religious education students celebrated Mass with the cloistered sisters and brought appreciation letters and contributions to help their ministry.

Episcopal calendar

Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Oct. 1 — 10 a.m.
Red Mass
Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, Mo.

Oct. 1-6
Diocesan Priests' Retreat
Maggie Valley

Oct. 6-7
Eucharistic Congress
Charlotte Convention Center, Charlotte

Oct. 10 — 6 p.m.
Red Mass
St. Patrick Cathedral, Charlotte



LAMB
FOUNDATION OF NC
Helping the developmentally disabled



PIER 51
SEAFOOD RESTAURANT

PIER 51 Seafood Restaurant in south Charlotte has joined hands with the St. Matthew Knights of Columbus and for a limited time, Pier 51 will donate 10% of their gross sales for the first Tuesday of each month to the LAMB Foundation of North Carolina.

Please try and visit on Tuesday, October 3, or any first Tuesday in the coming months. Enjoy a great meal (either lunch or dinner) and know that 10% of your check will benefit people with developmental disabilities.

Located in the McMullen Creek Shopping Center (near Dairy Queen),
8332 Pineville-Matthews Road (Hwy 51), Suite 201-203, Charlotte.

Putting the fun in the faith

Program to help teens know, serve Christ

BY KATHLEEN SCHMIEDER
CORRESPONDENT

HENDERSONVILLE — Youth ministry is evolving at Immaculate Conception Church in Hendersonville.

The parish is introducing Life Teen, an international youth ministry movement that provides resources and faith experiences to help teens get closer to Christ.

"My mission as a youth minister is to help teens fall in love with Christ, and I believe the best way to help that happen is through Life Teen," said Emily Sevier, parish youth minister.

Originally founded in 1985 as a youth group at St. Timothy Church in Mesa, Ariz., the program has grown into a prolific youth ministry in the Catholic Church, with 950 programs established in 20 countries. Life Teen estimates that every Sunday, approximately 120,000 teenagers attend a Life Teen Mass.

"The goal is not just to get teens back to Mass. It's about salvation and making the Gospel relevant to them," said Sevier.

The Life Teen program includes a Sunday night Life Teen Mass with a band, followed by a Life Night at which teens are challenged to learn and live their faith through ministry, involvement and evangelization.

Life Teen is not limited to those already in the faith, but serves as an outreach to all teens in the community, teaching them to understand the love of Christ and the value of a faith-filled life, as well as providing answers they need in order to live a spiritual life in a secular world of dating, family relationships and choosing a vocation.

Sevier was looking for a way to move the parish's teens beyond the limits of the current youth group. She was inspired after attending the recent Steubenville Atlanta youth conference, sponsored by the Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio, and co-sponsored by Life Teen.

"The teens wanted something like this," said Sevier. "I started looking into it, what it was, how it worked. ... I called other youth ministers using Life Teen to find out more about it."

Several parishes in the Diocese of Charlotte already utilize the Life Teen program. Sevier learned that every parish

with a Life Teen program has seen positive results, and not just for the teens.

"It's been life-changing for youths and spiritually enhancing and renewing for their parishes," she said. "Many people said they have been reawakened in their faith."

When she spoke at Masses calling for interested volunteers, several people came forward with Life Teen experience at other parishes. They all recommended it.

"Many adults are seeing teens leave the church because they can't find things for them to relate to," said Sevier. "Their friends' churches have something vibrant and it attracts them; those churches are doing something to bring in teens."

Life Teen provides all the resources necessary for the program, from teachings "in line with the church and loaded with great information," said Sevier, to training for volunteers and musicians.

"They give you everything you need to spiritually feed your teenagers," she said.

Through training of volunteers, the structure and message remain constant in all the individual groups, insuring a consistent message aimed at strengthening the faith and faithfulness to the teachings of the church.

Sevier attended training this summer in Arizona and has been recruiting volunteers.

The goal is to kick off the program this fall. A band is being arranged for the Life Teen Mass, and the parish is still seeking more adult volunteers to assist with the program.

"Core members are a group of adults, preferably not parents of the members, who will be active participants in the lives of the teens," said Sevier.

The volunteers must be confirmed Catholic adults, at least 21 years old, said Sevier.

"I have a good core group of adults who are onboard and want to see this happen," she said.

Her pastor, Capuchin Father John Aurilia, is "excited about this and can't wait for it to get started," she added.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on Life Teen, visit www.lifeteen.com; at Immaculate Conception Church, contact Emily Sevier at (828) 681-5596 or soconfused2day@hotmail.com.

Confirmed in Charlotte



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Bishop Peter J. Jugis confirms Juana Arias Becerril at Our-Lady of Guadalupe Church in Charlotte Sept. 19. One of the three sacraments of initiation, confirmation typically is administered to teenagers who have been baptized and who have received first Communion.

ATTENTION READERS! HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?

Is there something unique taking place at your church? Do you know of someone who is an example of how to live the Catholic faith? Have a photo of a recent event at your parish or ministry event?

If so, contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans at (704) 370-3334 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

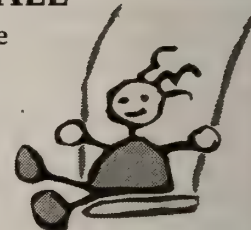
CHILDREN'S CONSIGNMENT SALE

Quality infant and children's clothing, furniture and accessories — plus, maternity clothes!

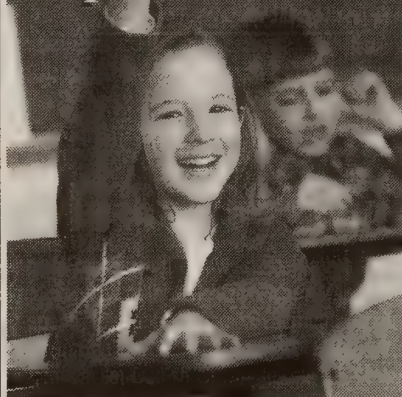
Saturday, October 14th 8 am - 1 pm
(half price: 11:30 - 1 pm)

CONSIGNERS CALL: 704-542-8866

Christian Mothers' Group, St. Gabriel Church
3016 Providence Road, Charlotte (corner of Sharon Amity)



Start the New Semester at the Top of the Class



Felicia Susi, Owner/Director
Parishioner, St. Matthew Catholic Church
& Parent, St. Matthew Catholic School student

South Charlotte
(704) 752-4234

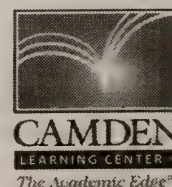
www.camdenlearningcenter.com

CAMDEN LEARNING CENTER™

is a personalized educational center offering specialized tutoring for all ages in:

Reading • Phonics
Written Language • Math
Study Skills
SAT/ACT Preparation

Let Camden™ help.



It's news and inspiration about the Diocese of Charlotte!

Subscribe today — it's FREE!

Check it out at www.CharlotteDiocese.org

St. Leo teacher helps orphans, children with HIV in Kenya

KENYA, from page 1

Lindsay Shepherd traveled to Kenya to spend the month of July helping infants and children who have lost their parents to HIV/AIDS.

"I grew an emotional attachment to the children, but I expected that," said Shepherd. "The hardest thing for me was knowing that some of those kids, who are the same age as those I teach, have this demon to deal with — HIV."

According to the Amani Children's Foundation, an estimated 13 million children in Africa have been orphaned due to the AIDS pandemic ravaging the continent.

Amani Children's Foundation, a non-profit group based in Winston-Salem, works to assist these children and educate others about their needs. Amani (Swahili for "peace") organizes groups several times a year to travel with them to Kenya.

Shepherd was one of approximately 50 people who made the journey this past summer. The participants were divided into three categories: professionals, university scholars and high school students.

Marielle Kissick and Julie Anne McKellogg, rising college freshmen and graduates of St. Leo the Great School, traveled for a two-week period on this same trip.

Amani volunteers raise their own funds to cover travel costs and expenses for the month-long stay. Shepherd said she is grateful to the families of St. Leo the Great School who supported her bake sales and other fundraising activities that helped cover costs.

Amani participants worked in cooperation with New Life Homes, an organization that operates several orphanages for children exposed to HIV throughout Kenya and works to find families to adopt the children.

While Kenya's government has a program to assist those with AIDS, there is nothing for the 2 million Kenyan orphans who have been left behind. Established in 1994 and supported by private donations from Kenya, Britain and the United States, New Life Homes has cared for more than 1,000 infants and children.

The Nairobi facility, where Shepherd spent her first two weeks working, has rescued approximately 700 babies.

Education was also a component of the trip. A conference in Nairobi was organized for the Amani volunteers by universities in Kenya and Uganda. Presentations were given by people of influence from Kenya, including a member of parliament, an economist and two doctors.

They spoke about their history, the present economy, the current crises being faced and ideas for assistance.

After the conference, Shepherd spent



PHOTO BY SUSAN DEGUZMAN

Second-graders in Lindsay Shepherd's class at St. Leo the Great School in Winston-Salem point to Kenya on a classroom map. Shepherd spent a month in Kenya assisting orphans and students.

four days at a private school associated with New Life Homes in Ruiru, a town just outside of Nairobi. Approximately 90 percent of the students are orphans.

Shepherd worked mainly with the staff, training them in a variety of teaching methods. She said that while most of the teachers were very enthusiastic, many had no formal training.

The school was founded by a Kenyan couple in conjunction with their church to provide education and meals for the poor. It is only within the last few years that public education became "free" in Kenya, according to Shepherd, but families still must pay for items such as desks, books and uniforms.

Most public school classes are overcrowded, with 50-75 students per class, and there is a shortage of teachers. More than 70,000 children cannot afford public education.

St. Leo the Great School has committed to provide some form of outreach to the school in Ruiru.

Shepherd visited an orphanage and school in Kisumu; 400 of the 700 students are orphans, and the area's water system was poor, a condition that affects HIV-infected children with fragile immune systems.

"You get overwhelmed, since you want to help in so many ways, but there

is so much that needs to be done," said Shepherd.

"It breaks my heart to think of how such young hopeful lives are being lost. These children are bearing the consequences of a disease they have no control over, and they face its reality every day," she said.

Ninety percent of the children in New Life Homes who initially test HIV positive become HIV negative when retested. Shepherd reports that this is due to the proper nutrition, care and antibodies they are given at New Life Homes.

A high percentage of the babies have been adopted. Unfortunately, 60 percent of Kenyans live below the poverty line.

"There is no prenatal care," said Shepherd, who added that few Kenyans can afford baby formula, something vital for infants whose mothers have AIDS.

On the trip, Kissick organized supplies for children at a New Life Homes orphanage in Nakuri that included diapers, formulas, blankets, toys and books.

"The woman in charge of the house kept saying that God must have told us what to bring, since the items we supplied were just what she needed," said Kissick. "It felt good to see how much we were able to help the babies."

Shepherd plans to return to Kenya at some point in the future.

"Kenya has taught me how far we have yet to go in the terms of basic human rights," she said. "It has also enlightened me as to how precious life is and how to savor it in the simplest of ways: faith, hope and love."

The Diocese of Charlotte invites you to Explore the BEST OF IRELAND

with Fr. Mo West, Chancellor and Vicar General

breathtaking countryside — traditions of our Catholic faith — legends of her people



May 8-18, 2007

Join us as we explore the spectacular countryside of Ireland and learn of our faith traditions at its holy sites. With Mass celebrated daily by Fr. Mo, and a professional, fulltime tour escort to handle all of your needs, your days will be filled with spiritual enrichment as well as Irish folklore, music and merriment!

Highlights include:

- spectacular Cliffs of Moher; Galway Bay area
- Knock — Mass at church of heavenly apparition
- Croagh Patrick — site of St. Patrick
- Kylemore Abbey; Holy Cross Abbey — true Cross relic
- Bunratty Folk Park and Castle — traditional festive dinner
- Killarney and scenic Ring of Kerry drive
- Blarney stone and woolen mill; Wicklow hand weavers
- Glass artists at Waterford Crystal Factory
- Rock of Cashel — spectacular anthropological site
- Beautiful Glendalough — 6th century monastic site of St. Kevin
- Dublin — full tour including famous Trinity College Book of Kells, St. Patrick's Cathedral, O'Connell Street, shopping — PLUS much more!

Price: Early discount price \$2,799 from Charlotte (after 2/2/07 \$2,899) includes airfare, most meals, first class hotels, all tours and admission fees to sites. Airport taxes/fees, tips and insurance are extra.

For a brochure with complete details, call Cindi Feerick at (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours at (800) 713-9800.



**Carolina
Funeral &
Cremation
Center**

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus



AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles
Licensed & Insured
FREE ESTIMATES
www.avroofing.com
704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185

Eucharistic Congress offers much for everyone

CONGRESS, from page 1

"I look forward to welcoming everyone to the Eucharistic Congress again this year," said Bishop Peter J. Jugis. "This is the only time during the entire year that the whole diocese comes together as one family to witness to our faith and our love for Jesus."

"There is value in coming together like this on such a large scale," he said. "It reminds us in a visible way that we are all members of the diocesan church."

The second Eucharistic Congress in the Diocese of Charlotte will take place at the Charlotte Convention Center Oct. 6-7.

As with the first Eucharistic Congress in 2005, the year's event will feature a eucharistic procession, speakers, adoration and more.

"The holy Eucharist is the sacrament of unity and charity," said Bishop Jugis. "Our participation in the events of the congress — the eucharistic procession, the talks, the holy hour and the Mass — will unite all of us more closely with each other in charity, and form us more perfectly into one body in Christ throughout the Diocese of Charlotte."

The congress will open Friday evening with a concert of sacred music at 7 p.m., followed with an address by Raymond Arroyo, new director of EWTN, on "The Big Way of Mother Angelica."

Lauds (morning prayers) will open Saturday's events at the convention center at 8 a.m., followed by speakers and programs for all ages.

In the early afternoon, first communicants from throughout the diocese will lead a eucharistic procession through the streets of uptown Charlotte in the afternoon.

Designed to provide opportunities for spiritual growth for people of all ages, the congress will feature tracks for adults, teenagers, school-age children and Hispanics.

Featured speakers will be Father Leo Patalinghug, Franciscan Father James Goode, Jeff Cavins, Mary Beth Bonacci, Father Juan Rivas and Dr. Fernando Casanova.

The master of ceremonies will be Maureen O'Boyle, news anchor for WBTV news in Charlotte. In March 2005, O'Boyle interviewed Bishop Peter J. Jugis interviewed as part of a half-hour special about the bishop and the growth of the Diocese of Charlotte.

"Many people have made great sacrifices in preparing for this congress, and many others will make sacrifices to be present for the event," Bishop Jugis said. "All of these sacrifices, as well as the prayers others have offered for the success of the congress, cannot help but produce many blessings for our diocese."

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on the Eucharistic Congress, visit www.goEucharist.com. To read Bishop Jugis' invitation to the Eucharistic Congress, see page 7.

Note: PRE-REGISTRATION is required for ALL children to participate in the Children's Track. To pre-register, go to www.goEucharist.com to fill out the registration form.

Groce
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

Asheville & Arden
The Catholic Funeral Directors
828-252-3535

Diocese of Charlotte
EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS

Friday & Saturday, Oct. 6 & 7

For schedule and info:
www.charlottediocese.org

ABBOTSWOOD SENIOR LIVING



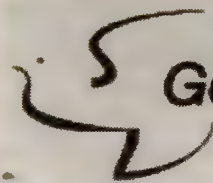
For more than 17 years, Abbotswood at Irving Park has built a reputation on providing exemplary retirement living services to independent seniors. Residents enjoy the largest 1 and 2 bedroom floorplans in Irving Park, delicious meals, a full-time wellness director and month-to-month rental with NO BUY-IN FEES. Optional in-home health care services are available. Call today to schedule your personal tour.

(336) 282-8870

ABBOTSWOOD
at Irving Park



The only full service retirement living address in the heart of Irving Park
3504 Flint Street • Greensboro, NC 27405 • www.kiscoseniorliving.com



Good News Ministries

presents TWO EXCITING EVENTS!
Same place! Same time!

Mens' Rally -
Ordinary Faith is Not Enough Today
AND
High School Age Men's Rally -
Life on the Run!

Saturday, October 28th - 8 am to 4 pm
(registration: 7:30 am)
Charlotte Catholic High School
7702 Pineville-Matthews Road

Men's topics include: Transforming Fire/God's Love * Becoming Men of Faith/Daily Spiritual Life * Receiving God's Gifts

Young men's topics include: Ready, Set, Go! * In the Running/Sustaining Endurance * The Finish Line



Bishop Jugis,
Celebrant

Fourth bishop of Charlotte, Bishop Peter J. Jugis was ordained by Pope John Paul II at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. He has served throughout the Charlotte diocese as pastor, vicar and judge for the diocesan tribunal.

Rally Speakers

Mark Nehrbas is Executive Director of Christian Outreach and Evangelization at Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio. A popular conference speaker on the family, men's spirituality and the Holy Spirit, Mark is married and the father of nine children.



Deacon Ralph Poyo has been actively involved in ministry for more than 25 years. Currently, he is a director of faith formation in Raleigh and speaks at many youth, young adult and men's retreats; rallies and church missions. Ralph and Susan have five daughters.



Bob Rice received his master's degree in theology from Franciscan University of Steubenville where he teaches youth ministry, leads praise and worship, and works with the FUS summer conferences. Married, he is the father of four children.



* PRE-REGISTRATION TICKETS INCLUDE FREE LUNCH! *

Name _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Parish _____

___ Adult Men @ \$25 = \$ ___

___ H.S. Young Men @ \$25 = \$ ___ *** NOTE: all youth under age 18 MUST have permission form (available at door or call (704) 521-9949)

CLERGY/RELIGIOUS - no charge but please register. Please check ___ if available for confession in morning.

Disability seating: ___ adult ___ high school

Check one: Tickets ___ pick up/will call; or ___ send confirmation

Return form and payment (payable to Good News Ministries) BEFORE OCTOBER 18 to: Good News Ministries, 5121 Baker Drive, Charlotte NC 28210.

Info: (704) 521-9949 and Carolinaevents2@aol.com

SECOND DIOCESAN EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS

OCTOBER 6-7, 2006

CHARLOTTE CONVENTION CENTER



Celebrating Our Lord

BY BISHOP PETER J. JUGIS
BISHOP OF CHARLOTTE

A great event is coming to our diocese on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 6 and 7. The second diocesan Eucharistic Congress takes place at the Charlotte Convention Center.

The theme for the Congress is the motto I use as the shepherd of our diocese, "Caritas Christi Urget Nos," which means "The Love of Christ Impels Us."

The response to our first Eucharistic Congress in September of 2005 was so overwhelmingly positive that we have arranged to use more space in the Convention Center this year. This will allow us to come together as one in praise and worship of our Lord.

This year's event will begin with a concert of sacred music, a nationally-known speaker and all-night adoration on Friday, Oct 6.

On Saturday, Oct. 7, we will start the day in the Convention Center with lauds and will then hear from a list of inspiring speakers. Children, teens, adults and Hispanics have separate tracks with messages specifically directed to them.

In addition, a cultural hour will be held for African-American, Filipino, Vietnamese and Korean Catholics.

I am looking forward especially to our eucharistic procession through the streets of downtown Charlotte. We make a beautiful statement of our love for Jesus when we process as one in adoration of His Most Precious Body.

Like last year, the procession will go from St. Peter Church, the oldest church in our diocese, to the Convention Center. Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin will deliver the homily during the Holy Hour that follows.

The day culminates in the Convention Center with a vigil Mass for all, which I will concelebrate with my brother priests.

On the following pages you will find more detailed information, as well as a map of the procession route. Other information is available at the Web site www.goEucharist.com.

The Congress is a beautiful opportunity for the people of the diocese to come together and celebrate our unity in faith through the sacrament of unity: the holy Eucharist. I look forward to seeing you and processing with you in praise of our Lord.

Watching and participating in the eucharistic procession

THE ROUTE

The eucharistic procession, led by Bishop Peter J. Jugis, will begin at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 7, at St. Peter Church, 501 South Tryon Street. (First communicants, clergy, religious and banner carriers should gather on Tryon Street south of St. Peter Church at 1 p.m.)

The procession will head north on Tryon Street for one block, then turn east onto Third Street for one block.

The procession will then turn south onto College Street for three blocks, then turn east onto Stonewall Street to the Charlotte Convention Center.

People of the Diocese of Charlotte are encouraged to line the procession route.

TO PARTICIPATE

As the Blessed Sacrament comes near, it is the custom to be silent and kneel until the monstrance passes.

After the Blessed Sacrament passes by, look for your parish's banner. When your parish banner passes by, you may fall in along with your parish to join in the procession. Once you have connected with your parish group, simply join in the communal prayers or just pray silently as the procession moves along.

When the procession arrives at the Charlotte Convention Center, move as directed by the ushers to enter the main hall. Proceed to the seating area, joining in the singing until the beginning of the Holy Hour.

Procession Map Legend

- PROCESSION STAGING AREA & PROCESSION CHECK-IN
- PROCESSION ENTRANCE INTO CONVENTION CENTER
- PROCESSION ROUTE
- P PARKING

Frequently asked questions about the Eucharistic Congress

What is the Eucharistic Congress?

The Eucharistic Congress is a teaching and worship event that is centered on the Eucharist, the source and summit of Catholic life. The Congress begins Friday evening, Oct. 6, with a concert of sacred music and a talk by EWTN news director Raymond Arroyo on "The Big Way of Mother Angelica." Afterward, the Eucharist will be available for adoration throughout the night at St. Peter Church, 501 S. Tryon St.

Events on Saturday, Oct. 7, begin at 8 a.m. at the Charlotte Convention Center with lauds (morning prayer). From 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., there are programs (or "tracks") for adults, Hispanics, teens and children. At 12:15 p.m., there will be a culture hour in native languages.

At 1:30 p.m., the eucharistic procession will begin at St. Peter Church and process through uptown Charlotte to the Charlotte Convention Center, where there will be a holy hour.

During the day, the Eucharist will be available for adoration in a special chapel in the Charlotte Convention Center. Priests will be available for confessions all day and there will be an area for vendors selling religious merchandise and offering information about Catholic vocations, religious organizations and ministries, etc.

The Congress concludes with a Vigil Mass that begins at 4:30 p.m.

Where does the idea for a Eucharistic Congress come from?

The first eucharistic congress was held in Lille, France in 1881 under the direction of Msgr. Gaston De Segur. In time, eucharistic congresses developed to their present international character. The Congress of 1908, which met in London, was the first occasion on which a representative of the pope had entered England since the Protestant Reformation. Two international eucharistic congresses

have been held in the United States — Chicago in 1926 and Philadelphia in 1976.

The Diocese of Charlotte celebrated its first Eucharistic Congress in September 2005.

Who is allowed to take part in the procession?

Everyone. Leading the procession will be altar servers, organized societies including the Knights of Columbus, clergy and most importantly, the Eucharist. Following the Eucharist will be banner carriers representing churches, schools and organizations in the Diocese of Charlotte. The faithful are invited to join the procession as the banner for their church or organization passes by.

What if I am handicapped or unable to walk in the procession?

The Charlotte Convention Center is handicapped-accessible. In addition,

individuals with handicaps and those who choose not to walk in the procession are invited to witness part of the procession on the video screens in the Convention Center. Music and clergy will be available in this location until the Eucharistic Procession arrives.

What if it rains?

The Congress will be held rain or shine. The procession may be moved into the Charlotte Convention Center depending on the weather.

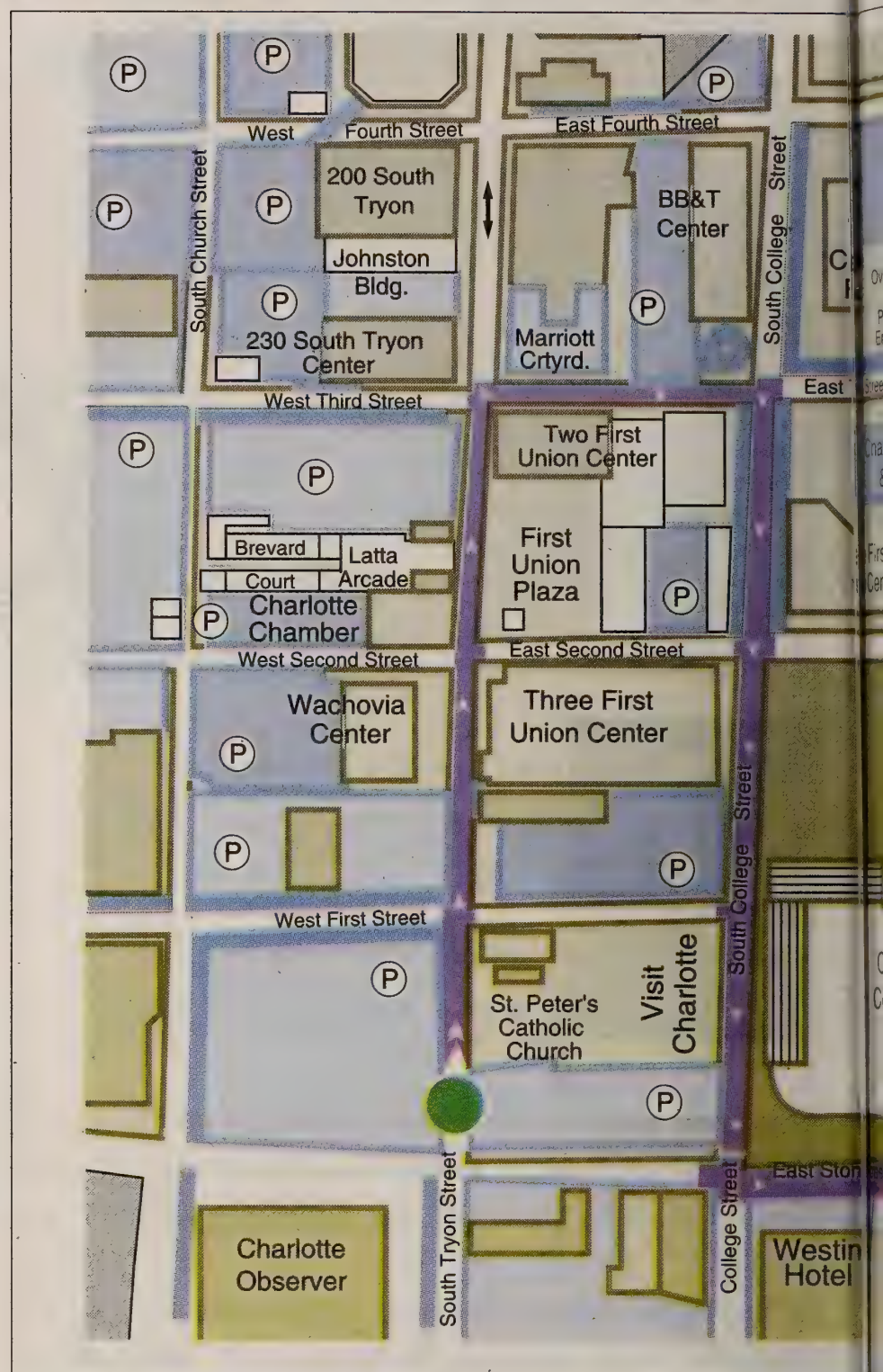
Where can I park?

There is ample parking around the Charlotte Convention Center. Since the Congress takes place on a weekend, traffic will be minimal but allowing extra time for parking is advised.

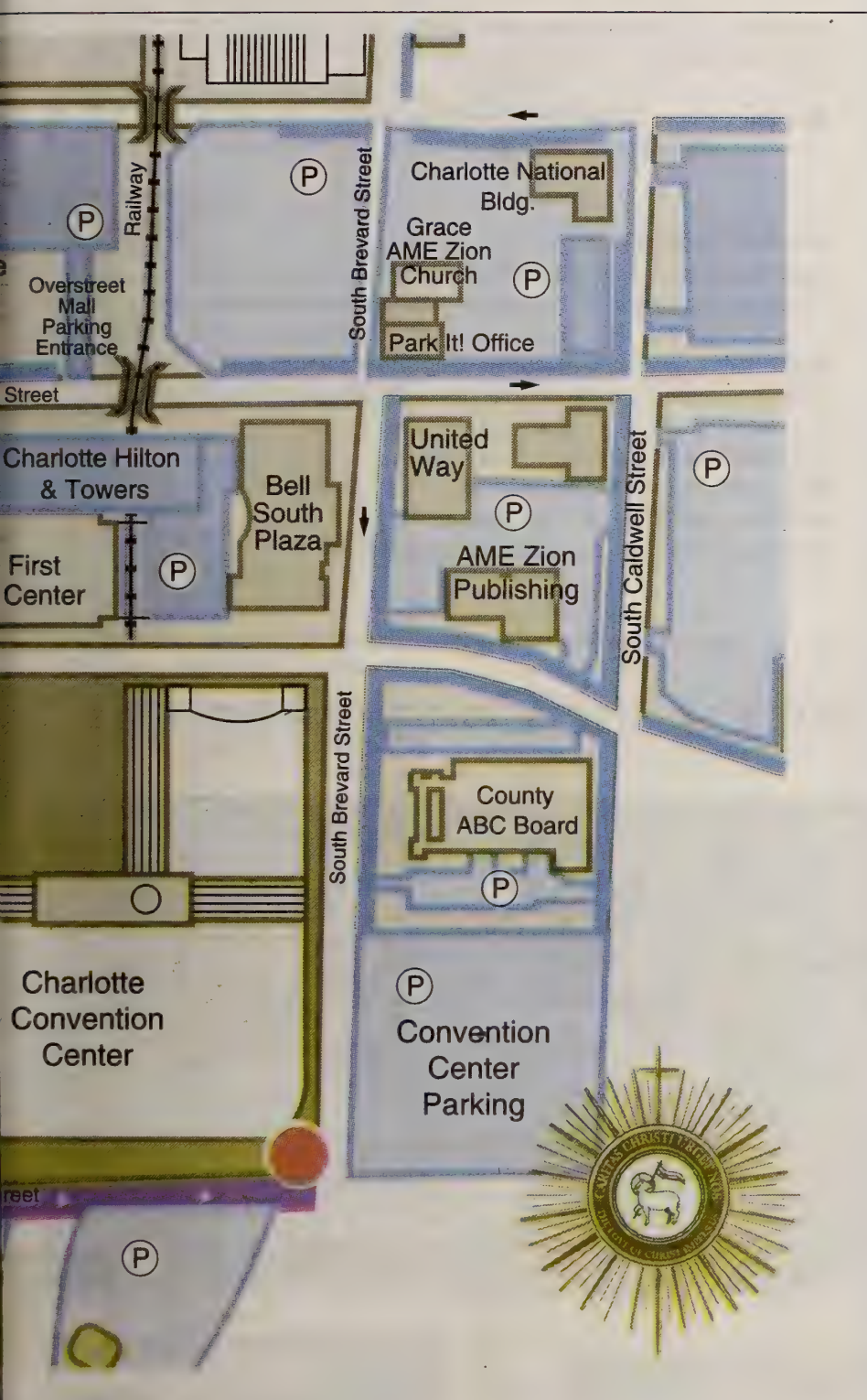
What age children will be able to participate in the Children's Track?

Children from kindergarten through

EUCHARISTIC



PROCESSION



fifth grade are welcome to participate in the Children's Track. *All children in the Children's Track must be pre-registered.* Registration forms are available online (www.goEucharist.com) or through individual parishes.

Seating in the Children's Track will be limited. Children in the Children's Track will be involved in age-appropriate activities and will be served lunch.

What is being done to provide a secure environment for the children?

The Diocese of Charlotte is committed to "The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People" as adopted by the U.S. bishops.

All adult volunteers at the Congress who will have supervisory contact with children will be required to attend the diocesan training, "Protecting God's Children." Background checks will also be performed on any adult having supervisory contact with children.

Who is speaking at the Eucharistic Congress?

The list of dynamic, inspiring speakers can be accessed by visiting the speakers' page of the Congress Web site at www.goEucharist.com and on page 16 of this issue of The Catholic News & Herald.

Is there a charge to attend the Congress?

There is no charge for any of the events associated with the Eucharistic Congress. Everyone who desires a closer relationship to the Eucharist is encouraged to attend and participate. The Diocese of Charlotte is accepting contributions to defray the cost of staging the congress. To donate, visit www.goEucharist.com.

Will food be served?

The Charlotte Convention Center will offer a variety of food for sale

Directions to the Congress

DIRECTIONS FROM INTERSTATE 77

At exit 9, turn **RIGHT** onto Ramp
I-277 / US-74 / Wilkinson Blvd / John Belk Frwy / West Blvd
At exit 9B, take Ramp (**RIGHT**) onto I-277 N/US-74 E / John Belk Frwy
Turn **RIGHT** onto Ramp
College St / Caldwell St / Downtown
Take Ramp (**RIGHT**) onto S College St
College St / Downtown
Arrive Charlotte Convention Center [501 S College St, Charlotte, NC 28202, (704) 339-6000]

DIRECTIONS FROM INTERSTATE 85-NORTH

At exit 36 Of Interstate 85- North, turn **RIGHT** onto Ramp
NC-16 / Brookshire Blvd / US-74 E / Downtown
Take Ramp (**RIGHT**) onto SR-16 [Brookshire Blvd]
NC-16 / Charlotte / Bank of America Stadium
Road name changes to I-277 [SR-16]
At exit 1E, turn **RIGHT** onto Ramp
Stonewall St / South Blvd / Kenilworth Ave
Keep **RIGHT** to stay on Ramp
Stonewall St / Kenilworth Ave
Turn **LEFT** (North-West) onto E Stonewall St
Turn **RIGHT** (North-East) onto S College St
Arrive Charlotte Convention Center [501 S College St, Charlotte, NC 28202, (704) 339-6000]

DIRECTIONS FROM INTERSTATE 85-SOUTH

At exit 38 of Interstate 85 South, turn **RIGHT** onto Ramp
I-77 / US-21 / Statesville / Columbia
Take Ramp (**LEFT**) onto I-77 [US-21]
I-77 / US-21 / Columbia
At exit 9, turn **RIGHT** onto Ramp
I-277 / US-74 / Wilkinson Blvd / John Belk Frwy / West Blvd
At exit 9C, keep **LEFT** to stay on Ramp
At exit 9B, take Ramp (**RIGHT**) onto I-277 [US-74]
I-277 / US-74 / John Belk Frwy
Turn **RIGHT** onto Ramp
College St / Caldwell St / Downtown
Take Ramp (**RIGHT**) onto S College St
College St / Downtown
Arrive Charlotte Convention Center [501 S College St, Charlotte, NC 28202, (704) 339-6000]

IMPORTANT NOTICE: CHILDREN'S TRACK PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

PRE-REGISTRATION is required for ALL children to participate in the Children's Track. NO children will be admitted without pre-registration.

TO PRE-REGISTER, go online to www.goEucharist.com and fill out the registration form.

NOCTURNAL EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION SCHEDULED GROUPS

10-11 p.m.	Families, seniors and religious
11 p.m.-12 a.m.	Youths
12-1 a.m.	College students, young adults
1-2 a.m.	Cursillo women
2-3 a.m.	Cursillo men
3-4 a.m.	Nocturnal Adoration Group of Charlotte
5-6 a.m.	Seminarians
6-7 a.m.	Permanent deacons
7-8 a.m.	Priests

throughout the day. Lunch will be provided at no charge for the children attending the Children's Track session. Before and after the congress,

attendees may want to take advantage of the many restaurants, hotels and attractions that are within easy walking distance of the Convention Center.

Speakers at the second diocesan Eucharistic Congress

FRIDAY, OCT. 6

Raymond Arroyo: "The Big Way of Mother Angelica" — 8 p.m.
News director for Eternal World Television Network (EWTN)

SATURDAY, OCT. 7

Bishop Peter J. Jugis, a Charlotte native and the fourth bishop of Charlotte, will offer welcoming remarks at the conclusion of the Saturday morning lauds and Benediction.

Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin, who retired as bishop of Charlotte in 2002, will deliver the homily during the eucharistic Holy Hour and Benediction on Saturday afternoon.

GENERAL TRACK, SATURDAY

Father Leo Patalinghug: "The Mission to be Beautiful" — 9:30 a.m.
Associate pastor of St. John Church in Westminster, Md.

Franciscan Father James Goode: "The Mission of Building a Culture of Life" — 10:15 a.m.
Founder of the New York-based National Black Catholic Apostolate for Life

Jeff Cavins: "The Mission of Peer Evangelization" — 11:15 a.m.
Convert to Catholicism and internationally-known speaker

Mary Beth Bonacci: "The Mission to Raise Chaste Teens" — 12:15 p.m.
Internationally-known speaker and writer

HISPANIC TRACK, SATURDAY

Father Juan Rivas: "The Mission of Catholic Media" — 9:30 a.m. & 12:15 p.m.
Member of the Legionaries of Christ, founder of Hombro Nuevo (New Man) radio

Dr. Fernando Casanova: "The Mission of Being Catholic" — 10:15 a.m.
Puerto Rican theologian known for enthusiastic and charismatic talks about Catholicism

TEEN TRACK, SATURDAY

Mary Beth Bonacci: "The Mission of Chastity"
Jeff Cavins: "Mission of Peer Evangelization"
Father Leo Patalinghug: "The Mission to be Super Heroes"

Visit these advertisers at their Eucharistic Congress booths

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



FULLY STOCKED AND READY FOR FALL!

We're brimming over with the latest in Catholic books, new Bible study materials, spiritual gifts for special occasions, Bibles, artwork, rosaries — a wide inventory awaits you at both locations!

AND, come visit us at our Eucharistic Congress booth, October 6 and 7, at the Charlotte Convention Center.

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

got monks?

Our monks see God.

Our students seek Truth.

No wonder we end up at the same place:

BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

What are YOU seeking?

THE GOOD NEWS IS, YOU HAVE THOUSANDS OF INVESTMENT OPTIONS. THE BAD NEWS IS...

- You have thousands of investment options, and you don't know how to pick the best ones for your situation.
 - You have thousands of investments options, and you don't have time to research even a fraction of them.
- Call to learn more about:



PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT
Les Davaz
Financial Advisor
Member, St. Patrick's Church

100 N. Tryon St., Suite 3300
Charlotte, NC 28202
(704) 331-2233 or
(800) 438-0397
<http://fc.smithbarney.com/davaz>

citigroup
SMITHBARNEY

* Minimum balance \$25,000 Equity, \$100,000 Fixed Income. © 2006 Citigroup Global Markets Inc. Member SIPC. Smith Barney is a division and service mark of Citigroup Global Markets Inc. and its affiliates and is used and registered throughout the world. CITIGROUP and the Umbrella Device are trademarks and service marks of Citigroup Inc. or its affiliates and are used and registered throughout the world.

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065

Anderson Family Medicine



...Healthcare with a heart.

Dr. E. Kelly Anderson is available to help with all of your family's healthcare needs. A graduate of the Yale University School of Medicine and the residency program at Carolinas Medical Center - Union, Dr. Anderson is now accepting patients of all ages.

Dr. E. Kelly Anderson
Parishoner
Our Lady of
Consolation, Charlotte

HOURS:
Mon, Tue, Th, Fri. 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Wednesday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm (by appt.)

704-283-8888

An NFP-only practice

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

College newspaper pulls comics after Catholic group, others complain

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. (CNS) — After receiving complaints from the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights and from more than 2,000 people across the country, the University of Virginia's student newspaper, The Cavalier Daily, removed comics that had originally appeared in its newspaper from the paper's Web site.

The comics were drawn by a student at the Charlottesville university and appeared in the school's newspaper Aug. 23 and 24.

The first one, "Christ on a Cartesian Plane," depicted Jesus crucified on a mathematical grid. The other one, "A Nativity Ob-scene" implied that Mary had a sexually transmitted disease.

A statement released by the newspaper expressed regret "that many took offense" to the comics. "Offense was not our intent — neither the intent of the artist, nor the intent of the newspaper, which seeks to provide contributors an open forum to present their ideas."

In a Sept. 15 press release, Catholic League president Bill Donohue said he was pleased with the outcome and noted that his concern about the comic was based on its "anti-Catholic nature" and also because the

newspaper had granted apologies to other groups, referring to a cartoon last year that was offensive to gays.

When Donohue first contacted the school's newspaper seeking an apology, the editor in chief responded, "Under our newspaper's policies, satire of religion, or any other belief or creed, is acceptable."

An unsigned editorial, titled "Catholic bashing," in the Sept. 25 issue of The Catholic Virginian, newspaper of the Richmond Diocese, noted that the initial lack of an apology was also "not acceptable to some 2,000 people who complained to the paper and university about the cartoon. Their uproar apparently made an impact and the cartoonist has apologized."

In a statement, the cartoonist, Grant Woolard, said his sole intent "is to present situations that provoke thought and amusement," and since "this comic did not achieve that goal" he requested that it be taken off the newspaper's Web site.

The Catholic Virginian's editorial noted that "fortunately the apology did come — although only after a massive protest from those who were offended."

"It's good to know that people's voices do make a difference," it added.

You're Invited!
to

Room At The Inn's
Twelfth Annual Fundraising Banquet
"Life Giving Love"



Charlotte Convention Center
Thursday, October 26, 2006

Featured Speaker

Patrick Madrid

Catholic Apologist

www.surprisedbytruth.com

Make a reservation to attend this important fundraising event for the pro-life ministry of Room At The Inn! Mr. Madrid's provocative presentation will address the implications of the interlocking social and moral issues of abortion, euthanasia, contraception, global aging and the worldwide reality of population implosion.

Registration/Reception: 5:30 pm

Seating for dinner: 6:40 pm

**** Reservations are FREE, but required.**

To make your reservation or to host a table of eight, contact Banquet Reservations at (704) 525-4673, ext. 10 or iroomattheinn@carolina.rr.com by October 12th.

Room At The Inn, Inc. is a pro-life Catholic maternity and after-care program in Charlotte, NC, providing an alternative to abortion for pregnant women. Please check our website www.rati.org for more information. Not affiliated with Room At The Inn of the Triad, Inc.

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: OCT. 8, 2006

Oct. 8, Twenty-seventh
Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Genesis 2:18-24
Psalm 128:1-6
- 2) Hebrews 2:9-11
- 3) Gospel: Mark 10:2-16

We are a family of faith

BY SHARON K. PERKINS
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

"Actually, my siblings and I haven't spoken to each other in years."

The young man across the desk from me had come to the parish office to talk about becoming a fully initiated Catholic through the RCIA process, and as the coordinator of the program I was conducting an initial interview. When we got around to talking about his family, I was a bit stunned by his admission.

Although my two brothers, my sister and I lived some distance from one another, we always had been rather close. I couldn't imagine going several months without contact, much less several years.

But I was struck by a much deeper irony in the would-be Catholic's statements. As he chatted about the "family spirit" of the parish and how it had attracted him to consider Catholicism, I couldn't help but wonder what sort of family he was looking for.

Today's readings are full of family references — husband and wife, parents

and children, brothers and sisters, even grandchildren — set in an unmistakable context of God-ordained blessing, fruitfulness, relationship and joy.

By contrast, Jesus' hard sayings concerning divorce make the Gospel reading problematic in a "real world" in which divorce, child and elder abuse, and sibling estrangement are all too common. Such circumstances make it difficult to imagine how family life with its myriad imperfections and varied interpretations can be viewed as a window to God's goodness.

Yet Jesus reminds us that we are to accept the reign of God like children. My children continually surprise me with their willingness to forgive, to overlook my poor attempts at parenting, to magnify the good and minimize the not-so-good qualities of our family life.

My family's remarkable resilience and loyalty — despite and through heartache, misunderstanding and even the occasional arguing — teach me more deeply about God's faithfulness than any other relationships I have experienced.

No one should allow himself or herself to be abused by a family member or anyone else. But today's readings challenge us to recognize and repent of the "hardness of heart" that prevents our encountering God in the sacred spaces of family life.

Questions:

In what way have your family relationships been difficult lately? How has your hardness of heart kept you from seeing God's blessing in another family member?

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF OCT. 1-7

Sunday (Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Numbers 11:25-29, James 5:1-6, Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48; **Monday** (The Guardian Angels), Job 1:6-22, Matthew 18:1-5, 10; **Tuesday**, Job 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23, Luke 9:51-56; **Wednesday** (St. Francis of Assisi), Job 9:1-12, 14-16, Luke 9:57-62; **Thursday**, Job 19:21-27, Luke 10:1-12; **Friday** (St. Bruno, Bl. Marie-Rose Durocher), Job 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5, Luke 10:13-16; **Saturday** (Our Lady of the Rosary), Job 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-16, Luke 10:17-24.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF OCT. 8-14

Sunday (Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time), Genesis 2:18-24, Hebrews 2:9-11, Mark 10:2-16; **Monday** (St. Denis and companions, St. John Leonardi), Galatians 1:6-12, Luke 10:25-37; **Tuesday**, Galatians 1:13-24, Luke 10:38-42; **Wednesday**, Galatians 2:1-2, 7-14, Luke 11:1-4; **Thursday**, Galatians 3:1-5, Luke 1:69-75, Luke 11:5-13; **Friday**, Galatians 3:7-14, Luke 11:15-26; **Saturday** (St. Callistus I), Galatians 3:22-29, Luke 11:27-28.



Please pray for the following priests who died during the month of October

Rev. Aloysius D'Silva 2005

Rev. Msgr. William Wellein 1997

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus



POLAND

with Father John Starczewski

parochial vicar at Our Lady of Grace Church, Greensboro

"The Footsteps of John Paul II"

May 8-16, 2007

Join us while we visit Krakow, Wadowice, Zakopane, Warsaw and the world-famous salt mines of Wieliczka.

Roundtrip from Charlotte: \$2,898 plus taxes and fees (double occupancy) — includes breakfast and dinner daily

For further information, call Patti Dameron at (336) 413-8127.

PARISH MUSIC DIRECTOR

Holy Spirit Church in Denver, NC is looking for a music director versed in Catholic liturgy. Salary is negotiable. Contact Father Carmen Malacari at 704-483-6448 if interested.

Diocesan Development Office: Director, Catholic Schools

Full-time director of development for Catholic schools needed. Candidate must be a college graduate with a degree in marketing, communications or related field; have at least two years of experience in fund raising and marketing; and have experience with Microsoft Office.

Responsibilities include: managing two regional annual giving campaigns; handling all aspects of newsletters and annual report production; and serving as liaison to regional schools, foundation boards, and parish-based schools.

Please submit resume by October 6 to: Jim Kelley at

jkelley@charlottediocese.org or Diocesan Office of Development,

1123 S. Church Street, Charlotte NC 28203-4003.

For additional job information, call Jim Kelley at 704-370-3301.



Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT

PARISH ORGANIST: Our Lady of the Assumption in Charlotte is looking for a parish organist. Contact Deacon Peter Duca: (704) 573-0097.

SERVICES

COUNSELING: The Cedar Institute. Professional Christian Counseling. Healing individuals, couples and families. All ages. Lara Miller, MA, NCC, LPC. (828) 446-5514. St. Joseph's, Newton.

FOR SALE

HOME: Lake Wylie, SC (near Charlotte). 3 BD/2BA home, excellent school district, nice neighbors, community pool and playground, new Catholic church being built nearby. \$196,000. www.homesbyowner.com/28338

FOR RENT

LAKE LURE VACATION HOME: Fabulous mountain views. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, a relaxing getaway. Reasonable. Book for leaf season! (828) 299-3714.

Classified ads bring results! Over 135,000 readers! Over 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

Bishop Jugis approved chaplet to be at Congress

CHAPLET, from page 1

The Chaplet of Adoration and Reparation was inspired by prayers taught to the three children by an angel in Fatima, Portugal, in 1916.

A chaplet is a prayer or set of prayers, recited using rosary beads. A familiar chaplet is the Divine Mercy chaplet, prayed on Divine Mercy Sunday (the first Sunday after Easter). There are dozens of chaplets of Mary and the saints.

The Chaplet of Adoration and Reparation was arranged by a Dominican Sister of Perpetual Rosary at a convent in Fatima. Father Christopher Roux, priest secretary to Bishop Jugis, acquired the chaplet from another Dominican sister during a visit to the convent as part of an annual pilgrimage to Fatima in 2004.

Later that year, he was encouraged via correspondence with the sister to seek Bishop Jugis' imprimatur, or ecclesiastical approval, for the chaplet.

Bishop Jugis approved the chaplet Dec. 8, 2004. It has since been printed on a prayer card with an image taken from the story of the angel giving holy Communion to the children.

The angel first appeared in the spring of 1916 as the children were pasturing their sheep. The angel said, "Fear not, I am the Angel of Peace. Pray with me."

The angel knelt on the ground and recited this prayer three times as the children repeated it after him: "O my

God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love Thee. I ask pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love Thee."

During the second apparition in the summer of 1916, the angel urged the children to pray and offer sacrifices for the conversion of sinners. In the angel's final appearance, he prostrated himself on the ground before a vision of a chalice and host and said:

"Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore Thee profoundly. I offer Thee the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the Tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifferences whereby He is offended. And through the infinite merits of His most Sacred Heart and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg of Thee the conversion of poor sinners."

Then he gave holy Communion to the children.

The prayer card will be made available in the adoration chapel and at the vendor table operated by the Te Deum Foundation at the second diocesan Eucharistic Congress in Charlotte Oct. 6-7.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on the Chaplet of Adoration and Reparation and the Te Deum Foundation, visit: www.tedeum-foundation.org.



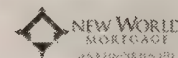
Do you know everything you need to know about your home mortgage options?

No? Call me, I can help!

Jayne McGonnell
Mortgage Loan Originator
(704) 516-9682

jaynemcgonnell@mortgagemaps.com

Let me be your mortgage advisor!



NOTICE

THE HOLY LAND

The diocesan-sponsored pilgrimage to the Holy Land scheduled for this month has been postponed due to the unstable political situation there. The new date is

NOVEMBER 6 – 16, 2007

This fully-escorted tour with Father James Hawker, diocesan vicar of education and pastor of St. Luke Church, will take us to the holy places and acquaint us further with the life of Our Lord while we deepen our understanding of our faith.

If you are interested in receiving a brochure with full information when it becomes available, please call Cindi Feerick at The Catholic News & Herald – (704) 370-3332.

Pope pledges continuing dialogue with Muslims

IALOGUE, from page 1

the dialogue opened by the Second Vatican Council and developed in large part by his predecessor, Pope John Paul II.

The pope expressed his "esteem and profound respect" for Muslim believers and said he wanted to continue to build bridges, especially between Muslims and Christians. Productive dialogue, he said, will be based on mutual knowledge, which "with joy recognizes the religious values that we have in common and, with loyalty, respects the differences."

He said historical animosities should be left behind. The lessons of the past, he said, should help Christians and Muslims seek "paths of reconciliation" that lead to respect for individual identity and freedom.

In that regard, Pope Benedict cited Pope John Paul on the important issue of reciprocal respect for religious rights, quoting from a speech the late pope delivered to Muslims in Morocco: "Respect and dialogue require reciprocity in all spheres, especially in that which concerns basic freedoms, more particularly religious freedom."

The pope said that in the current world situation it was imperative that Christians and Muslims join to promote human dignity and the rights that flow from that dignity.

"When threats mount up against people and against peace, by recognizing the central character of the human person and by working with perseverance to see that human life is always respected, Christians and Muslims manifest their obedience to the Creator," he said.

The pope closed his talk by recalling that Muslims worldwide were about to begin the spiritual month of Ramadan, and he prayed that they be granted "serene and peaceful lives." When he finished, he was warmly applauded.

The meeting, arranged with unusual urgency by the Vatican, was a formal audience and not a closed-door exchange of opinions. In attendance were ambassadors from 22 predominantly Muslim countries and 19 other Islamic

representatives based in Italy.

The pope delivered his talk in French; the Vatican immediately made available translations in Arabic, English and Italian. Afterward, the pope greeted those present individually.

The papal talk was broadcast live on the Arab television network Al-Jazeera.

The Vatican spokesman, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, said the encounter was a sign that dialogue was returning to normal after a moment of misunderstanding. He said the pope's speech Sept. 12 at the University of Regensburg in Germany might even turn out to be "providential" for dialogue.

"We hope the tension and suffering of the past days make everyone understand the urgency of a renewed dialogue that is positive, trustworthy, capable of looking at problems in depth, and ready for 'self-criticism,' as the pope said," Father Lombardi said.

"If this happens, the speech in Regensburg, with its intellectual courage ... will have been fruitful, perhaps even providential," he said.

Reaction to the pope's talk was mostly favorable among the participants and mixed among other Islamic leaders.

An Iranian diplomat assigned to the Vatican, Ahmad Fahima, said the encounter was "good and, as far as we're concerned, sufficient." Indonesia's ambassador to the Vatican, Bambang Prayitno, said the pope's encouragement to dialogue should have positive effects.

Abdellah Redouane, who represented the Islamic Cultural Center of Italy, said that with the papal talk "a new stage" in dialogue had begun.

Yahya Pallavicini, a Muslim cleric who is vice president of the Islamic Religious Community organization, welcomed the encounter with the pope but said Islamic leaders wanted more than a papal speech. He suggested forming a commission of Christian, Muslim and Jewish experts to map out a new cycle of dialogue meetings.

In Turkey, Ali Bardakoglu, the head of the country's directorate of religious affairs, said he thought the pope's talk would be welcomed as a positive development and would allay misgivings in the Muslim world.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

1. Publication Title The Catholic News + Herald	2. Publication Number 007-393	3. Filing Date
4. Issue Frequency Weekly, except bi-weekly during June, July, Aug. No issue at Christmas and Easter	5. Number of Issues Published Annually 44	6. Annual Subscription Price \$15 for parish enrollees. \$23 for all others.
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®) 1123 South Church Street Charlotte, N.C. 28203-4003		Contact Person Kevin Murray Telephone (include area code) 704-370-3334
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer) PO Box 37267 Charlotte, N.C. 28237		
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank) Publisher (Name and complete mailing address) Most Reverend Peter J. Jusis Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte 1123 S. Church St. Charlotte, NC 28203 Editor (Name and complete mailing address) Kevin Edward Murray PO Box 37267 Charlotte, NC 28237 Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address) na		

10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)

Full Name	Complete Mailing Address
Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte	1123 South Church Street Charlotte, NC 28203

11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box

Full Name	Complete Mailing Address

12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one)
The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes:
☒ Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months
☐ Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)

PS Form 3526, September 2006 (Page 1 of 3) (Instructions Page 3) PSN 7530-01-000-9931 PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on www.usps.com

13. Publication Title The Catholic News + Herald	14. Issue Date for Circulation Data 8/18/06
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)	49,949 50,192
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	
(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	49,949 00,192
(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	0 0
(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®	N/A N/A
(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)	N/A N/A
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))	49,949 50,192
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	
(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	0 0
(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	0 0
(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)	0 0
(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	0 0
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3), and (4))	0 0
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)	49,949 50,192
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))	0 0
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)	49,949 50,192
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)	100% 100%

16. Publication of Statement of Ownership
☒ If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the **Vol. 15, No. 43** issue of this publication.
☐ Publication not required.

17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner
Tom E. Murray Date **9/22/06**

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

PS Form 3526, September 2006 (Page 2 of 3)

JOIN OTHER ROMAN CATHOLICS

Cruise Northern Europe + Germany Land Tour

Costa Cruise Lines has to reposition the new "state-of-the-art" "COSTA MAGICA" from Ft. Lauderdale to Copenhagen. Take advantage of this exclusive 'Your Man' Tours 22-Day vacation package departing May 4, 2007. You'll spend 16 nights sailing to Bermuda; Ponta Delgada, Azores; Le Havre (Paris), France; Dover (London), England; & Copenhagen, Denmark. Your tour includes sightseeing in Copenhagen; Rosenborg Castle; Danish Crown Jewels; Gedesby with a two-hour ferry ride across the Baltic Sea to Rostock, Germany; Berlin; historic East Berlin; Reichstag; Checkpoint Charlie; Leipzig; Rothenburg O.T.; Frankfurt, Germany; and fly home. Costa Cruise Lines celebrates daily Mass aboard ship. Prices per pers., dbl. occupy. from \$2347 includes taxes & port charges. Add \$300 for Outside and \$500 for Balcony Cabins. Add \$900 R/T airfare from Charlotte.

For information, reservations, and brochure call 7 days a week:

'YOUR MAN' TOURS 1-800-968-7626

North America's First Choice for travel since 1967!

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Question prompted by "The Da Vinci Code"

Q. Some of us have found the ludicrous screw-ups about the Catholic faith in "The Da Vinci Code" interesting and fun to talk about, especially the fantasy about a marriage between Jesus and Mary Magdalene!

There is one question, however. We've always read that Mary Magdalene was the "repentant sinner" whom Jesus converted (Jn 8). The assumption now seems to be that's not true. Were there two Magdalenes in the Gospels? (Texas)

A. No, there is only one Mary Magdalene in the Gospels, but there are three Marys whom tradition for a long time confused with one another.

The Gospels mention Mary Magdalene by name several times. She is also referred to as Mary of Magdala, a town on the western shore of the Sea of Galilee.

We are told (Mk 16:9) that Jesus expelled seven demons from her. She was one of the women who ministered to the needs of Jesus (Lk 8:2), and she witnessed his crucifixion (Jn 19:25) and burial (Mt 27:61).

Finally, on the Sunday of the resurrection, she was a witness to the empty tomb. Later the same morning the risen Jesus appeared and spoke to her alone commanding her to go tell his "brothers" what had happened (Jn 20:11-18).

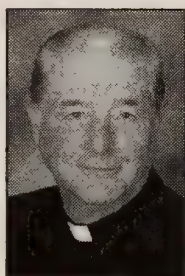
Sometimes Mary Magdalene is identified with the penitent sinner you mention, who anoints the feet of Jesus and bathes his feet. That woman is not named, however.

While there's a long tradition in Christian literature and art that identifies the repenting woman as Mary Magdalene, perhaps because Mary was the one from whom Jesus expelled the demons, there's no reason in the Gospels for making that connection. It is generally considered unfounded.

The other woman with whom Mary Magdalene is sometimes confused is

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN
CNS COLUMNIST



Mary, the sister of Lazarus and Martha of Bethany. It is she who is said to have "the better part" in her relation with Jesus (Lk 10), who anointed the feet of Jesus in her home (Jn 12:3), and she is much involved in the story of her brother being raised from the dead (Jn 11).

In spite of traditions otherwise, with paintings and sculptures depicting the "Repentant Mary Magdalene," from all the evidence we have these Marys were three different people.

Mary Magdalene herself is without doubt one of the most distinguished women involved with the earthly life of our Lord. Next to the mother of Jesus, she has the primary role of all women in the Gospels.

She figures prominently in five of the six resurrection stories, all except John 21:1-23. In John (and, along with some other women, in Matthew and Mark) she is the first witness to the rising of Jesus from the dead.

She is honored as a saint not only by the Catholic and Orthodox Churches, but also by the Church of England, the Episcopal Church in the United States and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Despite the self-important claims of the Da Vinci story, how this woman became misconstrued as the public sinner in Luke Chapter 7 is entirely the work of pure, if fascinating, conjecture.

Questions may be sent to Father John Dietzen, Box 5515, Peoria, IL 61612, or e-mail: jjdietzen@aol.com.

Letters to the Editor

which it skimmed millions from the program and deprived Iraqis of needed food and medicine, is public knowledge.

The church's position been "to espouse any organization for the brotherly collaboration of the world's peoples." But considering the United Nations' direction, it's not the best chance for world peace, and certainly has conformed too little for which Catholics stand.

Every pope has encouraged and cajoled the United Nations into doing what is right, but the United Nations has failed the church continuously. The teaching of the church is what the United Nations should be — not what it is.

— Kevin Roeten, Asheville

What is next for Christians and Muslims?

Dialogue must continue toward peace, not hatred

By now it is well known that Pope Benedict XVI enraged large numbers of Muslims by delivering an erudite university lecture making the important point that reason and faith are partners. No religious belief must be imposed by force.

The pope made a passing reference to the 14th-century Byzantine Emperor Manuel II Paleologus, who said the prophet Mohammed brought evil, "such as his command to spread by the sword the faith he preached."

The wise papal admonition against violence provoked its opposite. Riots erupted throughout the Muslim world, ranging from the firebombing of Catholic churches to death threats issued against the pontiff.

The Vatican and other world leaders did their best to calm matters, but to little immediate avail, leading some to utter "res ipsa loquitur" — it speaks for itself.

Whilesome Islamic voices demanded a greater apology, Pope Benedict was careful never to shade the truth of his original message: "Violence is incompatible with the nature of God and the nature of the soul."

Why this should enrage is mystifying — perhaps especially to Americans, who from 9/11 onward have distinguished the Islamic radicals who hijacked planes from the adherents of Muslim faith in general. More than a few of us wondered aloud why more Islamic leaders did not more strongly and forcefully make the same differentiation.

In truth, the modern Catholic Church has been extending the hand of interreligious friendship to Islam consistently and openly for a great while. In the conciliar document "Nostra Aetate," it is written that "the church regards with esteem ... the Muslims. They adore the one God, living and subsisting in himself."

Special mention also is made of Islam's respect for Jesus, who is seen through Muslim eyes as prophet rather than savior. So too, Catholic teaching applauds the honor Islam gives to the Virgin Mary and how greatly Islamic believers "value the moral life and worship of God especially through prayer, almsgiving and fasting."

Guest Column

DOUGLAS W. KMIEC
GUEST COLUMNIST



This is far too much interreligious effort to suddenly forget about at the drop of a footnote. So what's going on here?

The faiths of others seldom perfectly coincide with our own, but disagreement ought not beget intellectual or actual dismemberment. Quranic passages that say the opposite are, to say the least, troubling.

Various "suras" or passages call upon Muslims to "make war on the unbelievers" or "fight and slay the [non-Muslims] wherever you find them."

It is more than a little ironic that the U.S. Senate and the Supreme Court have been tied up in knots over being insufficiently generous to alleged terrorist detainees, while the Quran directs Muslims not to take "prisoners of war until a great slaughter [has been made] among his enemies in the land."

Sound like Iraq? New York? Any hope of religious friendship will depend upon getting beyond mindless literalism.

And we must candidly admit the dark side of Catholic history, be it the bloody Crusades or the tragic moral corruption of child abuse.

But fair is fair.

The word "dialogue" is from the Greek "dialogos," meaning to converse across difference. It goes nowhere if it is one-sided.

And the present moment is too urgent, too beset by war, to expend valuable time on who owes who an apology.

What Catholics and Muslims owe each other is a transformation of a secular world that too often mocks the sincere religious belief and practice of both. In this, Catholics should give emphasis to Jesus' commandment of love of neighbor, and Muslims may want to rely upon the "five pillars" or (the "greater jihad" of testimony, prayer, almsgiving, fasting and pilgrimage).

Neither path is compatible with hate or an unforgiving nature that finds fault only in the other.

Kmiec is chair and professor of constitutional law at Pepperdine University.

Church should encourage U.N. to improve

In regard to Father John Dietzen's column, "The church and the United Nations" (Sept. 15), the U.N. Human Rights Council has poor human rights records. This includes Algeria, China, Cuba, Pakistan, Russia and Saudi Arabia.

China has a documented record of forced abortions and sterilizations. Other members are frequently guilty of imposing birth control and denying the "right to life" in certain circumstances.

In fact, the United Nations considers abortion formally established as a defacto "right." If you take a cursory look at the United Nations' alleged "social" programs, you'll also find it granting NGO (nongovernmental organization) status to homosexual activist groups. And the U.N. Oil for Food scandal, in

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

Christians must ask God for help when faith is in doubt, pope says

BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Christians must have the courage to ask God for help and encouragement when their faith is troubled or shaken by uncertainty, Pope Benedict XVI said.

It is often difficult to understand what God is teaching or asking of his children, the pope said during his Sept. 27 weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square.

But, he said, people must find "the courage to say, 'I don't understand you, Lord. Listen to me. Help me understand.'"

Christians have "the right, so to speak, to ask Jesus for an explanation," the pope said, and asking for further clarification "is the true way to pray and speak with Jesus."

Not only does this show that believers realize their own limited ability to understand God's greater plan, but it also demonstrates their faith in receiving "enlightenment and strength" from God who can grant them, he said.

In an address to some 30,000 pilgrims from all over the world, the pope continued a series of talks on the apostles, this time reflecting on the life and

example of Thomas.

Even though Thomas is mostly remembered for having doubted the risen Christ was alive and among the apostles, Pope Benedict said the faithful can still "take heart from the life of Thomas," who shows that there is comfort available in times of uncertainty and that "doubt can lead to spiritual growth."

The pope recalled Thomas' courage and loyalty when he wanted to accompany Jesus on a dangerous journey back to Bethany where the people there had tried to stone Jesus.

It was Thomas who said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him," which reveals "a precious lesson" in Christian living, the pope said.

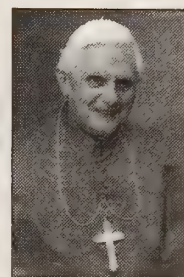
It not only means one should be ready to sacrifice one's own life for Christ, but also more importantly means one should "never leave Jesus' side," since being Christian means living together with Jesus, he said.

Thomas shows the faithful they should not be afraid to ask Christ for help in understanding his words, said the pope.

After Jesus told his disciples "Where I am going, you know the way," it was

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



Thomas who asked, "Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?"

The pope said Jesus used that occasion to reveal that he himself was the way, the truth and the life.

Lastly, he said, the "doubting Thomas" helps the faithful learn that a true, mature faith in God does not rest upon having tangible or visible proof: Only after Thomas put his hand on Jesus' wounds did he believe Christ had risen from death and proclaim, "My Lord and my God."

The pope said this is one of "the most splendid professions of faith in the New Testament" because it shows Thomas touching a man and then proclaiming his faith in God, "whom he neither saw nor touched."

Jesus, in fact, underlines what true faith is when he responded, "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

Pain awareness

Guest Column

FATHER FRANK
PAVONE
GUEST COLUMNIST



Rep. Chris Smith, R-NJ, and Sen. Sam Brownback, R-Kan, have introduced legislation in Congress that would require an abortionist to provide documentation on the capacity of an unborn child to feel pain to any woman seeking an abortion past the 20th week.

After receiving this information, the woman must either accept or refuse the administration of pain-reducing drugs directly to the unborn child. The bill also contains congressional "findings" regarding scientific evidence that unborn children experience great pain during abortions at 20 week, and cites existing federal laws that seek to diminish the suffering of animals, such as restrictions on how livestock are slaughtered.

Nothing in the bill would deny that unborn children may experience pain prior to 20 weeks after fertilization, but a notable segment of the medical and scientific community agrees on the 20-week benchmark for pain.

Interestingly, Nancy Keenan, president of the leading pro-abortion group NARAL Pro-Choice America, said: "Pro-choice Americans have always believed that women deserve access to all the information relevant to their reproductive health decisions. For some women, that includes information related to fetal anesthesia options. NARAL Pro-Choice America does not intend to oppose this legislation."

Good thinking. What can appear more heartless than opposing legislation to keep babies from feeling pain? And what can be more damaging to the cause of abortion than to create a big fight over the pain babies feel during abortion?

It's one of those lose-lose propositions for the abortion camp. Maybe that's why abortionists often don't allow themselves to think about it. Consider the following exchange that took place in U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York, between Judge Richard Casey and abortionist Timothy Johnson in March 2004.

Johnson was testifying in the case that dealt with the ban on partial-birth abortion.

THE COURT: I heard you talk a lot today about dismemberment D&E procedure, second trimester. Does the fetus feel pain?

THE WITNESS: I'm aware of fetal behavioral studies that have looked at fetal responses to noxious stimuli.

THE COURT: Does it ever cross your mind when you are doing a dismemberment?

THE WITNESS: Does the fetus having pain cross my mind? No.

It's time for us to make this issue cross the mind of every American. Urge your representatives and senators to support the Unborn Child Pain Awareness Act (H.R. 256, S. 51).

Father Pavone is national director of Priests for Life.

An event to remember

Final part of a 7-part series on the second annual Eucharistic Congress

We began this brief series on the Eucharistic Congress by recalling the wonderful memories of our first Eucharistic Congress last September: the sacred music concert, the speakers and talks, the eucharistic procession through uptown Charlotte, the books and religious articles for sale, the opportunity for the sacrament of reconciliation, the holy Mass and more.

These memorable events punctuated the day with signs and evidence of God's grace and mercy. The events formed and shaped the day into lasting unforgettable proof of God's love.

And as we complete this series in preparation for our second annual Eucharistic Congress, which will take place Oct. 6-7 at the Charlotte Convention Center, it would be fitting to conclude with a glimpse at the events that will unfold very soon - the events that will once again leave an indelible impression on our memories.

As with our first Eucharistic Congress, the second Congress will take a similar path: Friday evening through Saturday evening, beginning with a sacred music concert and ending with the holy sacrifice of the Mass.

However, the events that unfold during these two days will acquire a unique shape this year.

Last year, our minds and hearts, indeed our souls, were captivated and

elevated by the sacred music concert on Friday night, which hosted more than 100 singers. This year, not only has the size of the room doubled, but so has the number of voices!

We are anticipating the beautiful and powerful melodies to be produced by this 200-voice choir composed of people from around the diocese.

Last year, we were inspired by the famous Catholic actor Jim Caviezel, who periodically broke into live performances of his role as the Savior in the film "The Passion of the Christ." This year, the internationally-known EWTN television host and author Raymond Arroyo will inaugurate the talks with an address on "The Mission of the 'Big Way' of Mother Angelica."

Following the talk, we will have the opportunity to adore the Lord in nocturnal eucharistic adoration at St. Peter Church (across from the Convention Center) throughout the night.

The next morning will proceed differently from last year. Our first Eucharistic Congress began with a eucharistic procession on Saturday morning. This year, however, there is a foot race that will draw thousands to uptown Charlotte. Therefore, we will begin the morning with an indoor procession of the Blessed Sacrament, a moment of adoration, lauds (morning prayer) and benediction.

The Blessed Sacrament will then be

Guest Column

FATHER MATTHEW
BUETTNER
GUEST COLUMNIST



moved to the chapel for private adoration throughout the day.

The daytime events are the same as last year with talks in four tracks: general, Hispanic, teen and children's. The eucharistic procession will then take place beginning at 1 p.m.

Following our outdoor procession, we will return indoors where Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin will lead us in prayer during a holy hour. Finally, as with last year, the day will come to climax and completion with the celebration of the holy Mass with Bishop Peter J. Jugis, priests, deacons, seminarians, religious brothers and sisters and laity from around the diocese.

The final piece of preparation for the second Eucharistic Congress is both practical and spiritual: arrive early; bring money for food, religious goods, and donations; and prepare your mind for the light of truth, your heart for the grace and mercy of God, and your soul for peace and joy.

This will certainly be a Eucharistic Congress to remember!

Father Buettner is pastor of St. Dorothy Church in Lincolnton.



JOIN US FOR THE SECOND DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS FRIDAY AND SATURDAY — OCTOBER 6 & 7

FRIDAY: 7 pm — Sacred Music Concert followed by speaker **Raymond Arroyo** (EWTN host of "The World Over Live") presenting "The Big Way of Mother Angelica." Nocturnal Adoration will follow at St. Peter Catholic Church, Tryon St. at 1st Street.



SATURDAY: 8 am-5:30 pm — Lauds; programs and speakers for adults, Hispanics, teens and children; Eucharistic Procession through uptown; and closing Mass. Also, the Congress will include Eucharistic Adoration, sacrament of Reconciliation, culture hour in several native languages, and vendors offering books, CDs, sacred objects and many more unique items. See schedule below.

CHARLOTTE CONVENTION CENTER — COLLEGE ST. & STONEWALL

NO ADMISSION FEE — ALL ARE WELCOME!

SIGNING AVAILABLE

CONGRESS SPEAKERS



Bishop Peter J. Jugis

Leading the Eucharistic Procession and celebrating Mass

Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin

Eucharistic Holy Hour Homily



Maureen O'Boyle

WBTV News Anchor

Master of Ceremonies

General Track



Mary Beth Bonacci — "The Mission to Raise Chaste Teens" — Internationally known speaker and writer, her work appears frequently in Catholic journals and newspapers. She will address key issues facing young people — and, in fact all of us — regarding faith, chastity and our culture.



Jeff Cavins — "The Mission of Peer Evangelization" — After 12 years as a Protestant pastor, Jeff Cavins returned to the Catholic Church where he is recognized both nationally and internationally as an exciting public speaker who has a deep love for Jesus Christ.



Father James E. Goode, OFM, Ph.D. — "The Mission of Building a Culture of Life" — Father Goode is the leading Black Catholic evangelist in the United States. Known as the "Dean of Black Catholic preachers," Father Goode preaches the Gospel message of "blessed assurance" and the dignity of all human life throughout the world.



Father Leo Patalinghug — "The Mission to be Beautiful" — Father Patalinghug is making a return visit to the Eucharistic Congress. Father Patalinghug, associate pastor of St. John Catholic Church in Westminster, Md., entertains and inspires with a fast-paced, often humorous talk including break-dancing and karate.

Hispanic Track



Dr. Fernando Casanova — "The Mission of Being Catholic" — Dr. Casanova, a Puerto Rican theologian, is known for his enthusiastic and charismatic talks about the Catholic Church, its doctrine and its morality.



Father Juan Rivas — "The Mission of Catholic Media" — Born in Guadalajara, Mexico, Father Rivas is a priest member of the congregation of the Legionaries of Christ, ordained in 1982. For 18 years he has directed and produced the daily radio and television shows of Hombre Nuevo, evangelization programs explaining Catholicism with clarity, vigor and conviction.

Teen Track

Mary Beth Bonacci — "Mission of Chastity"

Jeff Cavins — "Mission of Peer Evangelization"

Father Leo Patalinghug — "The Mission to be Super Heroes"

Children's Track (K — 5th grade)

Open to children in grades kindergarten through 5th grade, the program features a variety of fun-filled activities for children to discover Christ in their everyday lives. Children will also have a special adoration session.

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, October 6

7 pm — Concert of Sacred Music followed by
Raymond Arroyo — Presenting
"The Big Way of Mother Angelica"

10 pm — Nocturnal Adoration at St. Peter Catholic Church

SATURDAY, October 7

8 am — Lauds

8:30 am-1pm — Speakers, programs for adults, Hispanics, teens, kids

12:15 pm — Culture hour in native languages

1:30 pm — Eucharistic Procession through uptown

Check www.GoEucharist.com for the latest Eucharistic Congress updates!

Roman Catholic Diocese
of Charlotte



Established Jan. 12, 1972
by Pope Paul VI

OCTOBER 6, 2006

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 15 No 44

Perspectives

Promoting the Eucharistic
Congress; a call to action
for Catholics; the most
precious of angels

| PAGES 14-15

Meeting needs

*New endowment
provides for special
needs in classroom*

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — While Catholic schools are known to provide excellent, well-rounded education with focus on the Catholic faith, some students have been left out due to a school's limited resources and budgets.

Through the Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools (MACS) Special Needs Endowment Fund, special-needs students could eventually be the beneficiaries of a Catholic education.

When the Betty J. and Stanley J. Livingstone Charitable Foundation closed recently, the principle

See MACS, page 5

Helping to save innocent lives



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

A young woman talks with Margaret Nagy, a member of Helpers of God's Precious Infants, as Karen and Francesca pray outside a reproductive health clinic in Charlotte Oct. 4.

Sidewalk counselors teach respect for life

BY KAREN A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — A young woman walks slowly out of the reproductive health clinic, holding a small white bag.

"Look — she's had an abortion," Andrea Hines says. The bag holds post-operative medications and instructions, and possibly birth control pills.

A few minutes later, the woman stops her car where Hines and Veronica Cortes are standing. She talks with Cortes for a moment, and takes the pamphlets Cortes offers.

Hines stands a few feet away, holding a sign reading, "I regret my abortion."

See SIDEWALK, page 7

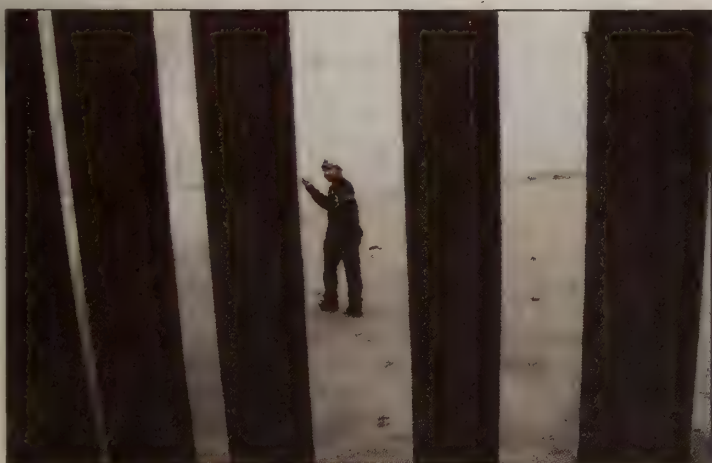
Back to court

CASES ON PARTIAL-BIRTH
ABORTION SET STAGE FOR
COURT'S OCTOBER OPENING

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — With the Oct. 2 opening of its new term, the Supreme Court will quickly face cases on the federal law banning a procedure known as partial-birth abortion and others on protecting the environment, all of which are drawing attention from the religious community.

See COURT, page 12



CNS PHOTO BY CARLOS BARRIA, REUTERS

Jorge Alvarez of Mexico walks into U.S. territory after crossing the fenced border from the beach of Tijuana in Mexico May 6. The U.S. Border Patrol reported it had arrested 724,613 undocumented migrants crossing from Mexico into the U.S. since Oct. 1 last year, a rise of 6 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Wall of fears

*Border fence bill passes amid strong opposition
from religious leaders*

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Legislation calling for construction of a 700-mile fence along the U.S.-Mexican border passed both houses of Congress before they adjourned until after the November elections.

The fence was criticized by advocates for comprehensive immigration reform, who said the bill was little more than an election-year stunt aimed at

voters who want a crackdown on illegal immigration.

In a Sept. 29 teleconference, Kevin Appleby, director of migration and refugee policy for the U.S. bishops' Migration and Refugee Services, said the bishops opposed a fence for a variety of reasons.

For one thing, half of those who are in the country illegally come in legally and stay beyond

See WALL, page 12

#BXNDVQ *****3-01611 275
#420836#
S-9 P-1
MC COLLECTION
WILSON LIBRARY CB 3930
UNC
CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001

##

In Our Schools

BMHS in top 50; OLA
gets Blue Ribbon

| PAGE 6

Culture Watch

Saint John's Bible's next
volume; rapping priest's CD

| PAGES 10-11

Ongoing discussions

Catholic-Muslim dialogue
on faith

| PAGE 16

In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

NO HOSING AROUND



CNS PHOTO BY SAM LUCERO, CATHOLIC HERALD

Four-year-old kindergarten students from Blessed Sacrament School get a hands-on demonstration of a water hose from the Milwaukee Fire Department Sept. 15. Fire department representatives visited the school after students reported a house fire across the street from the school's playground during recess Sept. 13.

Kindergartners called heroes for spotting smoke, reporting house fire

MILWAUKEE (CNS) — Quick action by members of Cathy Dudzik's kindergarten class to report a house fire across the street from their playground brought a fast response from the fire department and earned the entire class a commendation for being heroes.

The 4-year-old kindergartners at Blessed Sacrament school were outside for recess Sept. 13 when three of the children rushed to their teacher to report black smoke billowing out of a house.

All the children watched from the safety of their classroom window as the firetrucks zoomed down the street.

Principal Kathleen Kannenberg and Ron Wachowlak, the school's maintenance man, rushed to the house to see if anyone was inside. No one was home at the time of the fire, but the owner's cats and a dog were inside.

"I knew there wasn't supposed to be smoke coming out of the house," 4-year-old Matthew Barker said.

The boys said they alerted their teacher

right away, "because you always tell the teachers," said Dominic Gonzales.

Kannenberg felt the students needed to be praised for their quick thinking and assistance. They received ice cream treats and certificates saying "they were heroes," she said.

"We were able to talk about fire safety at school and at home, so we were able to use it as a teachable moment for them," said Kannenberg.

As another show of thanks, firefighters from Engine Company 23 of the Milwaukee Fire Department visited the school Sept. 15.

"It was an opportunity to show our appreciation of what they did and the service they provided," said the company's Lt. Tom Kizewski.

The firefighters allowed the children on the firetruck. They also unrolled a hose and allowed the children to take turns holding it.

"They were very thrilled and excited about everything," said Kizewski.

Peace tomorrow relies on justice today, Vatican official tells U.N.

UNITED NATIONS (CNS) — "Building peace for tomorrow requires doing justice today," a top Vatican official told the U.N. General Assembly.

Italian Archbishop Giovanni Lajolo, president of the Governor's Office for Vatican City State, addressed issues ranging from development and human rights to religious freedom and dialogue in his speech at the assembly's annual opening debate Sept. 27.

The archbishop warned that "failures to correct fundamental inequalities in the world economic system are fast becoming lost opportunities to advance a moral alternative to war."

He praised the Millennium Development Goals adopted by key world leaders including U.S. President George W. Bush but warned that "implementation has been lacking."

"The present lack of progress in the fields of development aid and trade reform threatens everyone's security and well-being," he said. "The surest way to

prevent war is to address its causes."

He called human rights "pillars of peace" and urged governments to understand that "violation of the fundamental rights of the person cannot be removed from the attention of the international community."

Addressing the role of religion in world affairs, Archbishop Lajolo said, "At its best, truest and most authentic, religion is a vital force for good, for harmony and for peace among peoples. ... It cultivates peace in hearts."

Archbishop Lajolo urged nations and civil societies to "promote religious freedom and a sane, social tolerance that will disarm extremists even before they can begin to corrupt others with their hatred of life and liberty."

He encouraged current U.N. reform efforts but warned that the organization's "lofty goals ... will be reached only by overcoming the narrow confines imposed by the dominance of national interests."

Diocesan planner

ASHEVILLE VICARIATE

ARDEN — Benedictine Father Matt Habiger from the NFP Outreach Group will speak at all Masses at St. Barnabas Church, 109 Crescent Hill Dr., Oct. 21-22. His general theme during homilies will be "Marriage and the Family," and will touch on subjects such as chastity, Natural Family Planning, and other "Right to Life" issues. For more information and Mass times, call (828) 684-6098.

BOONE VICARIATE

SPRUCE PINE — A *Rosary of Intercession for Priests* is recited each Friday at St. Lucien Church, 695 Summit St., before the 9 a.m. Mass. Prayers are offered for bishops, priests and deacons, and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. For more information, please contact the church office at (828) 765-2224.

CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — Please join St. Ann Church, 3635 Park Rd., for the *Sung Rosary: Joyful Mysteries* on Oct. 13 at 7:30 p.m. This 50-minute evening of candlelight, music, prayer, meditation and peace offers a lovely and unique way to pray the rosary. Call the church office (704) 523-4641 for more information.

CHARLOTTE — St. Basil Ukrainian Church will have a liturgy Oct. 15 at 11 a.m. at Charlotte Catholic High School, 7702 Pineville-Matthews Rd. The liturgy is open to anyone who would like to attend. For more information, please contact Deacon Mark Shuey at mshuey2@nc.rr.com or call (919) 779-7246.

HUNTERSVILLE — Maxim Healthcare Services will be at St. Mark Church, 14740

Stumptown Rd., Oct. 13 and Oct. 26 to provide *flu and pneumonia* vaccinations. You must schedule an appointment by calling (704) 895-0496. Maxim will file claims with the following insurances: Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Aetna, Medicare Complete, Medicare Part B and Partners Medicare Choice.

CHARLOTTE — The *Semi-Annual Rosary Rally* will be held Oct. 15, at 3 p.m. St. Patrick Cathedral, 1621 Dilworth Rd. East. This 32-year diocesan tradition will include the holy rosary, a eucharistic procession and Benediction. For more information, call Tina at (704) 846-7361.

CHARLOTTE — *Theology on Tap*, a dynamic speaker series designed to provide young adults in their 20s and 30s with the opportunity to discover more about their faith in a relaxed open environment, will be held Oct. 17 and 24 at 6:30 p.m. at Pepperoni's Pizza in Park Road Shopping Center. These interactive events will explore the issues and challenges that Catholic young adults face in the 21st century. Contact Catrina at (704) 665-7374 or e-mail c_l_conway@hotmail.com for more information, or visit www.compass-catholic.com.

MINT HILL — St. Luke Church 13700 Lawyers Road, will have a free festival in celebration of the feast day of their patron saint, Oct. 14, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. The Red Cross Bloodmobile will also be on hand accepting blood donations 7 a.m.-12 p.m. For more information, call John V. Doyle at (704) 535-9174.

CHARLOTTE — Father Roger Amstargher, pastor of St. Michael Church in Gastonia, will speak at "Dessert and Devotion" Oct. 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the activity center of St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6828 Old Reid Rd. This talk is sponsored by Our Lady of Victory Chapter of C.U.F. RSVP to gail@catholicscripturestudy.com.

CHARLOTTE — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., will host a Christian Coffeehouse Oct. 21, 7:30-9:30 p.m. in the Banquet Room of the New Life Center. Single and married adults are invited for an evening of contemporary



Making your will?

Request a free Wills Kit from Catholic Relief Services.

It will help you practice good stewardship and create a lasting legacy to help the poor overseas.

1-800-235-2772 ext.7318

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

PUBLISHER: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
EDITOR: Kevin E. Murray
STAFF WRITER: Karen A. Evans
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Tim Faragher
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Cindi Feerick
SECRETARY: Deborah Hiles

1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203
MAIL: P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237
PHONE: (704) 370-3333 FAX: (704) 370-3382
E-MAIL: catholicnews@charlottediocese.org

OCT. 6, 2006
VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 44

The Catholic News & Herald, USPC 007-393, is published by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203, 44 times a year, weekly except for Christmas week and Easter week and every two weeks during June, July and August for \$15 per year for enrollees in parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte and \$23 per year for all other subscribers. The Catholic News & Herald reserves the right to reject or cancel advertising for any reason deemed appropriate. We do not recommend or guarantee any product, service or benefit claimed by our advertisers. Second-class postage paid at Charlotte NC and other cities. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, NC 28237.



FROM THE VATICAN

Pope thanks all who helped him have a peaceful stay at papal villa

Rosary is 'simple yet so profound,' says pope

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — Wrapping up his public appearances at the papal summer villa, Pope Benedict XVI thanked those who helped ensure he had a peaceful stay in the hills south of Rome.

During a morning meeting Sept. 30 he conveyed his thanks to the mayor, city council and parish priest of Castel Gandolfo, to the religious communities present in the town and to the police and firefighters who assisted Vatican agents throughout the summer. In the afternoon, he met with employees of the papal villa, gardens and farm.

The pope left Castel Gandolfo Oct. 4 after a stay of more than two months.

Reciting the midday Angelus Oct. 1 for the last time before returning to the Vatican, the pope encouraged Catholics

around the world to make a special effort to pray the rosary with their families during the month of October and to be missionaries of God's love.

In the Catholic Church, the month of October traditionally is dedicated to the rosary and to the promotion of the church's missionary work around the world.

Pope Benedict said the Oct. 7 feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is an annual invitation "to rediscover the beauty of this prayer, which is so simple yet so profound."

The pope asked Catholics "to recite the rosary during this month in your families, communities and parishes for the intentions of the pope, for the mission of the church and for peace in the world."

Christian music, food and fellowship. For more information, call Kathy Bartlett at (704) 400-2213.

CHARLOTTE — The 50+ Club of St. John Neumann Church, 8451 Idlewild Rd., meets the second Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. with a program and lunch in the parish hall. For reservations and more information, call Elaine at (704) 847-2835.

HUNTERSVILLE — New Creation Monastery invites you to a day of silence and solitude in the presence of Almighty God. The monastery offers private spiritual retreats for lay people. Write to Father John Vianney Hoover at New Creation Monastery, 17009-D Northstar Dr., Huntersville, N.C., 28078, stating why you want to go on retreat and when. For more information, call (704) 609-9011.

GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — A *Charismatic Healing Mass* will be celebrated Oct. 20 at 7:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Grace Church, 2205 West Market St., sponsored by the parish Health Ministry and the Flames of Fire Prayer Group. Father Andrew Latsko from Maryfield Nursing Home will be the celebrant, with Deacon Ron Steinkamp as the homilist. Healing teams will be available for personal ministry after the Mass. Everyone is welcome. For information, call Ben D'Apollonio at (336) 812-3730.

SALISBURY VICARIATE

SALISBURY — *Elizabeth Ministry* is a peer ministry comprised of Sacred Heart Church parishioners who have lost babies before or shortly after birth. Confidential peer ministry, information and spiritual materials are offered at no cost or obligation to anyone who has experienced miscarriage, stillbirth or the death of a newborn. For details, call Renee Washington at (704) 637-0472 or Sharon Burges at (704) 633-0591.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

MURPHY — A *Charismatic Prayer Group* meets Fridays at 3:30 p.m. in the Glenmary House of St. William Church, 765 Andrews Rd. join us for praise

music, witness, teaching, prayers and laying on of hands for those in need. For more details, call Gery Dashner at (828) 494-2683.

WAYNESVILLE — *Adult Education Classes* are held the first three Wednesday evenings of each month beginning at 6:45 p.m. in the St. John the Evangelist Church Social Hall, 234 Church St. For more information, call Charles Luce at (828) 648-7369 or e-mail luce54@aol.com.

WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

KERNERSVILLE — *The Catechism of the Head and Heart* religious education series for adults will be held this fall in the library at Bishop McGuinness High School, 1725 NC Hwy 66 South. Danita McDonald will speak about "Highlights of Ecclesiology" Oct. 12 at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call Loretta Bedner at (336) 564-1040.

WINSTON-SALEM — The Spirit of Assisi hosts a *Wednesday Lunch & Speaker Series* each Wednesday, 12:30-1:15 p.m., at the Fatima Chapel, 211 W. Third St. Father Jim Day will present "Ora et Labora: Introduction to Benedictine Spirituality" Oct. 11. The sacrament of reconciliation will be offered at 12 p.m. in the chapel. For more information and to RSVP, call Sister Kathy Ganiel at (336) 624-1971 or e-mail kganiel@triad.rr.com. Walk-ins are welcome.

KERNERSVILLE — Holy Cross Church, 616 S. Cherry St., hosts a *Senior Coffee House* the first and third Mondays of each month, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., in Salesian Hall in the Child Development Building. Call the church office at (336) 996-5109 ext. 12 for directions or information.

Is your parish or school sponsoring a free event open to the general public? Please submit notices for the Diocesan Planner at least 10 days prior to desired publication date (Fridays) in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

Pope prays that ties between Muslims, Christians in Iraq endure

CASTEL GANDOLFO (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI prayed that the strong ties between Muslims and Christians in Iraq endure as he prayed for peace in the "martyred country."

He invited everyone to join him in praying for "the gift of peace and harmony" in Iraq after praying the Angelus Oct. 1.

The pope said he met Sept. 30 with Chaldean Patriarch Emmanuel-Karim Delly of Baghdad who detailed "the tragic reality faced daily by the dear people of Iraq, where Christians and Muslims have lived together for 14 centuries as children of the same land."

"I hope these bonds of fraternity will not be loosened," the pope said from the window of his summer residence to pilgrims gathered in the courtyard below.

The patriarch made a special visit to Rome and Castel Gandolfo to inform the pope about the situation in Iraq, said Father Philip Najim, the Rome-based representative of the Chaldean Catholic Patriarchate of Baghdad.

Deaths of Iraqi civilians have been on the rise, according to a recent report by the United Nations. More than 6,500 civilians were killed in July and August this year, the report said. Many were killed by death squads and sectarian militias, it said.

Christians have been facing an onslaught of recent attacks in Mosul and Baghdad. AsiaNews reported Sept. 25 that Muslim militias in Mosul had threatened the city's Catholic bishop and priests unless they publicly denounced the speech Pope Benedict made at the University of Regensburg in Germany.

Fliers had been distributed in the city calling for a condemnation of the pope's remarks about Islam or else "Christians would be killed and churches burnt down," reported AsiaNews.

Father Najim told Catholic News Service Oct. 2 that militants were using the pope's speech as "an excuse to threaten all the Iraqi people," not just Christians.

Everyone, Muslim and Christian, "is under threat in Iraq," he said.

Plowing the competition



CNS PHOTO BY ALF HARVEY

Irishman Eamon Tracey works his way to third place in the world plowing competition in Grangeford, Ireland, Sept. 30. The contest drew competitors from more than 30 countries and more than 200,000 spectators — a number too large to ignore for the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin, which hosted a stand at the events.

ATTENTION READERS! HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?

Is there something unique taking place at your church? Do you know of someone who is an example of how to live the Catholic faith? Have a photo of a parish or ministry event? If so, contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans at (704) 370-3334 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

Episcopal calendar

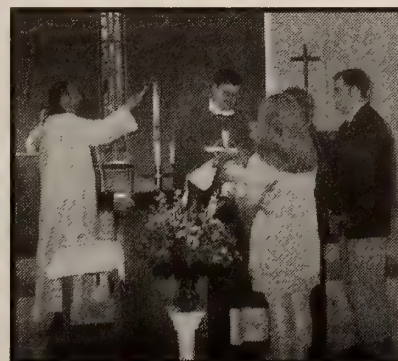
Bishop Peter J. Jugis will participate in the following events:

Oct. 6-7
Eucharistic Congress
Charlotte Convention Center

Oct. 10 — 6 p.m.
Red Mass
St. Patrick Cathedral, Charlotte

Oct. 13 — 10 a.m.
Diocesan Finance Council Meeting
Diocesan Pastoral Center, Charlotte

Oct. 14
Visit of Coadjutor Archbishop Fouad Twal of Jerusalem
Charlotte



Join our Oratorian Congregation to SERVE GOD AS PRIEST OR BROTHER

As priests and lay men, our community lives without vows and serves God's people numerous ways, including:

Parishes Youth Camps Nursing
Retreats Campus Ministry Hospital Chaplains

Find out more about serving God with us:

Fr. Ed McDevitt, CO The Oratory
P O Box 11586
Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586

HOW DO YOU LIKE THESE APPLES?



COURTESY PHOTO

Immaculata School in Hendersonville won first place in the 2006 King Apple Festival Parade for best float in the nonprofit category. The parade, one of the highlights of the N.C. Apple Festival, is held on Labor Day each year and draws about 60,000 people to Hendersonville.

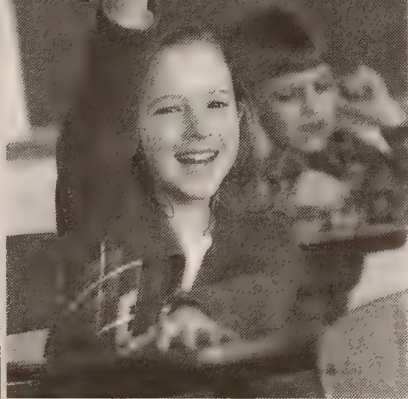
Whirled peace



COURTESY PHOTO BY KATHERINE WATKINS

Students at St. Leo the Great School in Winston-Salem wave pinwheels in the school gym as part of the school's celebration of International Day of Peace Sept. 21. The entire student body participated in the festivities of the day, also known as Peace Day, which was established by a United Nations resolution in 1981 and first celebrated in September 1982. The pinwheels were part of Peace Day's Pinwheels for Peace program to help generate "whirled peace."

Start the New Semester at the Top of the Class

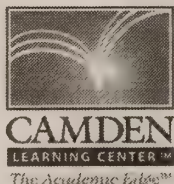


Felicia Susi, Owner/Director
Parishioner, St. Matthew Catholic Church
& Parent, St. Matthew Catholic School student

CAMDEN LEARNING CENTER™
is a personalized educational center offering specialized tutoring for all ages in:

Reading • Phonics
Written Language • Math
Study Skills
SAT/ACT Preparation

Let Camden™ help.



South Charlotte
(704) 752-4234

www.camdenlearningcenter.com



COURTESY PHOTO BY FATHER JOHN PUTNAM

Parishioners of Sacred Heart Church in Salisbury are pictured with seminarians Tri Vinh Truong (near center, kneeling), Jasone Barone (left) and Matthew Codd (right, rear) at Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md., in September.

Sacred Heart parishioners make pilgrimage close to home

EMMITSBURG, Md.—Parishioners of Sacred Heart Church in Salisbury recently returned from a pilgrimage to Emmitsburg, Md.

The parishioners accompanied their pastor, Father John Putnam, on the trip to visit the national shrines of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and the Grotto of Lourdes Sept. 26-28.

"Last year the parish made a pilgrimage to the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Alabama. It was such a success that we wanted to try another pilgrimage this year," said Father Putnam.

"Many people are unable to take major pilgrimages to the shrines of Europe and the Holy Land, so a pilgrimage closer to home is perfect for them," he said.

Emmitsburg is located in the rolling hills of western Maryland,

where St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, the first American-born saint, once ministered. A predominantly rural lifestyle still prevails.

The National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is surrounded by park-like grounds. The National Shrine of the Grotto of Lourdes is the oldest known replica of the revered French shrine honoring the apparitions of Mary in 1858.

Father Putnam described the area as a "very picturesque area of Maryland."

"Our daily lives are so busy that it is very easy to forget the importance of being quiet and reflective," he said. "This was the greatest gift of the pilgrimage - the opportunity to come away and spend some time with God."

The group also visited Mount St. Mary's Seminary and the battlegrounds at Gettysburg during the trip.

Now Your Parents Can Live At Home!

*** Now with 3 locations to serve you ***



- ♥ Up to 24-hour care
- ♥ Hygiene assistance
- ♥ Meals
- ♥ Light housekeeping
- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Errands/shopping
- ♥ Respite

Visiting Angels.

Asheville
828-665-3944

Charlotte
704-549-4010

Mooresville
704-663-1065

New endowment provides for special needs in classroom

MACS, from page 1

was divided among various local organizations.

David Bishop, a member of the Livingstone foundation board of directors and the chair of the MACS Education Foundation board of directors, recommended MACS as a recipient of the principle funds.

The MACS Special Needs Endowment Fund was established, and will receive \$100,000 over a two-year period.

The endowment fund will provide grants for unique situations not normally included in a school's budget.

"In the past, diocesan schools have not always been able to serve students with special needs," said Susan Cameron, former director for diocesan Catholic schools development. "This fund allows them to do that."

"We had one student with mild autism — the child did well in a small classroom at times, but at other times needed an area to be alone, without feeling isolated," said Linda Cherry, superintendent of diocesan Catholic schools.

"It would be nice to have an area within the classroom that is soundproof

"Students with special needs will have greater access to a Catholic education."

— Susan Cameron

and enables the child to feel successful," she said.

Some students with learning challenges receive limited help from the learning support teachers, due to other students requiring their assistance, said Cherry.

"If each classroom teacher had materials to use with individual students, the learning-challenged student could receive even more assistance," she said.

Cherry said one of the greatest benefits she has seen recently was the addition of the Down syndrome class at St. Patrick School.

The main goals of the program are to make the students employable and educate more students. There is a



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Paige Ingles teaches how to make change and count money to Morgan Grier and Jenna Clayton at St. Patrick School Sept. 20. Soon, more students with special needs will be able to receive a Catholic education through the Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools Education Special Needs Endowment.

focus on learning time- and money-management skills.

The class's three students are taught basic academic curriculum as well as life skills based on their levels of ability. Students join the other St. Patrick students in the lunchroom, on the playground, at Mass and in some of the special classes.

"These children have changed the lives of the other students and parents at St. Patrick," Cherry said. "They have been given the opportunity to learn, live and play with other children within a Catholic environment."

"While we may not be able to meet the needs of every single child with special needs, to be able to say to parents 'we can certainly try' gives hope to many

Catholic families," she said.

With the endowment fund, "students with special needs will have greater access to a Catholic education," said Cameron.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail kaevans@charlottediocese.org.

WANT MORE INFO?

For more information on Catholic schools development in the Diocese of Charlotte, call Jim Kelley, director for diocesan development, at (704) 370-3301 or e-mail jkelley@charlottediocese.org.

You're Invited!

to

Room At The Inn's
Twelfth Annual Fundraising Banquet
"Life Giving Love"



Charlotte Convention Center
Thursday, October 26, 2006

Featured Speaker

Patrick Madrid

Catholic Apologist

www.surprisedbytruth.com

Make a reservation to attend this important fundraising event for the pro-life ministry of Room At The Inn! Mr. Madrid's provocative presentation will address the implications of the interlocking social and moral issues of abortion, euthanasia, contraception, global aging and the worldwide reality of population implosion.

Registration/Reception: 5:30 pm

Seating for dinner: 6:40 pm

**** Reservations are FREE, but required.**

To make your reservation or to host a table of eight, contact Banquet Reservations at (704) 525-4673, ext. 10 or iroommatheinn@carolina.rr.com by October 12th.

Room At The Inn, Inc. is a pro-life Catholic maternity and after-care program in Charlotte, NC, providing an alternative to abortion for pregnant women. Please check our website www.rati.org for more information. Not affiliated with Room At The Inn of the Triad, Inc.



THE ORATORY

434 Charlotte Avenue, P.O. Box 11586

Rock Hill, SC 29733-1586

(803) 327-2097

Liturgy Day

10 am – 4 pm – Saturday, November 4

Father J. Glenn Murray, SJ

Father Murray serves as Director of Liturgy for the Diocese of Cleveland. He has been a speaker at the All Ministries Conference in Charleston, SC and at "Fire at the Beach" in Myrtle Beach. Co-sponsored by St. Anne's Church and The Oratory Center for Spirituality.

For more information: 803-329-2662

IN OUR SCHOOLS

Bishop McGuinness among top 50 Catholic schools in nation

KERNERSVILLE — Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville recently was designated as one of the top 50 Catholic secondary schools in the United States for 2006.

The designation was announced Sept. 27 as part of the Catholic High School Honor Roll.

"The honor roll provides a powerful resource to parents and educators by acknowledging those schools that best maintain high academic standards, uphold their Catholic identities and prepare students to actively engage the world," said Anthony Pienta, research project coordinator for Acton Institute.

The honor roll is an independent project of the Acton Institute, an international research and educational organization. The honor roll was produced in consultation with a national advisory board comprised of Catholic college presidents and noted Catholic scholars.

"High schools that are fulfilling well their mission to form students

morally and intellectually deserve to be recognized," said Gerard Bradley, University of Notre Dame law professor and advisory board member.

Nearly 1,300 Catholic high schools were invited to apply to the honor roll by completing surveys that measure academic excellence, Catholic identity and civic education.

Texas led with six schools selected, followed by California with five. Overall, 25 states are represented on the honor roll, including North Carolina for the first time.

Eleven different religious orders sponsor honorees, including the Dominicans, Legionaries of Christ, Jesuits and Norbertines.

"Congratulations to Principal George Repass, his teachers, staff, students and parents for this distinguished honor to not only Bishop McGuinness, but all of the Diocese of Charlotte," said Linda Cherry, superintendent of Catholic schools in the Diocese of Charlotte.

Our Lady of the Assumption School named a Blue Ribbon school

CHARLOTTE — And the blue ribbon goes to: Our Lady of the Assumption School in Charlotte.

The school was announced to be one of the 2006 No Child Left Behind — Blue Ribbon Schools by U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings on Sept. 22.

The U.S. Department of Education's No Child Left Behind — Blue Ribbon Schools program honors public and private kindergarten-through-12th-grade schools that are either academically superior in their states or that demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement.

"These Blue Ribbon Schools are examples of what teachers and students can achieve," Spellings said.

They "show what wonderful accomplishments can be made when we

focus on the bottom line in education — student achievement," she said.

A state's chief school officer nominates public schools and the Council for American Private Education (CAPE) nominates private schools.

Our Lady of the Assumption School qualified for the award with consistent academic excellence and programs that meet its diverse students' needs.

The pre-kindergarten-through-fifth-grade school was one of 250 schools nationwide to receive the distinction this year and one of two private schools to be recognized in North Carolina.

Principal Mary Leva and a representative teacher will be honored at a special ceremony in Washington, D.C. in November.

Providing help. Creating hope. Changing lives.

Catholic Social Services — The Diocese of Charlotte

Executive Director: Elizabeth Thurbee (704) 370-3227

Associate Director: Gerard Carter (704) 370-3250

Refugee Office: Cira Ponce (704) 370-6930

Family Life: Gerard Carter (704) 370-3228

Justice and Peace: Joe Purello (704) 370-3225

OEO/CSS Murphy Satellite Office (828) 835-3535

Charlotte Region: 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203

Area Director: Geri King (704) 370-6155

Western Region: 50 Orange Street, Asheville, NC 28801

Area Director: Debra Braese (828) 255-0146

Piedmont-Triad: 621 W. Second St., Winston-Salem, NC 27108

Area Director: Gerard Carter (Interim) (336) 727-0705

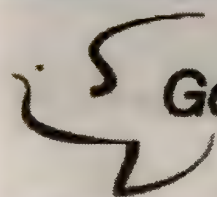
Greensboro Satellite Office (336) 274-5577

Latino Family Center (336) 884-5858

For information on specific programs, please call your local office.

1123 South Church Street, Charlotte NC 28203

www.cssnc.org



Good News Ministries

presents **TWO EXCITING EVENTS!**
Same place! Same time!

Mens' Rally -
Ordinary Faith is Not Enough Today
AND
High School Age Men's Rally -
Life on the Run!

Saturday, October 28th - 8 am to 4 pm
(registration: 7:30 am)
Charlotte Catholic High School
7702 Pineville-Matthews Road

Men's topics include: Transforming Fire/God's Love * Becoming Men of Faith/Daily Spiritual Life * Receiving God's Gifts

Young men's topics include: Ready, Set, Go! * In the Running/Sustaining Endurance * The Finish Line



Bishop Jugs,
Celebrant

Fourth bishop of Charlotte, Bishop Peter J. Jugs was ordained by Pope John Paul II at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. He has served throughout the Charlotte diocese as pastor, vicar and judge for the diocesan tribunal.

Rally Speakers

Mark Nehrbas is Executive Director of Christian Outreach and Evangelization at Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio. A popular conference speaker on the family, men's spirituality and the Holy Spirit, Mark is married and the father of nine children.



Deacon Ralph Poyo has been actively involved in ministry for more than 25 years. Currently, he is a director of faith formation in Raleigh and speaks at many youth, young adult and men's retreats; rallies and church missions. Ralph and Susan have five daughters.



Bob Rice received his master's degree in theology from Franciscan University of Steubenville where he teaches, leads praise and worship, and works with the FUS summer conferences. Married, he is the father of four children.

* PRE-REGISTRATION TICKETS INCLUDE FREE LUNCH! *

Name _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Parish _____

___ Adult Men @ \$ 25 = \$ ___

___ H.S. Young Men @ \$ 25 = \$ ___ *** NOTE: all youth under age 18 MUST have permission form (available at door or call (704) 521-9949)

CLERGY/RELIGIOUS - no charge but please register. Please check ___ if available for confession in morning.

Disability seating: ___ adult ___ high school

Check one: Tickets ___ pick up/will call; or ___ send confirmation

Return form and payment (payable to Good News Ministries) BEFORE OCTOBER 18 to: Good News Ministries, 5121 Baker Drive, Charlotte NC 28210.

Info: (704) 521-9949 and Carolinaevents2@aol.com

'Our biggest day was six saves. We had about 25 saves in the last month.'

Sidewalk counselors teach respect for human life

SIDEWALK, from page 1

With Cortes and Hines are Margaret and Stephen Nagy and Francesca and Karen, who asked to be identified only by their first names.

There is no yelling, no condemnation — just silent prayer, a few signs, a model showing fetuses at various stages of development and women handing out literature and rosaries.

"We use a loving approach," said Nagy. "The main thing is to change hearts so that they don't come back again."

The women and man are all part of the Helpers of God's Precious Infants, a Brooklyn-based network of volunteers working to help women who face unwanted pregnancies choose to give birth to, rather than abort, their babies.

Founded in 1989 by Msgr. Philip Reilly, the Helpers of God's Precious Infants are a group of people committed to maintaining a loving and prayerful presence outside of the abortion clinics.

The Helpers' work doesn't end when a woman walks into the abortion clinic. If she does terminate her pregnancy, they will refer her to Rachel's Vineyard and other post-abortion counseling services.

There are currently about a dozen Helpers in Charlotte, who spend about three hours, three days a week praying and counseling at Charlotte's abortion clinics.

Hines estimated that about 25 women visit the clinic each day, which

offers a variety of gynecological services, including pregnancy tests, birth control and abortions.

About one-third of the women will stop and talk to the sidewalk counselors. Usually, two each day will decide against the abortion.

"Our biggest day was six saves," Hines said. "We've had about 25 saves in the last month."

The Helpers pray not just for the women, but for their husbands or boyfriends, parents, friends, clinic workers — anyone involved in the decision to have or perform abortions.

"We hope that clinics will close due the changes in the hearts of the employees," said Nagy.

When a pregnant woman decides again abortion, the Helpers refer her to pregnancy help organizations, including Room At The Inn and Catholic Social Services.

Room At The Inn is a maternity and after-care program for pregnant women. The program concentrates on self-sufficiency support services by providing emotional health therapy; education, job training and housing guidance; and referrals to a variety of community agencies.

Catholic Social Services offers adoption services and pregnancy support to people of all faiths.

The Charlotte Helpers recently had a baby shower for a young woman who decided to have her son.

"Just our presence at the clinics is good," said Nagy.

Recently, a young woman stopped outside the clinic where Nagy was praying and showed a photograph of her baby.



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Andrea Hines holds a sign stating, "I regret my abortion" outside a reproductive health clinic in Charlotte Oct. 4. Hines is part of a network of volunteers who offer pre-life counseling to pregnant women considering abortion.

"She drove by us one day and knew she couldn't go through with (the abortion)," said Nagy.

WANT MORE INFO?

The Helpers of God's Precious Infants meets Thursdays at 10 a.m. at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy. For more information, call (704) 882-5006, (704) 996-4597 or (704) 877-1996.

Find the nearest pregnancy center at www.care-net.org or call (800) 395-HELP.

IF YOU NEED HELP

In the Diocese of Charlotte, the Respect Life program provides services for pregnant women, adoptive and birth families and post-abortion women and men, regardless of race or religious affiliation.

When you make an adoption plan, you give your child the gift of life, adoptive parents the gift of family and yourself peace of mind. As the birth parents, you select a family that is best suited for your child. CSS offers traditional, semi-open and open adoption plans.

Contact Catholic Social Services at (704) 370-6155 in Charlotte, (336) 727-0705 in Winston-Salem or (828) 255-0146 in Asheville, or visit www.cssnc.org.

Rachel's Vineyard Weekend Retreat for Post-Abortion Healing provides a chance to be nurtured and supported by experienced retreat leaders.

Contact Maggi Nadol at (704) 370-3229 or e-mail respectlife@charlottediocese.org for more information.

Anderson Family Medicine

...Healthcare with a heart.

Dr. E. Kelly Anderson is available to help with all of your family's healthcare needs. A graduate of the Yale University School of Medicine and the residency program at Carolinas Medical Center - Union, Dr. Anderson is now accepting patients of all ages.

Dr. E. Kelly Anderson
Parishoner
Our Lady of Consolation, Charlotte

HOURS:
Mon, Tue, Th, Fri. 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Wednesday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, (by appt.)

704-283-8888
An NPI Practice

What's The Road Like Ahead?

The road we have to travel is different for each of us. The only certainty is that we all must end the journey some day.

If you take the time to prepare for that journey's end now, your family, favorite parish, school and diocesan ministry will be supported. A will is an essential part of that overall plan for your life's journey.

The Foundation
of the
Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte

To receive the free booklet "Better Estate Planning" contact Judy Smith, Director of Planned Giving, 704-370-3320; 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203. jmsmith@charlottediocese.org.

Caring for Charlotte Area Catholic Families in Their Hour of Need Since 1926

McEWEN
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Charlotte 704-334-6421
Pineville 704-544-1412
Mint Hill 704-545-4864
Derita 704-596-3291

Speaking the truth

Classes help laity understand, respect life

BY CAROLE MCGROTTY
CORRESPONDENT

ASHEVILLE — The truth is being spoken in Asheville.

"Speak the Truth in Love" is a series of eight Saturday morning classes designed to equip the laity — especially youths — to "lovingly speak the truth about three absolutely fundamental things: life, love and marriage," according to its brochure.

The series, held at the Basilica of St. Lawrence in Asheville and sponsored by the parish Respect Life Committee, runs from August until April 2007.

The classes will educate and provide strategies for speaking the truth, according to Pat Glass, a parishioner of the basilica and a member of Guadalupe Catholics for Life.

"We live in a time when many people ignore God until they are desperate," said Glass, who conducted the first session,

"Abortion vs. Civilization of Life and Love," Aug. 19.

Basilica members were joined at that session by parishioners from Arden, Hendersonville, Franklin, Waynesville and Charlotte, as well as by Episcopal Father Jim Swatzell, pastor of Church of the Incarnation in Black Mountain.

"I wanted to gain greater understanding and awareness on issues surrounding the culture of death and the culture of life to share in my own parish," said Father Swatzell, "with hopes we can balance out to some degree the misinformation coming from the culture of death."

Glass recalled her youth in the 1950s, when people dressed more conservatively, families stayed together and beliefs were basic — "God and one nation under God."

In the 1960s, she said, a revolution occurred, and we are now living in a "cultural war of beliefs and ideas."

Other speakers included Ben Wadhams, a junior at the University of North Carolina at Asheville who helped found an on-campus Right to Life group, and a nurse who had abortions and is now a pro-life activist.

Upcoming session topics include contraception, euthanasia and the theology of the body.

Maggi Nadol, Catholic Social Service's Respect Life coordinator in the Diocese of Charlotte, said she was appreciative of the Basilica of St. Lawrence's pro-life efforts.

The classes bring "a message of life in such a vibrant life-affirming manner," said Nadol.

Helen Gordon, a member of the basilica's Respect Life Committee, said she was pleased with the turnout for the series, and its messages.

"The whole purpose is to take it back with you," she said.

WANT MORE INFO?

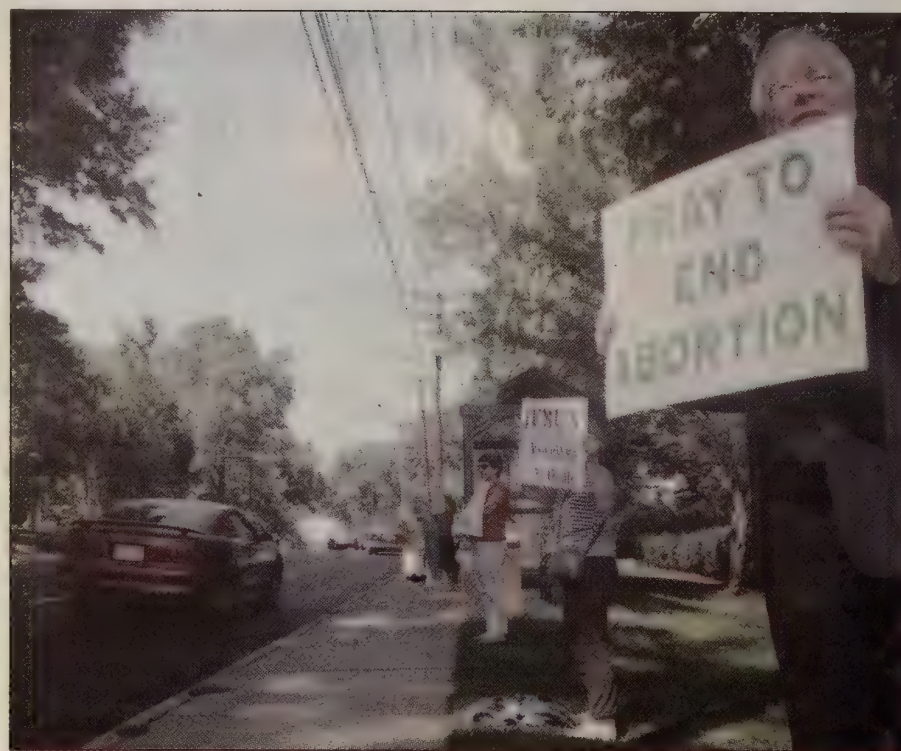
For more information on the series, contact Helen Gordon at (828) 683-9001.



PHOTO BY CAROLE MCGROTTY

Episcopal Father Jim Swatzell and Basilica of St. Lawrence parishioner Hilda Horan chat during a "Speak the Truth in Love" session at the basilica in Asheville Aug. 19.

Forming the chains



PHOTOS BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Above and below left: Father Frank O'Rourke, pastor of St. Ann Church in Charlotte, stands with his parish Life Chain in Charlotte Oct. 1. Below right: A boy shows his support during St. Patrick Cathedral's Life Chain in Charlotte.



Attention: Homeowners...Have a plumbing problem? Don't Panic!

"How To Get A Top Talent Plumber To Show Up On-Time So You Don't Waste Time"

You have a busy schedule and value your time. Most plumbing companies won't give you a real appointment time and keep you waiting all day for a plumber to show up. Now there's a new way to get your plumbing problem fixed, save money, and get a precise Appointment Window so you don't have to waste time waiting.

Three-Way Plumbing Services, Inc.

We're The Good Guys Your Friends Told You About®

(704) 535-4795 Charlotte

(704) 795-9349 Concord

Serving The Entire Charlotte Diocese Area

www.3wayplumbing.com

Proud member of St. James Church

CHILDREN'S CONSIGNMENT SALE

Quality infant and children's clothing, furniture and accessories — plus, maternity clothes!

Saturday, October 14th 8 am - 1 pm

(half price: 11:30 - 1 pm)

CONSIGNERS CALL: 704-542-8866

Christian Mothers' Group, St. Gabriel Church
3016 Providence Road, Charlotte (corner of Sharon Amity)



Where driving to
your meeting is half
the fun and arriving
there is a pleasure...



**The Catholic
Conference Center**

The Center is centrally located in the Piedmont of North Carolina. Located only an hour's drive from three major cities assures meeting planners and attendees a meeting that is more accessible than ever. Being accessible to the country and a peaceful setting is a meeting place only we can offer!

1551 Trinity Lane
Hickory, NC 28602

(828) 327-7441
Toll-free (888) 536-7441
info@catholicconference.org
www.catholicconference.org

f life in Charlotte



PHOTOS BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Above and at right: Men and women take part in a Life Chain during the Silent No More rally in uptown Charlotte Sept. 29. The nondenominational Silent No More Campaign holds rallies nationwide to inform the public about the emotional, physical and spiritual consequences of abortion. Silent No More organizers hope more women will have the courage to tell their own stories and end the silence that surrounds abortion.

Top right: Parishioners of St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte pray after their Life Chain Oct. 1.



Week of prayer, fasting part of Respect Life Month events

Goals are to end abortion, build a culture of life

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A coalition of Catholic and other Christian organizations have mobilized a grassroots effort worldwide to pray and fast for life in October, which is Respect Life Month.

Respect Life Sunday Oct. 1 was the first day of the 14th annual International Week of Prayer and Fasting to promote a culture of life.

The observance, which actually was to last until Oct. 10, included prayer rallies and life chains, which ask people to line up by an abortion clinic to pray for an end to abortion.

In announcing the observance, the coalition asked people to participate as individuals, families and parishes by fasting, attending daily Mass and taking part in Holy Hours, going to confession and reciting the rosary and the Divine Mercy chaplet.

"The goals of the week are: the conversion of nations, an end to abortion and to build a culture of life," said the announcement.

Among participants listed on the event's Web site were representatives of Generation Life, Priests for Life, Life Teen, United for Life Foundation and WAKEUP, which stands for Women Against the Killing and Exploitation of Unprotected Persons.

Two major events were planned in the Washington area: a youth and family conference with the theme "To Build a Culture of Life" Oct. 7 in the Diocese of Arlington, Va., and an all-day prayer vigil Oct. 9 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington.

Another major pro-life event taking place in Washington and around the country at the beginning of October was the American Life League's second annual Pro-Life Memorial Day Oct. 2, the opening day of the new U.S. Supreme Court session.

By participating in the observance, pro-lifers were paying "their respects to the estimated 47 million babies lost through surgical abortion," said Erik Whittington, the league's director of youth outreach.

"The innocent children who have fallen victim to this American tragedy have no voice of their own. It is our job to speak up for the babies," Whittington said in a statement.

FUN FAIR

ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Saturday, October 14
9 am - 3 pm

RIDES GAMES \$1,000 RAFFLE
AUCTION ROAD RACE BINGO FOOD



www.SMSGastonia.com

Located off Hwy 321 in Historic Gastonia



Carolina Funeral & Cremation Center

*Dignity
Affordability
Simplicity*

5505 Monroe Rd. Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com

Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
Privately, Locally Owned
Member St. Matthew Church and
Knights of Columbus

WANT MORE INFO?
Go online to www.internationalweekof-prayerandfasting.org. (no hyphen)



AMERICA'S VIVEROS ROOFING



A.V. ROOFING

Specialists in Shingles
Licensed & Insured
FREE ESTIMATES
www.avroofing.com
704-320-4526 — 704-622-8185

Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

Third volume of The Saint John's Bible published

COLLEGEVILLE, Minn. (CNS) — Liturgical Press has published the third in its series of full-color reproduction books from The Saint John's Bible.

The volume, Pentateuch, features text and illustrations of the first five books of the Old Testament — Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy — known as the Torah in Judaism.

Illustrated scenes include creation, the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve, Jacob's ladder, Abraham and Sarah, the Ten Commandments and the death of Moses.

When completed in 2007, The Saint John's Bible will be composed of seven volumes: Gospels and Acts, Psalms, Pentateuch, Historical Books, Prophets, Wisdom Literature, and Letters and Revelation.

Each 9.75- by 15-inch volume is about two-thirds the size of the hand-illuminated vellum pages that form the original 1,150-page manuscript.

The \$4 million project began in 1998 when the Benedictine monks of St. John's Abbey commissioned one of the world's foremost calligraphers, Donald Jackson, to serve as artistic director and illuminator. Jackson is senior scribe to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's Crown Office.

The first handwritten Bible that illustrates Scripture from a contemporary perspective, The Saint John's Bible also incorporates imagery from Eastern and Western religious traditions, as well as influences from the native American cultures in the Minnesota area.

It also documents Minnesota as the birthplace of The Saint John's Bible through the illustration of flora and fauna indigenous to the region.

"Many people have appreciated the butterflies of central Minnesota in the margins, or the occasional building from St. John's that has been tucked into an illumination, or the reference to the now-vanished World Trade Center in New York," said Benedictine Father Eric Hollas, senior associate of arts and cultural affairs at St. John's University, in a statement.

"Many agree it is important to bring

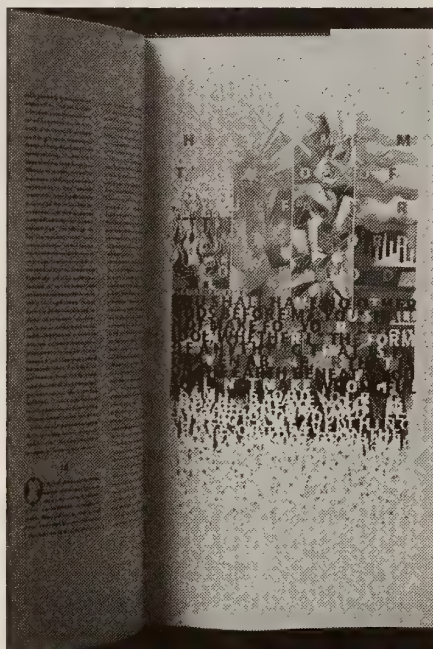


PHOTO BY CNS

This is an illustration on an inside page of the Pentateuch volume of The Saint John's Bible, the third in a series of full-color volumes from Liturgical Press. The volume features text and illustrations of the first five books of the Old Testament — Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy — known as the Torah in Judaism.

our own experience of the world to the Bible," he said.

Meanwhile two versions of the "Illuminating the Word" exhibit continued to tour U.S. museums and galleries. The exhibit features more than 60 actual manuscripts, examples of preliminary sketches and tools of the artists, and explanations of the nature and history of the project.

The exhibit was at the Museum of Biblical Art in New York until Nov. 26 and was to appear at the Library of Congress in Washington, Oct. 6-Dec. 15. Upcoming stops include the Naples Art Museum, Naples, Fla., Jan. 26-April 6, 2007; Phoenix Art Museum in Phoenix, Dec. 21, 2007-March 7, 2008; and the Mobile Museum of Art in Mobile, Ala., Oct. 10, 2008-April 10, 2009.

WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: OCT. 15, 2006

Oct. 15, 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Wisdom 7:7-11
Psalm 90:12-17
- 2) Hebrews 4:12-13
- 3) Gospel: Mark 10:17-30

When God calls, we must answer

BY JEFF HENSLEY
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

It has been my pleasure to know a large number of men better than myself. They have been doctors, lawyers, meat inspectors, mechanics, engineers and insurance salesmen.

Like growing to like vegetables and fish, this observation of the virtue of others is one of the great privileges of growing into maturity.

One of my virtuous friends, the meat inspector, died only a couple of weeks ago. Ralph was one of the finest men I ever knew. He was also one of the gentlest, most courteous and wisest of men.

Humble, good humored, he epitomized for me the manly maturity all males hope to grow into.

And he had a godly wisdom that came forth in his humor. He didn't talk a great deal, nor was he taciturn, but

when he spoke you knew that what he said would be, like him, reliable, sound and grounded in his love of God and common-sense wisdom.

This week's Scriptures speak much of the value of wisdom and how, when pursued above all other goals, it brings us all good things besides.

In the reading from Mark for this weekend, we have the rich young man coming up to Jesus asking what must be done to enter into eternal life.

Jesus asks him if he knows the commandments and lists off six of the 10. The young man replies that he has kept them from his youth.

Jesus then asks him to measure up to a higher standard, to sell all his many possessions and give them to the poor. The young man turns on his heel and goes away sad, knowing he cannot part with his riches.

Though I can't know for certain that the virtuous men I have known would be able to meet this higher standard, I do believe they are not so full of the love of money that they would have no chance of complying with Jesus' call to leave their possessions behind to follow him — should he ever make that request.

Questions:

Are there possessions or honors or positions that own you rather than you owning them? If Jesus called you to give them up for the sake of the Gospel, what would you do?

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

Scripture for the week of Oct. 8-14

Sunday (Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time), Genesis 2:18-24, Hebrews 2:9-11, Mark 10:2-16; **Monday** (St. Denis and companions, St. John Leonardi), Galatians 1:6-12, Luke 10:25-37; **Tuesday**, Galatians 1:13-24, Luke 10:38-42; **Wednesday**, Galatians 2:1-2, 7-14, Luke 11:1-4; **Thursday**, Galatians 3:1-5, Luke 1:69-75, Luke 11:5-13; **Friday**, Galatians 3:7-14, Luke 11:15-26; **Saturday** (St. Callistus I), Galatians 3:22-29, Luke 11:27-28.

Scripture for the week of Oct. 15-21

Sunday (Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Times), Wisdom 7:7-11, Hebrews 4:12-13, Mark 10:17-30; **Monday** (St. Hedwig, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque), Galatians 4:22-24, 26-27, 31-5:1, Luke 11:29-32; **Tuesday** (St. Ignatius of Antioch), Galatians 5:1-6, Luke 11:37-41; **Wednesday** (St. Luke), 2 Timothy 4:10-17, Luke 10:1-9; **Thursday** (St. John de Brebeuf, St. Isaac Jogues and companions), Ephesians 1:1-10, Luke 11:47-54; **Friday** (St. Paul of the Cross), Ephesians 1:11-14, Luke 12:1-7; **Saturday**, Ephesians 1:15-23, Luke 12:8-12.



POLAND

with Father John Starczewski

parochial vicar at Our Lady of Grace Church, Greensboro

"The Footsteps of John Paul II"

May 8-16, 2007

Join us while we visit Krakow, Wadowice, Zakopane, Warsaw and the world-famous salt mines of Wieliczka.

Roundtrip from Charlotte: \$2,898 plus taxes and fees (double occupancy) — includes breakfast and dinner daily

For further information, call Patti Dameron at (336) 413-8127.



Let stairs be our problem... not yours!

Ask about our Stairway lifts.

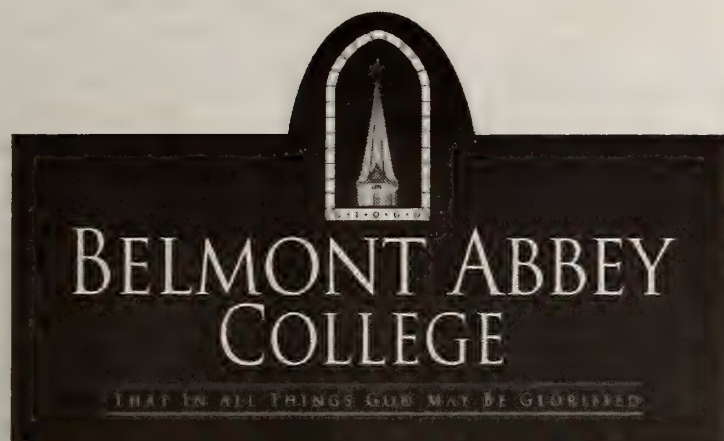
- Easily attached to steps (not walls)
- Folds out of the way
- Fits most stairways (straight & curved)
- Very affordable (rent or buy)
- We install

Chair & Equipment Rentals & Sales, Inc.

800 Central Ave. • Charlotte, NC • (800) 333-8431

Member of St. Thomas Aquinas





Adult Degree Program Information Session

Wednesday, October 18
10 am & 7 pm

Attend up to full-time —
only 2 nights per week!

Many low-income parents can attend tuition-free.
You may qualify if you meet the following criteria:

Children at home:	Household income less than:
1	\$24,000
2	\$28,000
3	\$34,000
4	\$40,000

AND you have a C+ average in high school
and/or previous college.

Over 30 different programs including:

Accounting
Business Management
Computer Information Systems
Criminal Justice
Elementary Education (K-6)
Psychology

plus many others!

To reserve a seat, call (704) 825-6666.

www.belmontabbeycollege.edu/adult-education

The Catholic College of the Carolinas

Rapping priest releases new CD, says genre speaks to young people

BY NADIO POZO
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

PHILADELPHIA — He's at it again. Father Stan Fortuna, the Franciscan Friar of the Renewal who is known as the "rapping priest," has released his latest CD in the genre.

Eighteen songs, ranging from old-school rap to world beats, make up the new release, which completes the series of rap albums he has released over the past few years.

"Sacro Song 3: The Completion of the Trilogy" deals with a range of topics, from the negative effects visited on fatherless children in "Daddy Wound," and the grip of the culture of death in "Hangin' in There," to a message of peace in "Peace Shout Out," and a tribute to his beloved role model, the late Pope John Paul II, in "I'm Loving You," "The Great One" and "KW."

Throughout the album, the doctrines of the Catholic Church are a consistent thread.

"I continue to do rap music because it's a genre that makes the message intelligible to many young people," Father Fortuna said. "And it even challenges people who don't like the genre, because the rap music affords the message to transcend boundaries and make an impact on the culture."

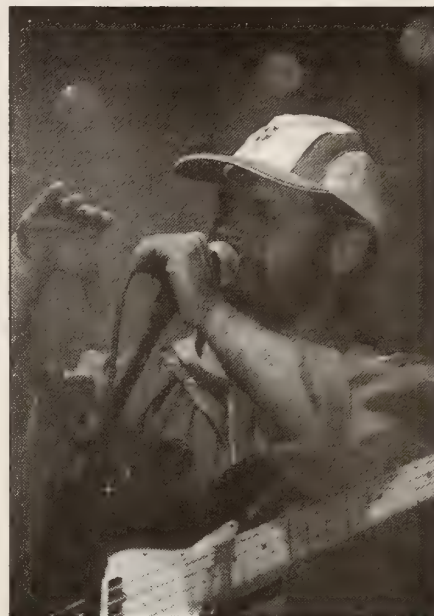
The new album includes the aspiring young rappers Sean Santiago, youth director of the South Bronx Youth Cultural Center in New York founded by Father Fortuna, and Glenda Mortoral, who is a member of the center.

Their song, "Ima Do Me," deals with their experiences growing up in the inner city of the South Bronx.

The album also features the rap artist Righteous B in "Jesus Talks," and the lyrical prose of Brother Agostino Torres, also a Franciscan Friar of the Renewal, in "Mezcia."

"I didn't go into working on this CD saying, 'Here is what I need to touch upon.' It was very spontaneous," Father Fortuna said.

For instance, the idea for "Daddy Wound" came to him during a conversation with another friar about the children and teens to whom they minister in the South Bronx and, specifically, about how the lack of a father figure has severely wounded those young people.



CNS PHOTO COURTESY OF FRANCESCO PRODUCTIONS

Rappin' Father Stan Fortuna performs in this undated photo. The Franciscan Friar of the Renewal's latest release contains 18 songs ranging from old-school rap to world beats.

He was on his way to World Youth Day 2005 in Germany and was missing the late pontiff, who had so greatly desired to make it to that youth festival, when Father Fortuna was inspired to write "I'm Missing You," which is his own favorite track on the album.

He has dedicated the album to Pope John Paul II, writing: "This project is dedicated to none other than my hero now and (forever), the late, great Pope John Paul II. What can I say but 'Thanks JP. I'm Lovin' You,' and see you soon."

During the same trip, Father Fortuna was impressed with Pope Benedict XVI and the current pope's clear but profound explanations of the faith.

"I love his spirituality, and the way God made his brain. He's extremely clear," Father Fortuna said.

That was also when he was inspired to write the song dedicated to Pope Benedict: "B16 Bomber." In the song, Father Fortuna includes excerpts of Pope Benedict's closing Mass homily from World Youth Day.

All proceeds from the CD go to Francesco Productions, Father Fortuna's nonprofit organization, which works with the poor and needy in the South Bronx.

IMMACULATA CATHOLIC COMPANIES



FULLY STOCKED AND READY FOR FALL!

We're brimming over with the latest in Catholic books, new Bible study materials, spiritual gifts for special occasions, Bibles, artwork, rosaries — a wide inventory awaits you at both locations!

704-655-9090

19905 West Catawba Ave., Suite 106, Cornelius
west off I-77 exit 28 (Johnsbury Square - next to Goodwill)
maryimmaculata.com

704-342-2878

4410-F Monroe Road,
Charlotte, 28205

Partial-birth abortion cases set stage for Supreme Court

COURT, from page 1

Court observers are eyeing two abortion cases, in which the 9th and 8th U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeals each said the 2003 federal law banning partial-birth abortion was unconstitutional, to see if recent changes in the Supreme Court's makeup will affect the outcome of abortion-related decisions.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops is among the organizations that filed amicus, or friend-of-the-court, briefs urging the high court to uphold the ban and use the cases to reverse the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision that legalized abortion nationwide.

Another case that has attracted the attention of Catholic organizations is a lawsuit by Massachusetts against the Environmental Protection Agency, for failing to adopt regulations that would limit greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming.

The National Catholic Rural Life Conference joined the National Council of Churches in an amicus brief arguing that the EPA was remiss in ignoring reports that greenhouse gas emissions from motor vehicles are contributing to global warming.

Christian ethics call for stewardship of the environment, the brief said, and the two organizations "therefore contend we must reduce our substantial contributions to climate change to protect the world entrusted to us."

The two abortion law cases are challenges to the 2003 federal law banning partial-birth abortion. Both rulings on appeal at the Supreme Court, as well as one by the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals that is not before the high court, found the legislation

unconstitutional.

In *Gonzales v. Carhart*, the 8th Circuit sided with Dr. Leroy Carhart, a Nebraska abortion doctor who successfully sued to overturn that state's partial-birth abortion ban. In 2000 the Supreme Court ruled 5-4 the state law was unconstitutional because it lacked a provision allowing an exception in cases where the pregnant woman's health is at risk.

Congress sought to reverse the effect of that ruling by passing a federal law banning the procedure nationwide. The bill did not include a health exception, because, the bill's proponents argued, sufficient evidence had been heard that this particular procedure is never medically necessary.

The banned procedure involves partially delivering a live fetus and then puncturing the brain stem to kill the baby before completing the delivery. Supporters of keeping the procedure legal argue that it is usually used late in pregnancy when other abortion methods are more dangerous to the woman.

In *Gonzales v. Planned Parenthood*, the 9th Circuit ruled on behalf of a San Francisco-based Planned Parenthood affiliate and its national organization that the federal law is unconstitutional because it lacks a health exception, imposes a burden on a woman's right to choose to have an abortion and is constitutionally vague.

The legal question before the Supreme Court when it hears both cases Nov. 8 is whether the law is invalid because it lacks a health exception or otherwise is unconstitutional on its face.

The case will be heard Nov. 29. Rulings in the abortion cases and the environmental case are expected by the time the court term ends in June.

Additional cases are likely to be added to the court's docket soon after the term opens.

Objections to border fence bill

WALL, from page 1

their permitted period, he said. Also, a fence will not prevent people from attempting to cross into the U.S. over even more difficult terrain, he added.

But it's also a moral issue, said Appleby, citing a Government Accountability Office report that showed the number of deaths doubled after the United States began to blockade less hazardous crossing points in the 1990s.

"It's going to lead to more deaths because people will become desperate," said Appleby. "It sends the wrong signal to our neighbors. Instead of meeting the problem head-on, we're hiding from it."

Frank Sharry, director of the National Immigration Forum, said in the same teleconference that the fence legislation was pushed by the House Republican leadership "in hopes of turning out voters."

Also before the recess, Congress included \$1.2 billion in appropriations to go toward various border enforcement measures including the fence, the cost of which is estimated conservatively at more than \$2 billion.

Despite that, Sharry said he doubted the fence would ever be built, because of the harsh mountainous terrain, objections such as those expected from environmentalists and the Tohono O'odham Indian tribe, whose reservation traverses the border in Arizona.

In the days before the late night vote Sept. 29, religious leaders joined senators from both parties in a final push to prevent the passage of several immigration bills that House leaders threatened to add to last-minute legislation.

Auxiliary Bishop Jaime Soto of Orange, Calif., said at a Sept. 26 press conference in Washington that "this is not the time to make political points." He said Congress was faced with "a stark moral challenge," as well as a complicated economic, political and cultural issue.

"We cannot accept ineffective proposals which masquerade as solutions," Bishop Soto said.

He was among religious leaders and politicians who insisted that any broad immigration legislation must include measures to enable foreign workers in the country to meet labor demands legally and to provide a path for illegal immigrants to "come out of the shadows" and regularize their status.

Jewish, Baptist and evangelical

Protestant leaders also put immigration proposals emphasizing enforcement into a moral context.

"Thirty-six times the Bible tells us to treat strangers as we treat ourselves," said Rabbi David Saperstein, director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism. "It is its most common command."

At the same press conference, Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., Ted Kennedy, D-Mass., Arlen Specter, R-Pa., Ken Salazar, D-Colo., and Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., all argued for holding out for a comprehensive immigration law that includes a guest worker plan and provisions that would allow the estimated 12 million illegal immigrants in the country to legalize their status.

Several enforcement bills were put on the table in September by House members who had blocked efforts to move forward on a comprehensive immigration bill passed in May by the Senate.

The House had earlier passed a bill with only strict enforcement measures. It was expected the two different bills would go to a joint House-Senate conference committee over the summer and a compromise version would emerge.

Instead, Rep. James Sensenbrenner, R-Wis., House Judiciary Committee chairman, and other committee chairmen held a series of field hearings around the country during the summer that focused largely on enforcement. Supporters of comprehensive legislation, including Republicans and Democrats in the Senate, criticized the hearings as one-sided.

When Congress returned to work after Labor Day, Sensenbrenner resurrected parts of the original House bill as three separate pieces of legislation, which passed Sept. 21. A fourth, expanding enforcement authority against people who build cross-border tunnels, was attached to the Defense Department appropriations bill and also passed.

In a Sept. 26 letter to the Senate, Bishop Gerald R. Barnes of San Bernardino, Calif., chairman of the bishops' migration committee, had urged senators to oppose the Secure Fence Act.

The fence law "would create more problems than it would solve," Bishop Barnes wrote. "We fear it would lead to increased exploitation and deaths of migrants ... and an increase in smuggling-related violence directed at Border Patrol agents and others."

He said that a fence might be viewed "as a sign of fear, weakness and isolation, not strength and engagement."

PARISH MUSIC DIRECTOR

Holy Spirit Church in Denver, NC is looking for a music director versed in Catholic liturgy. Salary is negotiable. Contact Father Carmen Malacari at 704-483-6448 if interested.

Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT

PARISH ORGANIST: Our Lady of the Assumption in Charlotte is looking for a parish organist. Contact Deacon Peter Duca: (704) 573-0097.

SERVICES

COUNSELING: The Cedar Institute. Professional

Christian Counseling. Healing individuals, couples and families. All ages. Lara Miller, MA, NCC, LPC. (828) 446-5514. St. Joseph's, Newton.

FOR SALE

HOME: Lake Wylie, SC (near Charlotte). 3 BD/2BA home, excellent school district, nice neighbors, community pool and playground, new Catholic church being built nearby. \$196,000. www.homesbyowner.com/28338

Classified ads bring results! Over 135,000 readers! Over 50,000 homes!

Rates: \$.70/word per issue (\$14 minimum per issue)

Deadline: 12 noon Wednesday, 9 days before publication

How to order: Ads may be E-mailed to ckfeerick@charlottediocese.org, faxed to (704) 370-3382 or mailed to:

Cindi Feerick, The Catholic News & Herald, 1123 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203.

Payment: For information, call (704) 370-3332.

ABBOTSWOOD SENIOR LIVING



For more than 17 years, Abbotswood at Irving Park has built a reputation on providing exemplary retirement living services to independent seniors. Residents enjoy the largest 1 and 2 bedroom floorplans in Irving Park, delicious meals, a full-time wellness director and month-to-month rental with NO BUY-IN FEES. Optional in-home health care services are available. Call today to schedule your personal tour.

(336) 282-8870

ABBOTSWOOD
at Irving Park



The only full service retirement living address in the heart of Irving Park
3504 Flint Street • Greensboro, NC 27405 • www.kiscoseniorliving.com

New Catholic high school open in Arden

ARDEN — St. Thomas Aquinas Academy, the first North Carolina mountain-area high school in 30 years to offer a Catholic curriculum, opened in Arden Aug. 16.

The private, nonprofit school was organized by local parents and is run by a board of directors. It is not part of the Diocese of Charlotte Catholic school system.

"We're part of a national movement to establish schools for Catholics in rural and underserved areas," said Barbara Edwards, president of the board of directors.

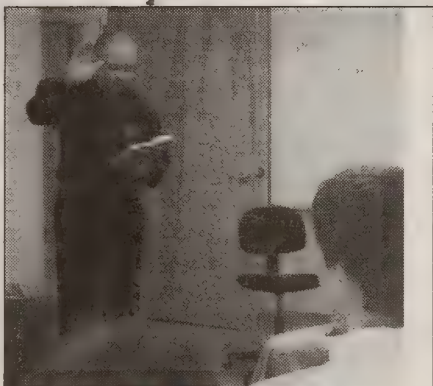
Three Catholic high schools once existed in the Asheville area, but the last one closed in the mid 1970s. Meanwhile, the area's Catholic population has increased.

The board spent several years preparing for the school's opening and were pleased to meet with Bishop Peter J. Jugis in 2004 as part of their preparations.

"It was a real shot in the arm to meet with him," said R. Trent Codd Jr., headmaster of St. Thomas Aquinas Academy. "That meeting energized us. No question."

The school utilizes a college-preparatory curriculum. While it is open to students of all faiths, Catholic students attend Mass at the Basilica of St. Lawrence in Asheville.

"I am very excited about the opening



COURTESY PHOTO

Father Wilbur Thomas, pastor of the Basilica of St. Lawrence in Asheville, blesses students at St. Thomas Academy in Asheville Aug. 18.

of this academy," said Father Wilbur Thomas, pastor of the basilica and spiritual director of the school.

"Many have been waiting a long time for a return to the mountains of a high school in the educational tradition of the Catholic Church," he said.

Father Thomas visited the school and blessed the students, faculty and building Aug. 18.

"With a classical curriculum, this academy builds itself on the educational foundation of Christendom," said Sedrick Dellinger, academic dean.

The school opened with students in ninth through eleventh grades and will graduate its first class in spring 2008.

Director named for Abbey Motorsports program

Rishel to oversee unique college program

BELMONT — Belmont Abbey College recently announced Dr. Tracy Rishel as director of its new Motorsports Management program.

The college is home to the nation's first four-year bachelor's degree in business with a concentration in motorsports management. Rishel's appointment was announced Aug. 31.

"We recognize the importance and uniqueness of motorsports," says Dr. Philip Bayster, chair of the business department in which the motorsports management program resides.

"There's a need for management talent. The companies associated with the motorsports industry are exceedingly advanced and, as the industry continues to grow, there will be an even greater need for highly sophisticated, competitive individuals," he said.

Although other programs of study exist, Bayster says Belmont Abbey College's program is the first with a strong emphasis on business. Other programs concentrate on technical aspects of the industry and are solely engineering-based.

Rishel is responsible for curriculum development and delivery, motorsports industry relations and student advising. She also will be involved with marketing, internships and student recruitment.

"Tracy brings a unique set of qualifications to this position," said Bayster. "Her impressive academic credentials, expertise in operations management and previous faculty experience in motorsports make her the ideal choice to lead this program."

A longtime racing fan from Pennsylvania, Rishel comes to Belmont Abbey College after two years at N.C. A&T in Greensboro, where she contributed her expertise in the business aspects of racing to the school's motorsports technology curriculum.

An active member of the N.C. Motorsports Education Coalition since its inception, Rishel has researched, presented findings and co-authored numerous articles related to the business of motorsports.

"I love academia and have a passion for motorsports, so the opportunity to combine the two is my dream job," said Rishel. "My goal with this new position is to develop a sound program that graduates students with the business knowledge and skills needed by the industry."

Belmont Abbey College is continuously ranked to be one of the best comprehensive colleges in the southeast by U.S. News & World Report and The Princeton Review.

Apply to the Abbey for fall 2007!

Scholarships, financial aid, and housing available.

Inquire and apply online at:
BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu

For more information call 1.888.222.0110 or email: admissions@bac.edu


BELMONT ABBEY
COLLEGE

Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

Spreading the Word — who needs big media?

Hi-tech and grass roots promos inform the faithful

Last year, when planning was underway for the first diocesan Eucharistic Congress, questions arose about the best way to promote the new, unknown event.

Invariably in discussions like that, the idea came up about asking the secular news media for publicity. Over the course of my career, I've spent a lot of time working with and in the news media, and asking reporters for free advertising didn't strike me as a good idea.

News organizations don't exist to help well-meaning Catholics, or any other group, get the word out about an event. News organizations function at their best when they are explaining events as they occur or when they are detailing a conflict of some kind.

A story about an unknown event with only a guess as to how many people might attend isn't very attractive to news professionals.

But not having help from the news media doesn't mean that you can't attract a crowd. Quite the contrary. We hoped and prayed that 2,500 people would come to the first Eucharistic Congress. God certainly heard us, because we were blessed with a crowd of close to 6,000 for the two-day event.

That response led us to rent a larger venue for the 2006 Eucharistic Congress, and we are once again praying for a big turnout.

So how did we get the word out? Along with prayer, we used a variety of media channels to spread the message about the Congress. This included advertisements in this newspaper, a series of columns on the Eucharist by Father Matthew Buettner, letters from Bishop Peter J. Jugis to the priests of the diocese and to the faithful, Web pages on the diocesan Web site, posters and prayer cards that were distributed to churches and the creation of an e-mail list of parish contacts.

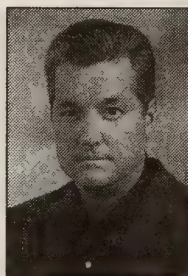
These parish contacts worked at the grass roots level, making sure that bulletin and pulpit announcements were placed, putting Congress posters on the walls of churches and talking up the event. They also kept me informed about the number of buses that were coming to Charlotte, an important indicator of crowd size.

I am most grateful to that group of people for proving beyond any doubt the power of word-of-mouth advertising.

This year's Congress created a landmark event for the successful use of a media tool in the diocese. Last year, registration for the Children's Track was

Catholics & the Media

DAVID HAINS
COMMUNICATIONS
DIRECTOR



handled at the parish level. This year, for a variety of reasons, registration for the Children's Track was done almost entirely on the Congress Web site at www.goEucharist.com. (A printed version of the form appeared in ads in this newspaper.)

Final score: Web registration: 320; print forms received: 2.

As a two-way mass communication tool, the World Wide Web has no equal. More and more of us use the Web, from searching for telephone numbers to registering for an important faith-based event.

As I have mentioned many times before, the Web is a liberating place where we can express, share and communicate our faith. Look for more creative uses of this medium on the diocesan Web page www.charlottediocese.org in the months to come.

Please take the time to fill out a Eucharistic Congress survey form, which will be posted Monday, Oct. 9. Your feedback of your impressions of the Congress will help us make the next Congress a better event. (It takes place Sept. 21-22, 2007.)

Thanks to the tireless efforts of volunteers and the existence of media tools such as the Web, spreading the word about an important event based on the Word has never been easier.

David Hains is director of communications for the Diocese of Charlotte. Contact him at dwhains@charlottediocese.org. A podcast of this column is available at www.charlottediocese.org.

The most precious of God's angels

"Hello again," said the Child with a smile.

"Hello, little one," said the Voice. "My, you've gotten a lot bigger since I saw you last."

"I can suck my thumb now," beamed the Child. "See?"

"My, that's wonderful," said the Voice.

"I hear other voices," said the Child, "but I don't recognize them."

"You hear your mother talking with the doctor," said the Voice. "They are talking about you."

"My mother doesn't speak to me much anymore," sighed the Child. "I'm glad you visit with me. It's always brighter when you do. ... Sir, are you my father?"

"I am not your biological father, but I am your heavenly father," replied the Voice. "And I am always with you."

"Who is that man in the corner, the man with the horns?" asked the Child. "He scares me."

"Do not pay attention to him."

"You seem sad today, Father," said the Child. "What's the matter?"

"I'm sorry, little one," said the Voice. "I so looked forward to seeing you born, to watching you grow up. You were going to live near the water, and break a national swimming record. You were going to dance with a boy at your prom, fall in love and marry him. You were going to raise precious children of your own. You were going to work with sick people and help them feel better. But now ... that is not going to happen."

"Why not?" asked the Child.

"Because, little one ... your mother made a choice," replied the Voice.

"I don't understand," said the Child. "I want to be born. I want to grow up and do all those things."

"I know you do. And you would have been amazing at them."

"Why is my mother doing this?" asked the Child. "Does she not love me?"

"She does not know you," replied the Voice. "She has been corrupted by the lies of that man with the horns. He has won another victory today."

"What is happening, Father?" asked the Child. "I don't feel well. Something is wrong."

"Look at me, little one. Focus on me. Do you hear the music?"

"Yes, I hear it."

"That is the chorus of my kingdom, where my angels sing and dance on the clouds," said the Voice. "Listen to the music."

Murray's Musings

KEVIN E.
MURRAY
EDITOR



"I'm trying, but I feel pain! It hurts, Father!" cried the Child. "Am I dying? I don't want to die! I want to be born! I want to grow up! Please, Father!"

"I am sorry, little one," said the Voice. "I am so sorry."

"Father ... don't leave me"

"Never."

Darkness overcame the Child. The chorus of heaven fell silent. And the man with the horns smiled.

"What ... what happened?" asked the Child.

"Hello again, little one," said the Voice.

The Child looked around. "I can hear the music again! Is that where we are going?"

"Yes. I am taking you to my kingdom."

"I can see it! It's so beautiful! And I can see your angels dancing on the clouds!" said the Child.

"They are celebrating to welcome you home," said the Voice.

The Child paused, looking back. "Father, is there any way I can help my mother, and other mothers, to make the right choice?"

"That's a big task," said the Voice. "Let's work on that together."

The Child beamed. "Thank you, Father. But first ... I want to dance on the clouds with the angels!"

"Of course, little one, but," said the Voice, holding out his hand, "may I have the first dance?"

During this Respect Life Month, let's remember:

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you. Before you were born I dedicated you." (Jer 1:5)

"My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately wrought in the depths of the earth." (Ps 139:15)

"You shall not kill." (Fifth Commandment)

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less, pertain to recent newspaper content or Catholic issues, and be in good taste.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and factual accuracy.

The Catholic News & Herald does not publish poetry, form letter or petitions. Items submitted to The Catholic News & Herald become the property of the newspaper and are subject to reuse, in whole or in part, in print, electronic formats and archives.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.

The miraculous act of 'knowing'

Seeing, sharing with others reaffirms our humanity

One of our most precious resources as human beings is about to become extinct.

We are becoming completely invisible to each other. We can spend a busy and productive day, run a dozen errands around town and not actually "see" any other people.

We can go to the bank and withdraw our money from a machine. We can go to the grocery store and check out through the self-checkout line. We can talk on our cell phones as we drive through town, never noticing anyone else around us.

Our modern technology affords us incredible ease in our daily lives. But with each new convenience, there is a part of our humanity that is being lost: our connection with each other.

We don't look at each other, don't make eye contact, don't touch. We rarely smile or say a kind word.

Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta called America "the loneliest, the most disconnected and the most unhappy nation on earth." Loneliness, according to Mother Teresa, "is the most terrible poverty."

This is reflected in some of the biggest problems our society faces: increased crime that objectifies people

as irrelevant, all-time-high rates of depression that leave people feeling alone in facing their problems and a divorce rate that illustrates just how quickly we give up on each other.

Do you know your neighbors?

Do you address the grocery clerk, whom you see sometimes twice a week, by name?

Do you look your fellow elevator riders in the eye and say good morning?

St. Paul tells us, "Now we see but a poor reflection; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known." (1 Corinthians 13:12).

As Christians, our goal is to share the God that is within us and to recognize the God that is in others. This is what feeds our spirit and brings healing to the wounds of life.

But how does this happen when we don't make a conscious act of "seeing" those around us?

Let us now challenge ourselves to help break down the walls of alienation and loneliness in some of the following ways:

1. Be in the moment when we are with others. Let us turn off our Ipods and take off our Bluetooths. Let us open our

Peace of Mind

LORI FOX
GUEST COLUMNIST



senses and honor the presence of the life that is around us.

2. We can make a connection with a smile or a handshake.

3. We can treat people around us as though we truly care about them, even if it's just for the one moment we're passing by.

One of our greatest human fears is that we will be invisible to others. Our deepest need is to know that we matter.

You have the power to heal and encourage a total stranger with merely a smile and a nod. You have the power to bring more of God's love into your heart every time you interact with another person, whether it's standing in line at the bank, waiting at the bus stop or spending a few minutes with co-workers before a meeting begins.

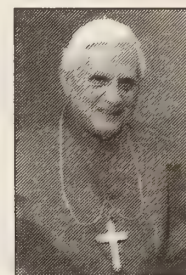
To know and be known? The choice is yours, a hundred times a day.

Lori Fox is supervisor of counseling services at Catholic Social Services in the Diocese of Charlotte.

Pope says Christians must discover Jesus personally

The Pope Speaks

POPE
BENEDICT XVI



BY CAROL GLATZ
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — To truly know Jesus requires discovering him personally, Pope Benedict XVI said at his weekly general audience.

While hearing about Christ through the Bible or through other people can introduce a person to Christian belief, "it must then be ourselves (who) become personally involved in an intimate and deep relationship with Jesus" in order to know he is truly the savior of the world, the pope said.

The pope returned to the Vatican Oct. 4 by helicopter from his long summer stay at the papal residence in Castel Gandolfo, south of Rome.

Some 30,000 pilgrims packed into St. Peter's Square, where security was boosted by additional uniformed police officers posted along the periphery of the square.

The pope, however, continued his traditional tour of the square in his open jeep at the start of the audience, greeting pilgrims and kissing babies. Additional plainclothes Swiss Guards trailed the jeep.

Continuing a series of talks on the apostles, the pope focused his catechesis on St. Bartholomew, who is traditionally identified as Nathanael.

Little is known about this apostle, the pope said, which goes to show that "belonging to Jesus can be lived and witnessed without performing outstanding works."

It was Nathanael who, incredulous at first that the Messiah could come from an obscure town, said, "Can anything good come from Nazareth?"

But Philip urged him to "come and see" for himself. Jesus showed Nathanael that he already knew him and that he had seen him under a fig tree.

The pope said this struck Nathanael as proof that Jesus was someone who "knows everything about me, knows everything" in the world, including the right path to take in life, and that this was a man whom he could really trust.

It was then that Nathanael realized and proclaimed before Jesus that he was the Son of God and the king of Israel — two aspects of Christ that all Christians must never lose sight of, the pope said.

Proclaiming only Christ's "heavenly dimension" as the Son of God risks turning him into something "ethereal and evanescent" or intangible and fleeting, said the pope, just as only recognizing his place in human history as the "king of peace" would overlook his divinity.

A call to action for Catholics

Informed voting can help foster real immigration reform

Many localities are seeing a campaign of agitation of anti-immigrant sentiment for political gain. Hispanics, in particular, are being vilified in the hopes of getting a few more voters out on election day.

Candidates and incumbents often seem to have declared an open season on Hispanics. Unfortunately, this is not receiving the national attention it deserves.

As Catholics, we are called to care for the poor, the widow and the "stranger" among us, for they have nobody to champion them. Most of these voiceless "illegals" are fellow Catholics — in fact, in many places, and despite their apparent invisibility, they are no longer the minority of local Catholics.

Unfortunately many, inside and outside the Hispanic community, fail to see this.

Despite the best efforts of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, I worry about the broader Catholic Church in the United States as appearing excessively aloof from such a pressing human concern, and too deferential to the secular world's "wisdom" on this matter.

We are all the church, and as such we would look bad (internally and

Guest Column

MANUEL
ALIAGA
GUEST COLUMNIST

externally) if we didn't take this issue to heart.

Most voters are not hearing the other side of the picture. Many Catholic voters may not be aware of the wisdom of the Gospel, as it is presented by the U.S. bishops' Catholic Campaign for Immigration Reform (www.justiceforimmigrants.com).

The Catholic Church, through its many venues, should:

1. Unmask the false political rhetoric we often hear in the media about immigrants in our communities;

2. Offer other relevant facts and figures to help develop a more balanced understanding of the reality of immigration today; and

3. Present the fullness, nuances and wisdom of church social teaching as it relates to this matter and the duties it places on us as Christians, as citizens, as politicians and as legitimate authorities.

Catholics have a duty to take Catholic social doctrine as a key point of reference in the shaping of their political views. The U.S. bishops' Catholic Campaign for Immigration Reform is doing its share to help.

The interventions of Los Angeles Cardinal Roger M. Mahony and several other bishops are enriching the local and national debate. But we need more.

This is truly an unparalleled opportunity for renewed conversion, for a deepening of our awareness of the demands of the Gospel and for action to address some of the justice and compassion issues faced by almost half of the Catholics in the United States.

Election time is only a few weeks away. The Catholic Church as an opinion-maker can play an important role in providing guidance to its English-speaking voters, to the wider church and to the nation.

Manuel Aliaga works in Hispanic ministry for the Diocese of Charlotte.

Discussions of peace and virtue

Catholic-Muslim dialogue looks at faithful living in today's world

BY JERRY FILTEAU
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — At their recent Midwest dialogue, Catholic and Muslim leaders and scholars discussed what it means to live one's faith in a complex society that is secular and multicultural.

The Midwest Regional Dialogue of Catholics and Muslims was held Sept. 12-13 at the Retreat Center at St. John's in Plymouth, Mich. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Catholic co-sponsor of the dialogue, issued a news release on it at the end of September.

Amid a debate over the role of religion in American life, Catholic and Muslim dialogue participants noted that their respective convictions, based on revelation, make them bearers of faith traditions that offer humanity guidance on peace, reconciliation and virtuous living.

Anas Malik, a Muslim who teaches sociology and political science at Xavier University in Cincinnati, analyzed the dynamics of Christian-Muslim collaboration on justice and other shared social concerns.

He said cooperation involves a cost on each side, so agreement to take the risk of collaborating cannot be presumed. His paper set a framework for discussing the interaction of trust and power in

human group relations.

Donald W. Mitchell, a professor of philosophy and religion at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind., presented a paper on the role of the laity in the life of the Catholic Church.

He discussed lay spiritualities and movements and the challenges of living as a Catholic in a secular culture.

Discussion of his paper led to clarification by Catholic participants that when the church speaks of evangelization it is not talking about proselytizing, but bringing values of the Gospel to all aspects of life.

The discussion also turned to questions of authority in Catholicism and Islam.

Participants noted that, while Islam is basically egalitarian, in practice holy people and legal scholars may exercise a certain authority. Participants also discussed the authority of their respective holy books in their communities - the Bible for Catholics, the Quran for Muslims.

The next meeting is to be held Oct. 21-23, 2007, at the Islamic Center of America in Dearborn, Mich.

Its topic will be "The Mission of Muslim-Catholic Dialogue in the USA." Among issues to be discussed are best practices in local dialogues, the scope



CNS PHOTO BY LARRY ALLEN PEPLIN, MICHIGAN CATHOLIC

Wearing head scarves and leggings to comply with Muslim modesty, students from St. Paul Elementary School in Grosse Pointe Farms, Mich., prepare to enter the Islamic Center of America in late September in Dearborn, Mich. It is the largest mosque in America.

and structures of regional dialogues, interreligious cooperation on social issues, the principles and ethics of dialogue and how to approach questions of interfaith prayer.

The Midwest dialogue, one of three regional dialogues between Catholics and Muslims in the United States, was

started in 1996. Last year it issued a report, "Revelation: Catholic and Muslim Perspectives."

Co-chairing the Plymouth meeting were Auxiliary Bishop Francis R. Reiss of Detroit and Sayyid M. Syeed, secretary of the Islamic Society of North America, the Muslim co-sponsor of the dialogue.

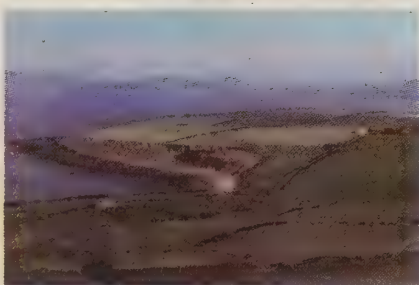
The Diocese of Charlotte invites you to Explore the

BEST OF IRELAND

with Fr. Mo West, Chancellor and Vicar General

breathtaking countryside -- traditions of our Catholic faith -- legends of her people

May 8-18, 2007



Join us as we explore the spectacular countryside of Ireland and learn of our faith traditions at its holy sites. With Mass celebrated daily by Fr. Mo, and a professional, fulltime tour escort to handle all of your needs, your days will be filled with spiritual enrichment as well as Irish folklore, music and merriment!

Highlights include:

- spectacular Cliffs of Moher; Galway Bay area
- Knock - Mass at church of heavenly apparition
- Croagh Patrick - site of St. Patrick
- Kylemore Abbey; Holy Cross Abbey - true Cross relic
- Bunratty Folk Park and Castle - traditional festive dinner
- Killarney and scenic Ring of Kerry drive
- Blarney stone and woolen mill; Wicklow hand weavers
- Glass artists at Waterford Crystal Factory
- Rock of Cashel - spectacular anthropological site
- Beautiful Glendalough - 6th century monastic site of St. Kevin
- Dublin - full tour including famous Trinity College Book of Kells, St. Patrick's Cathedral, O'Connell Street, shopping -- PLUS much more!

Price: Early discount price \$2,799 from Charlotte (after 2/2/07 \$2,899) includes airfare, most meals, first class hotels, all tours and admission fees to sites. Airport taxes/fees, tips and insurance are extra.

For a brochure with complete details, call Cindi Feerick at (704) 370-3332 or Pentecost Tours at (800) 713-9800.

"I can suck my thumb now!"

Month 2

The developing baby is now called a fetus, which is Latin for "little one." She is making rapid progress developing all her external and internal organs. During the second month baby teeth form; fingers and toes are developing. Ears, nose, lip and tongue can now be clearly seen; brain waves can be recorded. The skeleton changes from cartilage to bone. Fetal muscle sets begin their first exercises. By 8 weeks all body systems are formed. This little one can now suck her thumb.

CSS
Catholic Social Services
Diocese of Charlotte

Respect Life Office 704-370-3229

20 in.
19 in.
18 in.
17 in.
16 in.
15 in.
14 in.
13 in.
12 in.
11 in.
10 in.
9 in.
8 in.
7 in.
6 in.
5 in.
4 in.
3 in.
2 in.
1 in.



